

Isma'el,

as - Salamun Alaykum wa Rahmatullah, starting off no offense or anger was taken at your letter, although it does seem to me that there is a lot of confusion in what you wrote and I don't know to what extent my writing is going to clarify any of that as you seem to skip over a lot of what I say and give preconceived ideas you have about my being an extremist ~~and~~ - your words not mine - weight over anything else, so that it's as if whatever I write is not going to have any effect in attaining that sought - namely seeking common ground and understanding - as you have already decided ~~that~~ where I stand even on issues I have clarified and shown to be based upon knowledge, anyhow in the slight hope that this letter may have some benefit I shall address a couple of the points you made although there is little point in going over the same ground repeatedly only to find the same results especially since the issue being dealt with has little to do with our individual situations - especially mine since I'm doing life and am not going anywhere soon unless Allah decrees otherwise - and as such it should not be given more time that it's due and only then if ~~some~~ some ~~mutual~~ mutual benefit is hoped by it, as for if the sole point is for you to try to get me to change my views without your also being willing to accept that some of what you hold may not be correct whether in regards to understanding the positions of various brothers and labeling them as extremists or in regards to other issues being discussed, then there's not much point in going beyond what's already been said and what I now hope to say.

Anyhow to proceed, you mentioned that there are certain characteristics that you perceive in certain groups whom you view as extremists and see them - and presumably me - to hold, the first being the belief that they are the only or most righteous group in the Ummah, this is something on which I've clarified my position previously and have pointed out that it's not unique to the brothers you so willingly dismiss as extremists but also in those whom you support and claim to be on the path of Ahl us-Sunnah - namely the Ahl al-Hadith of Pakistan many of whom claim to be the only people