

PRESS RELEASE

Human Rights Protestors Create World's First Velvet Muhammad; Velvet Prophet Paintings Given to Radical Islamic Groups

NEW YORK, NY - Feb. 7, 2006 (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) -- With or without fluorescent paint, few things are as quintessentially kitschy as black velvet paintings. But many political leaders in Europe and the United States seem to agree with the Pope and the Islamic community that free speech is what's truly out of style. In response to this officially endorsed cultural intimidation, an international group of brave human rights activists, known as the Velvet Prophet People (www.velvetprophet.com), have created the Velvet Muhammad to demonstrate that "free speech is never in poor taste."

*(PHOTO: Send2Press.com/mediadesk/0206-velvetproph_72dpi.jpg)

*(Photo Caption: This Velvet Prophet was given to the Arab European League.)

The Prophet, who shares a remarkable likeness to "the King," can be viewed in all his finery at www.velvetprophet.com - or soon, in the offices of several major Islamic organizations. The Velvet Prophet team is giving original, hand-painted Velvet Prophets to several of the groups inciting rage in Muslim communities. Gift recipients include Jama'at Islamiya, Arab European League, Muslim Council of Britain, Hizb-ut-Tahrir, Islamic Defenders Front, Islamic Circle of North America and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. These organizations, which were appalled by a few cartoons, will see for themselves that the Prophet looks much more dignified on black velvet.

The Velvet Prophet is also available to mere infidels. Global citizens who support freedom of expression and oppose the spread of culturally oppressive forms of Islam are hanging their very own Velvet Prophets in homes and businesses. If some true believers wish to murder us all for the sin of being human, we'll exercise our freedom to laugh about it.

All profits from the sale of Velvet Muhammad paintings, shirts and prints go to non-profit organizations that either support free speech or work against the growth of radical Islam.

ABOUT VELVET PROPHET:

And what of the team behind Velvet Prophet? We like our heads attached to our bodies, thank you very much. Art and social commentary should not meet with threats of violence. We'll keep painting the Velvet Prophet until this insanity ends. As Matthew Parris wrote in The Times of London, "Structures of oppression that may not be susceptible to rational debate may in the end yield to derision." Please use media contact to receive publication-quality images.

Website: <http://www.velvetprophet.com>

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NEWS SOURCE: Velvet Prophet People

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