





*LOVE OF GOD & LOVE OF THE NEIGHBOUR, OR
LOVE OF THE GOOD & LOVE OF THE NEIGHBOUR,*

WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

Annual UN Observance Week: Feb. 1-7

God is Love

A Short Story

By: Marcel Adel

(An Egyptian Woman Doctor)





World Interfaith Harmony Week, 1-7 Feb, 2018, EGYPT

"God is Love": A Short Story By: Marcel Adel

"Terroist! Here's a terrorist!" said a salesman at a store.

"Catch a terrorist.!" said one of the customers at the store.

"We don't sell our goods to terroists ... Get out of here so quickly, otherwise we will call the police." said the salesman.

That's what an old Muslim man with a long beard is used to hearing everyday wherever he goes. Most people in western countries think that all Muslims are terrorists, especially those who have beards like that old man.

Every day, the old, long beard man goes to the mosque for praying. People in the neighbourhood around often call him "The big terrorist". Almost no body treats him well. Stores don't sell him anything. People are abusing and insulting him and even kids are beating him. Though he is peaceful and never offends anybody, he is regarded as a terrorist.

One Friday, after finishing the noon prayers, Muslims left the mosque. As usual, people looked at them in great disgrace and intolerance. A young Jewish man was crossing the road and watching them with a look of hatred and despise. He shouted, "Terrorists are gathering today. They must be preparing for violent deeds and explosions."

Hardly had the Jewish man finished his words when suddenly a car came towards him running at a breakneck speed. Unfortunately, he could hardly avoid the car and the driver couldn't

control the vehicle in due time. As a result, the young man was badly knocked down and he was severely injured. Some Muslim passers-by in the street rushed towards him. He was unconscious and badly bleeding heavily from his head and mouth. A crowd of people gathered around him.

Luckily, one of the Muslims gathering around was a doctor. She hurried to her car and fetched a first aid kit with her. She started to examine the injured Jewish young man.

“Help me take him inside the mosque!”, shouted the doctor.

Quickly, people carried him to the mosque inside where he was given necessary first-aid. Muslim people were praying for his survival.

Soon after he was taken inside the mosque, the young Jewish man woke up and opened his eyes looking in surprise.

“Where am I? Am I in heaven?” said the Jewish.

“Not yet, my son. You’re in the House of God.” said the Sheikh.

“The mosque? What happened?” said the Jewish.

“Calm down, my son. An ambulance is on its way to here. You will be fine.” said the Sheikh.

The young man was both amazed and comforted at the same time.

“How could terrorists help an enemy? How do we call them terrorists and they are so kind like that?” wondered the Jewish.

A while later, an ambulance arrived. Two Christian paramedics rushed into the mosque with a litter in their hands. They quickly carried him on the litter into the ambulance, praying to the Lord to save him.

“What a fortunate man he is! He would have died without your help. I am just wondering how and why you are so called terrorists. I see you are so good people.” said one of the paramedics.

“It’s just what anyone should do.” said the Sheikh, shaking hands with the paramedic.

Immediately after the ambulance had gone, people left the mosque with a smile of satisfaction and pleasure. They have just saved a life from certain death.

Two months later, the young Jewish man came to the mosque. This time, he came with a smile on his face. Surprisingly, he didn’t come alone. His family and some of his friends came with

him, carrying lots of presents as a sign of gratitude and recognition and a willing of peace and tolerance.

“My son! It’s great to see you again. You are looking so healthy and glad today.” said the Sheikh, welcoming the young man and his company.

“It’s wonderful to see you, too, Father. I am just here with my family and friends to express our gratitude. Saving my life wasn’t only an excellent thing. You also proved that you, Muslims, are wonderful people. It’s a good chance to change the bad idea about you.” said the Jewish.

“Thank you so much, my son. We are all brothers in the mankind. We should be tolerant and helpful at all times.” said the Sheikh with a big smile on his face.

“We have these presents for you, Father.”

“Thank you, my son, but this is too much. I think we should give them to people who really need them.” said the Sheikh.

“That’s really wonderful, Father.” said the Jewish.

“Let’s give them to the poor. They are really in bad need of them. Let’s make them happy.” said the Sheikh cheerfully.

“That’s true, Father.” said everyone happily.

After that day, the old, long beard Muslim man used to walk down the street, but it looked different. Everyone welcomed him. People greeted him with grace and kids smiled at him. The old man became glad, saying to himself, “That’s what should really be everywhere on earth. Together, our life will be better and wonderful.”