NO SECTS IN ISLAM - WE ARE ONLY MUSLIMS (THOSE THAT SUBMIT)

Joseph A Islam

Muslims today have regrettably divided and subdivided themselves into numerous sects each one labeling themselves by diverse names such as Sunni (e.g. Hanafi, Hanbali, Maliki, Shafi, Barelvi, Wahabi, Deobandi) or Shia (e.g. Twelver, Ismaili, Jafari, Zaidiyya, Khwarij), or Sufi (e.g. Chishti, Naqshbandi, Mawlawi, Qarriyyah) and many others.

The Quran strongly forbids divisions of any sort or to associate with those that break away into sects.

006.159
"Indeed, those who divide their religion and break up into sects, you have no part with them in the least: their affair is with God: He will in the end tell them the truth of all that they used to do"

THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE LABEL - I am of those that submit to the one God (i.e. Muslim)

041:033
Who is better in speech than one who calls (men) to God, works righteousness, and says, "I am of those who submit i.e. Muslims (Arabic: Muslimeen)?"
The word 'Muslim' is not only used to describe the followers of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). This word has been used in the Quran to describe all those who submit and surrender to the will of the One Lord who created the heavens and the earth and is the Master of the Day of Judgment.

Source: Edward Lanes Lexicon [1]

- Pharaoh's magicians submit to God after witnessing Prophet Moses's (pbuh) sign from his Lord and are ready to die as those who submit to God (Muslimeen) [7:126]
- Prophet Noah (pbuh) asks for no reward from his people. He only submits to God (Muslimeen) [10:72]
- Prophet Moses (pbuh) speaks to his people to put their trust in God if they submit to Him (Muslimeen) [10:84]
- Prophet Solomon's (pbuh) letter to Sheba (Saba) requesting her in the name of the Lord to abandon her blasphemy and to surrender herself to God (Muslimeen) [27:31]
- Prophet Solomon (pbuh) acknowledges his own surrender to his Lord (Muslimeen) [27:42]
- Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is instructed to say that he has been commanded to be of those that submit to God (Muslimeen) [27:91]
- Those who have persevered with the truth from the People of the Book and when it is recited to them, acknowledge that they have already been from those that have submitted to God (Muslimeen) [28:53]
- All but one house belonging to Lot (pbuh) (from his community) had submitted to God (Muslimeen) [51:36]
- Disciples of Prophet Jesus (pbuh) confirm that they submit to God (Musliamoon) [3:52]
- Prophet Abraham (pbuh) was one who submitted to His Lord (Musliaman) [3:67]
- Prophet Joseph (pbuh) prays to his Lord to die as one who submits to his Lord (Musliaman) [12:101]
- Prophet Jacob's (pbuh) children at the point of their father's death profess that they submit to God (Musliamoon) [2:133]

DO NOT BE DIVIDED

003:103
"And hold firmly, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude God's favour on you; for you were enemies and He
joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, you became brothers; and you were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus does God make His verses clear to you so that you may be guided

Please see related articles:

Muslim and Mu'min (Believer) - The Difference
Why is the term 'Muslims' Hijacked?

REFERENCES

Highlights marked in red on the lexicon excerpt are my own insertions. They have no bearing on the original text other than they emphasise relevance to the topic at hand. These are merely illustrations and have solely been utilised for educational and explanatory purposes.

Joseph Islam
© 2010 Quransmessage.com  All Rights Reserved