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Atomic Jihad
 4/10

It's like The Day Today never happened...

The main agenda of Atomic Jihad is to suggest that we should bomb Iran. Now. To expand, the main implication made by the film's writer/director Joel Gilbert is that President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran is on a mission to revive the standing of Islam around the world and ensure that Sharia law is imposed on a global scale. Meanwhile, President Barack Obama of America seems hell bent on making peace with the Muslim world (the bastard), something which Gilbert suggests is setting the Western world (Republican rhetoric for 'America') up for disaster or, more specifically, ATOMIC JIHAD!



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The film sets out its stall by explaining this theory, usefully interweaving footage of Ahmadinejad ranting about scary Islamic stuff with footage of Obama looking all peace-loving and shit. What follows is essentially an hour long history lesson which, in itself, is actually extremely interesting and insightful, taking an in-depth look at the relationship between Muslims and other religions throughout history and the political impact this has had around the world. This is presented to bolster the argument (apparently) that Muslims, in particular Ahmadinejad, will never falter from attempting to impose Islam on everyone by any means necessary, even if it means something like an ATOMIC JIHAD!

The film caps everything off with a frankly ridiculous explanation of how easy it would be for Iran to creep up on America's West coast in a big boat and bomb the shit out of it, a scaremongering tactic that even the Daily Express might think twice about using, and leaves the viewer with the quandary 'What's worse? A mental Iranian or a yellow-bellied black man?'

Atomic Jihad is essentially Republican porn and will no doubt find an audience amongst lovers of such fare, but for pretty much anyone else the film's overall message borders on hysterical nonsense. There's no question that Ahmadinejad is pretty much bonkers, but the 'bomb now, ask questions later' stance of Atomic Jihad is tantamount to warmongering, which is a shame given the valuable history lesson at the film's core. Directed by Joel Gilbert
 Released by Wienerworld Ltd Atomic Jihad site

Philip Goodfellow

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1644