

Daheshism and Nudism

Recently, there have been certain references online to issues where it is claimed that Daheshism encourages, tolerates, or condones, such as naturism (nudism). As more information is published and presented, there will be very little doubt about where Daheshism stands with respect to such issues. In this essay, I will address the position of Daheshism with respect to naturism.

How is “Naturism” defined? According to the Webster dictionary, it is defined as:

- 1- Naturalism: action, inclination, or thought based only on natural desires and instincts.
- 2- Naturalism: a theory denying that an event or object has a supernatural significance. Specific: the doctrine that scientific laws are adequate to account for all phenomenon.
- 3- Nudism

Anyone who is vaguely familiar with Daheshism will realize that one of its fundamental doctrines is the link between behavior and “Sayyals” (Spiritual Fluids). There are no natural inclinations or thoughts devoid of spiritual consequences. When a man desires a woman there are consequences. “But now I tell you: anyone who looks at a woman and wants to possess her is guilty of committing adultery with her in his heart” (Matthew 5:28). Naturism defined as Naturalism is contradictory to the fundamental teachings of Daheshism.

“As soon as they had eaten it, they were given understanding and realized that they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and covered themselves. That evening they heard the Lord God walking in the garden, and they hid from him among the trees. But the Lord God called out to the man, “Where are you?” He answered, “I heard you in the garden; I was afraid and hid from you, because I was naked.” “Who told you that you were naked?” God asked. “Did you eat the fruit that I told you not to eat?” (Genesis 3:7-11). Adam and Eve lived in an earthly Paradise where sexual desires did not exist. They could look at each other constantly without arousing any sexual tendencies. Their disobedience to God by eating fruit from the forbidden tree caused their fall from the earthly Paradise to earthly life and only at that precise moment that sexual desires entered their minds.

Nudism is contrary to the teachings of Daheshism because in the process sexual desires are aroused and cause the Sayyals of the individuals involved to fall. The sexual desire in human beings is a very strong desire and as a result, the danger for the Sayyals to fall is great. The founder of Daheshism says: “How powerful the sexual desire is in man and how great is its control over his mental abilities! How holy is that man that can kill this strong ability!” This judgment of his came, on the one hand, to confirm the human condition and on the other hand, to stress that the purpose of life on Earth is to have man surpass the level of human nature that initially caused his fall from the Earthly paradise and in doing so, he would Spiritually regain the missing paradise.

During his travels around the world, Dahesh had many entries pertaining to nudity. The following are a few examples:

During his travel to Amsterdam, in 1969, Dahesh wrote: “While walking, I was stunned to find a bookstore with pornographic magazines lining its glass door. Two young women stopped at that door and contemplated the disgusting photos while laughing and pointing with their fingers at what they see. I withdrew while cursing this false civilization that submerged entirely Europe and the United States and I said: beware Europe of what awaits you for your perversity that angered Earth and Heavens. Listen then if you have ears.”

During his travel to Hawaii, in 1969, Dahesh wrote: “...I saw many American women walking in the streets bare-footed and almost naked with the exception of small rags that cover their private parts and breasts. It was a very normal thing for them. I was very puzzled for this shameful invention and said: truly, the era of Sodom and Gomorrah that God burned with fire and sulfur did not reach this level of obscenity, lack of honor, and drive by lust and lowly desires!”

During his travel to Berlin, in 1969, Dahesh wrote: “After dinner, we were asked to take the car [guided tour of Berlin at night] and we did. They took us to a nightclub. As we entered, there were ten women wearing nothing but a fig leaf and the show continued on the stage with a young woman taking off her show through dress, her gloves, stockings, and bra to reveal her nudity just as she was born. This is unbelievable! Nonetheless, it is the realistic truth without a doubt. How could governments allow such places where sin nests to exist? This is a difficult secret that no one understands but that particular government. I wonder what it is? What stroke my bewilderment and amazement is the presence of female tourists with us that watched the show with applause while laughing loudly. What age have we come to? What level of atheism drowned the entire world? What shameful acts defeated decency and continued to spread with unprecedented vulgarity? This open prostitution will have severe consequences. The Watchful Eye that ordered decency and the avoidance of shameful deeds will not be very patient before the final blow. Will humanity refrain from their perversity and atheism before they reach their horrific end? This only known to my Creator and the Creator of humanity”

These examples leave no doubt the position of Dahesh and Daheshism on Nudism. As a matter of fact, Daheshism calls for the avoidance of public bathing—group swimming in pools, beaches, rivers, and lakes. Private swimming pools and beaches are different. Swimming is not the issue here as much as the exposure to semi-naked bodies that can and will cause the lofty Sayyals in human beings to fall. The same condition is true with everyday clothing. For example, Daheshism calls for conservative dressing for both men and women. Women should refrain from tight clothing that tend to reveal details of their body and short dresses and skirts. Typically dresses and skirts are just below the knees and sleeves no shorter than the middle of the upper hands. As for men, open chests and going topless is not appropriate and so is the wearing of flashy jewelry and earrings. It is important to state here that Daheshism is against veiling and head covering for either men or women.