

THE MUSLIM VIDEO PROJECT

SERIES BREAKDOWN

A CULTURAL ATLAS OF ISLAM

(a series of 8 programmes - Total 3hrs.20mins.)

(Course units 4.1-4.8)

The history and geography of the muslim peoples is traced by means of computer animated maps, and illustrated by film or manipulated still images of geographical features, architecture typical of the place and period, and representative artifacts. Animated timelines situate events in a global perspective, and the visuals are accompanied throughout by a voice-over commentary, with additional information being subtitled where necessary.

[The style of this series can be directly compared to the History of the World a series seen on Channel 4 produced in conjunction with the Times Atlas.]

WORLDS OF KNOWLEDGE

(a series of 5 programmes - Total 2hrs.05mins.)

(Course units 1.1-1.5)

Within a background of illustrative film and slide visuals, the presenter considers the subjects being taught in western educational systems, examining the presuppositions on which they are based, and challenging those conclusions which oppose Islamic thought. At the same time, quotations from the Quran and hadiths are used to show how western subjects of study can be approached from an Islamic perspective.

[A fast-paced series, the presenter interfacing with the visuals using David Bellamy/Johnny Ball type techniques, and additional information and cross-references being computer-boxed like C4's Chart Show.]

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

(a series of 5 programmes - Total 2hrs.05mins.)

(Course units 2.1-2.5)

In a simple studio setting, the presenter looks at the unifying core of Islam, beginning with the first three Pillars of the religion. In dealing with the Witnessing, Prayer, and Fasting, an attempt is made to illuminate the, spiritual heart as well as to inform the curious intellect. The immediate value of the spiritual dimension to the present age is considered with, of course, constant referral to the example we were given in the historical presence of Muhammad the Messenger.

[A less flamboyant series, though refusing to accept that reverence is intrinsically opposed to speed, the commentator sits closely lit in a dark studio, and illustrations and examples, slide, video, or computer animated information, are inset to the dark surrounds,]

SOURCES

(a series of 3 programmes - Total 1hr.15mins.)

(Course units 3.1-3.3)

In these programmes are studied Quran and Hadith, the sources of revelation on which are based the intellectual structures of Islam, and a brief outline of some of the specialised disciplines that grew around these themes is given.

[Surrounded by a whiteboard walled set, the presenter uses the walls for notes, sketches, and graffiti, as he picks his way across the surface of his subjects. Where complexity or aesthetics necessitate however, the presentation is assisted by computer paintbox graphics, and slide insets.]

ROADWORKS

(a series of 3 programmes - Total 1hr.15mins.)

(Course units 3.4-3.6)

A consideration of Islamic Law, from its first principles and early definitions, through historical development and variation, to the Sharia of today. Basic themes and actual events are examined, while outlining further rich veins of possible study that can be, mined from this vast subject.

[The setting and presentation style of this series is identical to that used in Sources.]

TOOLKIT 1

(a series of 5 programmes - Total 2hrs.05mins.)

(Course units 5.1-5.5)

Tales of Malky the mythical Glasgow muslim coming through some of life's less likely situations by means of Divine Grace, good timing, and his essential muslim Toolkit. Set in and around an almost believable Glasgow, our hero tells his friends what every young muslim needs to know.

[Live-action outside broadcast storytelling, outlining essential Islamic concepts amidst memorable visual tags, with annotated references to those quotes incorporated in the text. Depending on the budget the style should fall somewhere between Fat Tulip Too and Raiders of the Lost Ark.]

NECESSARY FAITH

(a series of 3 programmes - Total 1hr.15mins.)

(Course units 1.6-1.8)

Within a background of complementary visuals, the presenter looks at man's need for Faith to give meaning to life, and examines the specific Articles of Belief required by Islam.

(Using the same techniques as Worlds of Knowledge, but with backgrounds being mostly drawn from the Islamic visual traditions and a more, relaxed feel despite the same character presenting.)

PAST THOUGHTS - PRESENT ISSUES

(a series of 3 programmes - Total 1hr.15mins.)

(Course units 4.9 -4.11)

Again using illustrative film and slide visuals as a background, the presenter considers the modern world and looks at the topics most likely to be considered when formulating a view of that world. Alternative views are discussed, while quotations from the Quran and hadiths are used to show how the present day can be viewed from an Islamic perspective.

[Another fast paced series, performed in the same technical format as Worlds of Knowledge. and Necessary Faith, but with a different approach to the subject matter.]

ACTING RIGHT

(a series of 3 programmes - Total 1hr.15mins.)

(Course units 1.9-1.11)

This series dramatically follows the experiences of several young people as they live through a variety of situations at home and at school, at work and at leisure. When decisions have to be made, alternatives are discussed, as well as the basic values on which decisions can be made. The experiences of the Holy Prophet in comparable situations are considered, and the beliefs and values underlying his decisions applied as practical guidance for life in the present day.

(Grange Hill variations acted out by different groups of young people are interrupted at moments of decision, to tell of the Prophet's example. The group are left in discussion as we go to see how Grange Hill's Neighbours cope with life.]

THE CENTRE AND THE CIRCUMFERENCE

(a series of 6 programmes - Total 2hrs.30mins.)

(Course units 2.6-2.11)

Continuing where Practice makes Perfect leaves off, this series deals with the remaining Pillars of Islam, and considers the other ways that muslims 'remember'.

[Exactly the same format as Practice makes Perfect]

WORLDS OF UNDERSTANDING

(a series of 5 programmes - Total 2hrs.05inins.)

(Course units 3.7-3.11)

A survey of the great thinkers and the dominant schools of thought in muslim history up to the present day, ideas of the past are considered in the light of the modern life experience, showing how the perennial philosophy of Islam is essential to a muslim's understanding of Truth, past or present.

[The setting and presentation style of this series is identical to that used in Sources and Roadworks.]

TOOLKIT 2

(a series of 6 programmes - Total 2hrs.30mins.)

(Course units 5.6-5.11)

More adventures with Malky the Glasgow muslim as he continues to extend his companions knowledge of Islam amidst ever more improbable events.

[This series is a sequel to TOOLKIT 1, using the same format]

Series listed in projected order of production.