

Fatwa is a crime against decent member of society

You report on the fatwa issued against Paigham Mustafa (“‘Unhappy’ Muslims should leave, says Scots Islam scholar”, News, last week). This is a crime against a decent member of our society and is nothing less than an incitement to murder. I trust that the Glasgow Central Mosque religious bigots who issued the fatwa are either behind bars or deported from the country and if not, why not?
Derek Johnson, Aberdeen

Why no arrests?

A UK organisation issues a fatwa, a threat against a UK citizen but there have been no arrests. Why is that? If I issue a fatwa against my neighbour I would be questioned by the police immediately.
Rob Walters, Aberdeen

Soul-searching needed

I wish Mustafa well. Lord

knows, we need educated Muslims to help explain to their co-religionists where so many of the religious and cultural tensions of life in the West have arisen from.

What is clear is that neither the burqa nor the niqab is a fundamental requirement of Islam, and women in many Muslim-majority countries are not required to wear either. The issue here is that Britain has always accepted the cultural principle of the face being in plain view, and there is absolutely no reason why this should be jettisoned in the artificially imposed interests of a relatively small group.

Islam itself should search its soul over what is or is not significant in its cultural interchange with the countries in which it finds itself resident. In this respect, people like Mustafa have an important contribution to make, and deserve our full



support in their endeavours.
*Philip Pughe-Morgan,
Weston-super-Mare, Somerset*

A Tory probe? That's silly

The call by the Muslim Council of Britain for an investigation into Islamophobia in the Conservative Party is risible.

There are Conservative Muslim MPs and government ministers. The party has

Paigham Mustafa 'has an important contribution to make'

given priority to selecting candidates from minorities and Muslims are more than adequately represented in local government.

The dislike of the burqa does not make one Islamophobic: I am among many millions who find it demeaning to women.

One of the great strengths of the British nation is its ability to speak freely and

often with a sense of humour. Muslims' religion is their choice but cannot be used to stifle honestly held opinions.
*Richard English,
South Petherton, Somerset*

When in Rome...

I work in developing countries and while there I dress in the correct attire for that nation. Likewise, those coming to the UK should be made aware of our dress code. I believe we should ban the burqa in public places – as France, Belgium, Denmark and Austria have – and stop allowing children to wear the niqab and hijab in schools.

Unfortunately, by commenting in such an offensive manner, Boris Johnson has not helped the debate. His approach will only increase Islamophobia, which in turn will lead to more terrorist attacks.
Sally Medd, Gloucester