

APPENDIX B

CMIP was unable to obtain all Saudi Arabian school textbooks. However, material from some of the missing books was sometimes quoted elsewhere. An interesting case relates to an anti-Jewish Hadith (saying of Prophet Muhammad) that appears in two different textbooks (Hadith for Grade 9 and Monotheism for Grade 10) unavailable to CMIP. However, since this Hadith was quoted twice by the US media, it was decided to add this information as an appendix. Following are the relevant passages that quote the said Hadith, taken from two sources:

Source 1

Excerpts from an interview by PBS on November 9, 2001 with a Saudi Arabian Shi'ite national who lives in the USA and presides over a Saudi human rights organization there - 'The Saudi Institute':

Q: Can you show me an example of what the teaching is in the schools?

A: Well, here, this is a book, Hadeeth, for ninth grade. Hadeeth is a statement of Prophet Muhammed. This is a book that starts for ninth graders. This is talking about the victory of Muslims over Jews. This is a Hadeeth that I truly believe is not true, as a Muslim:

'The day of judgment will not arrive until Muslims fight Jews, and Muslims will kill Jews until the Jew hides behind a tree or a stone. Then the tree and the stone will say: 'O Muslim, O servant of God, this is a Jew behind me. Come and kill him.' Except one type of a tree, which is a Jew tree. It will not say this.'

This is taught to 14-year-old boys in Saudi Arabia.

Q: In middle schools...

A: In middle schools, yes. Official middle schools. This is a book printed by Saudi government Ministry of Education.

Q: In what year?

A: This is in the year 2000. So this is current curriculum...

...

A: This is an official book. This is printed, yes. This is for ninth grade, printed in the year 2000. This says here, the Minister [sic] of Education decided to teach this book, and print it at its own cost. And this is the first page.

Q: And it's distributed...

A: This is to school curriculum. It's taught. It's mandatory for ninth graders in Saudi Arabia.

PBS - Frontline: "Saudi Time Bomb?"

Interview with Ali al-Ahmed, Executive Director of the Saudi Institute (McLean, Va) November 9, 2001 <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/saudi/interviews/ahmed.html>

The Hadith quoted here is a well-known one and is used by certain Muslim extremists (Hamas, for example) in their propaganda against Israel. The interviewee did not mention the exact name of the "Jews' Tree" - gharqad - "salt tree", or "salt bush", which is found in the Hadith as well.

Source 2

An excerpt from a report by Charles M. Sennott, the Boston Globe Online, March 4, 2002:

At a public high school in this provincial town [Abha] in the southwest part of the country, 10th-grade classes are forced to memorize from a Ministry of Education textbook entitled "Monotheism" that is replete with anti-Christian and anti-Jewish bigotry and violent interpretations of Islamic scriptures. A passage on page 64 under the title "Judgement Day" says: "The Hour will not come until Muslims will fight the Jews, and Muslims will kill all the Jews."

Charles M. Sennott, "Driving a Wedge: Saudi schools fuel anti-US anger" (Second of three parts) Boston Globe Online, Mar. 4, 2002

http://www.boston.com/news/packages/underattack/news/driving_a_wedge/part2.shtml