

Participating in Elections Is the First Step in the Policy of Stripping Muslims of their Identity

(Translated)

Parliamentary elections in Sweden are approaching, with less than a month remaining. Meanwhile, significant efforts are underway by various parties to increase voter turnout, particularly among Muslims. An intensive campaign has been launched, involving the state, its media, politicians, and even mosques and imams, to encourage and push Muslims to participate in the elections scheduled for September 13th.

For over a decade, the Swedish state and its politicians from various parties have pursued an anti-Islam policy aimed at assimilating Muslims and erasing their Islamic identity. Copies of the Quran have been burned on Fridays and Eid holidays in front of mosques, all with the state's tacit approval and protection. A widespread campaign of persecution has been waged against Islamic associations and schools, resulting in the closure of almost all Islamic schools in the country. The Swedish Security Service (Säpo) has detained and deported imams without a trial in the usual legal form, while social services have removed Muslim children from their families. Laws have been enacted under the guise of combating "honour culture," effectively criminalizing aspects of Muslim family life. Simultaneously, the media and political parties have contributed to fueling hostility and incitement against Islam and Muslims, which has manifested in physical assaults and hate crimes targeting Muslims and mosques. This is not the result of the policies of any single party, but rather the culmination of a pattern of actions undertaken by various parties, from right to left, both under the Tidö government and before it.

Despite these anti-Islamic policies, Muslims did not abandon their Deen, but rather increased their adherence to their Islamic identity and rejection of these policies. That is why a fierce campaign is being launched today to intimidate Muslims and push them to participate in the elections, with the aim of assimilating them into the existing political life. Muslims, under the pressure of fear for their future and what may await them, are intended to give up their identity and accept Western values as the reference to which they must submit and integrate.

For years, the Swedish state has used the extreme right as a political tool and scarecrow to frighten Muslims about the rise of its movement and the expansion of its influence, so that Muslims are pushed to seek refuge in the state, and then forced into forced integration through participation in elections and acceptance of the existing system. In practice, Muslims are placed before a decisive warning: Either you assimilate and participate in this system, or the extreme right-wing monster will be unleashed to devour you! Prior to the 2022 elections, there were repeated incidents of burning copies of the Qur'an in front of mosques. In the midst of this, Right-wing politicians have made statements such as, "Burn another hundred copies of the Quran," and "Why don't we see a hundred injured Muslims?" This climate has contributed to threats and attacks against mosques. Far-right groups associated with combat sports have marched through the streets of Stockholm and physically assaulted Muslims. Muslims have become targets of hate crimes in schools and other public spaces. The Sweden Democrats party also played a prominent role in this climate of fear in the lead-up to the 2026 elections. The party proposed the demolition of mosques and followed this up by publishing a map of mosques just months before the election. It also called for a ban on headscarves. The party leader, Jimmie Åkesson, stated that one cannot be both Muslim and Swedish, and that anyone who does not prioritize democracy and Swedish values over Islam should leave the country. The party's youth wing declared, "Integrate or go back to your country." In the same context, Richard Jomshof, a member of parliament from the Sweden Democrats, known for his hostile rhetoric towards Islam, is publishing his anti-Islam book "Kafir" just before the elections, in a move intended to instill fear in the ranks of Muslims, and then he addresses them with his message: "Stop being Muslims."

As a result of this policy, Muslims feel that they are under pressure to participate in elections and prove their loyalty to "Swedishness" and democracy, in an attempt to defend their rights and protect their existence. This is the very goal of the assimilation policy in which the various parties participated. Whether it is the Sweden Democrats, the Social Democrats, or other parties, the

ultimate goal is the same: to push Muslims to participate in the elections, and to limit their search for solutions within the framework of the existing system, so that they are assimilated into the Western political system, and become part of the Western project, and in return turn away from the Islamic project, represented by the Khilafah (Caliphate).

O Muslims:

The civilizational conflict with Islam has persisted for many centuries, with one aim: to reshape Islam and strip it of its political content, reducing it to a purely individual, spiritual religion detached from the affairs of society and governance. Politicians in Sweden will not be satisfied with Muslims as long as they adhere to Islam, until they adopt Western values and lifestyle. Allah (swt) says: ﴿وَلَنْ تَرْضَىٰ عَنْكَ الْيَهُودُ وَلَا النَّصَارَىٰ حَتَّىٰ تَتَّبِعَ مِلَّتَهُمْ﴾ **“Never will the Jews or Christians be pleased with you, until you follow their faith”** [TMQ Al-Baqarah: 120].

Muslims will continue to be targeted in their identity to force them to abandon Islam or distort its message. Allah (swt) says: ﴿وَلَا يَزَالُونَ يُقَاتِلُونَكُمْ حَتَّىٰ يَرُدُّوكُمْ عَنْ دِينِكُمْ إِنِ اسْتَطَاعُوا﴾ **“And they will not stop fighting you until they turn you away from your faith if they can”** [TMQ Al-Baqarah: 217].

Abandoning the political aspects of Islam, such as the Khilafah, Shariah law, the unity of the Ummah, and its global issues, is no different in principle from abandoning prayer, mosques, or the hijab; all of these are integral parts of Islam, not separate components. This is precisely what the prophets faced when their people attempted to alter the message they brought. Allah (swt) says, as spoken by the disbelievers: ﴿إِنْتَ بِقُرْآنٍ غَيْرِ هَٰذَا أَوْ بَدِّلْهُ﴾ **“Bring us a different Quran or make some changes in it”** [TMQ Yunus: 15].

Hence the government's decision earlier this year to monitor what it calls "political Islam," with statements indicating that anyone who does not prioritize Swedish law and Swedish values over Islam has no place in Sweden. Allah (swt) says: ﴿وَقَالَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لِرُسُلِهِمْ لَنُخْرِجَنَّكُمْ مِنْ أَرْضِنَا أَوْ لَتَعُوذُنَّ فِي مِلَّتِنَا﴾ **“The disbelievers then threatened their messengers, “We will certainly expel you from our land, unless you return to our faith.””** [TMQ Ibrahim: 13].

O Muslims:

Western societies are suffering from a profound civilizational crisis, in which their ideology and systems are crumbling from within. Their people have lost faith in the system and its political representatives. At the same time, the leaders of this system trample on their own values when it comes to fighting Islam and attempting to slow its progress. Humanity has never been more in need of a rightly guided system that revives man and guarantees a dignified life than it needs today. Islam as an ideology with its Khilafah and Shariah law, is the only answer and is humanity's life line. It is our duty to call the world to it, not to try to patch up the capitalist democratic system on their behalf; for this system has brought nothing but misery to mankind, and has produced successive moral, social, economic, spiritual and political crises. Instead, we must adhere to Islam in its entirety, both in creed and law, embodied in the Khilafah system, and hold fast to defending our Islamic identity in all its components, including its political aspects that Swedish politicians want us to abandon. It is the responsibility of Muslims to be a positive and active element in society by adhering to the values of Islam and calling others to it as a complete ideology capable of addressing human problems and the crises afflicting societies, especially Western societies. It is also our duty to carry Islam in an ideological and intellectual manner, and to have the courage to confront public opinion and anti-Islamic policies by participating in public discourse and presenting Islam with its intellectual strength. This is our responsibility, instead of succumbing to pressure and seeking illusory solutions under the umbrella of a system that fundamentally contradicts our belief.

7 Rabi Al-Awwal 1448 AH

20 August 2026 CE

Hizb ut Tahrir

Sweden