

ADVERTISEMENT

CONTESTS



CD Giveaway - The Mary Dream, "This Kind of Life"

Ends Jan 17, 2010

Enter our contest for a chance to win The Mary Dream's latest album.



CD Giveaway - Manifest, "Citizens Activ"

Ends Jan 17, 2010

If you're not intrigued by the concept of a white Christian rapper from Canada, well, then, you won't want to enter our contest. But it's free, and if you get caught listening to it by your friends, you can boast that you won it at The Trades!



The Lovely Bones - Book Giveaway

Ends Jan 17, 2010

Alice Sebold's #1 bestseller is transitioning to the movie screen. Now The-Trades is giving you the opportunity to read the book.

ARTICLE

DVD Review: Atomic Jihad: Ahmadinejad's Coming War for Islamic Revival and Obama's Politics of Defeat

by [R.J. Carter](#)

Published: January 6, 2010

"The countdown for the decline of America's demonic power has begun." So opens this political documentary, as the words of Mahmoud Ahmedinejad are met with the chant, "Death to America," right before leading into the rock-and-roll opening theme that denounces Obama's policies of negotiations to a YouTube-quality montage of clips and clipart.

"Atomic Jihad: Ahmadinejad's Coming War for Islamic Revival and Obama's Politics of Defeat" is a mouthful of a title that makes a bold, incendiary statement, which one would think markets well to the G. Gordon Liddy school of jingoistic hawks and the Art Bell segment of doomsday prophets. And as the opening moments of the video alternate between soundbytes taken from speeches from both U.S. President Barack Obama and Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, it seems the film is gearing up to make its case and back up its assertions.



Instead, we are given a fairly dry, accurate, and impartial lesson on the history of Islam by narrator Lance Lewman. Alright, fair enough. I suppose if one wants to make a case such as this, a little bit of history might be in order to put things in perspective.




One hour and eleven minutes later, after having jumped back and forth and back again to events like the Battle of Badr, the Six Day War, and the first expulsion of the Jews from Medina, after learning all about the semantic differences of word usage ("freedom" and "peace" are, apparently, words that do not mean the same thing at all to a Muslim as they do to a westerner), after following the Islamic land grabs and lording over the Jews and Christians as tolerated dhimmi classes and later losing out to those same classes with the "intolerable" recognition of Israel as a state -- after all of that, writer/director Joel Gilbert seems ready to make his case, in the last few moments of the documentary.

To do so, he digs up footage of Neville Chamberlain speaking about the agreement he and Adolph Hitler have both signed, which is juxtaposed against more footage of Obama speaking about open negotiations with Iran. To drive the point home, Obama's footage is visually doctored, shown in black and white with the Windows MovieMaker Film Grain filter applied to make it appear contemporary with the Chamberlain footage. This is followed by more ranting from Ahmadinejad and, of course, the cut of Obama bowing before the Saudi king. Of note: nowhere during any of this particular footage does the narrator intrude. Nowhere does the writer actually state his case, lead the viewer, make his point. When we're taken on the historical tour, everything -- even the chapter headings! -- gets narrated. But when it comes to the actual nut of the thing, the proposed theme of the film, the thing we've sat through eight minutes of crusades, battles, and tributaries to get to, it's all allowed to fall flat.

"Atomic Jihad" is being marketed all wrong. With judicious editing out of the main points of focus -- Obama and Ahmadinejad -- we're left with about an hour of elucidating history (albeit somewhat disjointed in its chronology). However, the attempt to use the history as a platform for propaganda fails, for the most part, because the filmmakers hold back at the last moment from the message they seemingly wanted to convey.

This disc has two bonus features, the first of which is a mini-documentary, "Sadat's Strategy," which focuses on former Egyptian president Anwar Sadat, his relations with Israeli prime minister Menachem Begin, and the Camp David Peace accords with U.S. President Jimmy Carter. The second feature is a selection of downloadable MP3s accessible by putting the disc into a DVD-ROM drive.

 Print this article
 E-mail this article
 More articles by this author

 26 diggs  digg it
   

Rating: **NOT RATED**

Country: USA

Release Date: February 23, 2010

Distributor: Highway 61 Entertainment

Director:

• Joel Gilbert

Grade: D+

