



# Political Islam Online

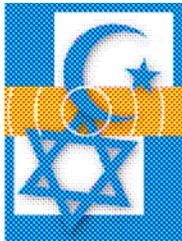


## Spiritual Father of Al-Zarqawi Released from Prison

Yesterday, Jordanian authorities released *Isam Muhammad Al-Barqawi*, known as *Muhammad Al-Maqdisi*, after the court found him not guilty of having contact with terrorist organizations and planning to bomb air force installations in Jordan. It appears that the verdict may have been influenced by his poor health and his promise not to have any contact with the press. *Al-Maqdisi* had shared a prison cell with

*Zarqawi* between 1991 and 1995 and is believed to have instilled in *Zarqawi* his Jihadi ideology.

Source: <http://www.alarabiya.net/articles/2008/03/12/46850.html> Date : 3/12/2008



## First Association in Germany for Jewish - Muslim Dialogue is Launched

On February 25<sup>th</sup> a letter signed by several Muslim scholars, including *Tariq Ramadan*, and addressed to the World Jewish community called for a dialogue between Muslims and Jews.

Today, *Fayruz Mustafa* reported on Islam Online that the first association in Germany to promote such a dialogue has been established. It was organized to parallel the Muslim-Christian association in Germany, which was organized by the Islamic City Forum and which caters primarily to students. The Jewish association in Nuremburg is also a partner in the endeavor. Most of the organizers are from Turkish descent, which is the origin of most Muslims in Germany. Nevertheless, others in the Arab Muslim world appear to look favorably on the new organization. Sending a somewhat mixed message, Islam Online's article on the new association was published with a picture of an Israeli soldier with the following caption: "The Israeli Occupation is the reason for the breach [that exists] between Muslims and Jews."



Source: [http://www.islamonline.net/servlet/Satellite?c=ArticleA\\_C&cid=1203757980036&pagename=Zone-Arabic-News/NWALayout](http://www.islamonline.net/servlet/Satellite?c=ArticleA_C&cid=1203757980036&pagename=Zone-Arabic-News/NWALayout) - Date: 3/12/2008

## Combating the Negative Western Perception of the Prophet through Cultural Education



The ruler of Dubai has ordered the building of "The Prophet Muhammad" museum, the first of its kind, as a step toward educating the world about the personality of the prophet and his message. The museum is intended to emphasize love and peace and recounts the influence that the prophet has had on millions and how he changed history as a result. In view of the multi-cultural environment in Dubai, and the millions of yearly visitors, the museum has been described as a bridge between cultures and a center for learning about Islam as a forgiving, compassionate and friendly religion.

Source: [http://www.alkhaleej.ae/articles/show\\_article.cfm?val=490514](http://www.alkhaleej.ae/articles/show_article.cfm?val=490514) - Date : 3/12/2008

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