

A map of the Düsseldorf region in Germany, with a red pushpin placed over the city of Düsseldorf. The text "The Düsseldorf 1250 # Exposed #" is overlaid on the map in a large, red, stylized font.

**The
Düsseldorf
1250
Exposed #**

“Over a thousand Christians in Germany Accept Islam at the hands of Yusuf Estes...”

LIES

“1,250 Germans convert to Islam after a lecture by Yusuf Estes...”

LIES

“The man works miracles in dawah...”

LIES

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In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Ever Merciful...

As students of knowledge and scholars continue to identify and warn the Muslims against the serious errors of controversial American preacher Yusuf Estes in basic beliefs, there remain a number of his supporters who cannot look past what they understand to be **unmatched contributions** to the propagation of Islam to non-Muslims. Some go so far as to refer to his accomplishments as "**miracles**". In fact, this was exactly the sentiment expressed when a community was recently warned about the upcoming visit of Yusuf Estes: *"How can you say anything against the man when **more than 1,000 people** accepted Islam after one of his lectures?! That is nothing short of miraculous!"*

In reality, it is nothing short of a **bold lie**, as part of an extremely deceitful marketing campaign!

The very event being sold as a miraculous proof of how effective Yusuf Estes is in calling to Islam is actually a nasty concoction of deception and trickery.

This eye-opening clarification dismantles an international con played on innocent Muslims to trick them into supporting certain preachers and organizations, leading them to believe that certain preachers are so amazingly effective in dawah that they are beyond criticism...

The Dusseldorf 1250 Con Explained

The term "**Dusseldorf 1250**" will be used as a reference to what is widely promoted as an alleged event in Germany on July 27, 2008, when 1,250 people accepted Islam after one of Yusuf Estes' lectures. Videos depict a few individuals accepting Islam, one-by-one, after which the entire German audience stands up and testifies to the Oneness of Allah and the messengership of Muhammad (may Allah raise his rank and grant him peace), being led through the wording of the testimony by Yusuf Estes. The following is a small sample of the many videos available on YouTube alone:

- [1000+ People Converted to Islam in Germany With Yusuf Estes](#)
- [1250 people converted to Islam together by Sheikh Yusuf Estes](#)
- [1,250 People - Everyone in the Lecture Hall - Accepts Islam at the Hands of Yusuf Estes \(Arabic subtitles\)](#)
- [1000 Blessed Souls Convert to Islam from Christianity & Atheism in Germany](#)
- [Incredible! 1250 persons converted to Islam at one time in Germany with Sheikh Yusuf Estes](#)
- [1000+ Saying Shahadah in Germany with Sheikh Yusuf Estes](#)

People view these videos and witness an entire tented lecture hall of Germans repeating the shahadah after Yusuf Estes. And it seems very convincing.

But is it real...?

Deception in Dusseldorf Dismantled and Debunked

The reality is that a few people did openly accept Islam at that event. **Six people** (allegedly), not 1,000 or 1,250. **The others were already Muslims.** Yusuf Estes convinced them that they were required by their Religion to announce their adherence to Islam publicly, and this was the meaning of the shahadah being a pillar of Islam, even if they were raised as practicing Muslims! At the same event, Yusuf Estes actually announces, just before the "mass shahadah":

Did you know that every person who wants to be Muslim needs to make shahadah? Even if you were born in a Muslim house, with a Muslim name, it still applies to you like it applies to anybody else, just like salat [prayer], fasting, zakat, and Hajj. So, each and every one of you - even though you said: Well I say the shahadah in my salat [prayer] all the time - but if you never made a public shahadah, why not do it right now?

This gentleman right here wants to do that exactly. He wants to declare his Islam in front of the people. Now we don't have enough room on the stage for everybody, so you can just stand up where you are, and we'll all do the shahadah. But if somebody's not Muslim and you don't want to be Muslim, sit down, stay down...

Source: [This video on Youtube](#) [alternatively [this one](#)] at six minutes into the video.

This was the first level of falsehood and deception. To be absolutely clear, Islam does not require any "public shahadah" ceremony from any Muslim, whether new or born Muslim, not individually, and not as part of a group.

As Islam is a Religion of brotherhood and community, it is nice to hear of new Muslims accepting Islam. However, it is not a requirement, nor is it even recommended, **let alone a pillar of Islam[!]**, to have a new Muslim pronounce his shahadah in front of a large public gathering. It should be noted that this is commonly done by dawah organizations as a fundraiser or to attract the media as a marketing tool. Little attention is given to the individual and his situation, who may be genuinely embarrassed to stand in front of a crowd, or at least not prepared - on his first deed in Islam - to announce his decision to the masses. A new Muslim typically faces a lot of pressure when changing his religion. Do we really want to add more pressure and difficulty on him by requiring him to be involved in some contrived public ceremony? Care and concern for the welfare of a new Muslim is sacrificed to focus more on dawah organizations and their marketing mechanisms.

Additionally, to require born Muslims who have been raised practicing Islam to take shahadah at some public event at least once in their lives, claiming this is the actual meaning of the shahadah being a pillar of Islam, is absolutely baseless. It is merely just another one of Yusuf Estes' inventions which Islam is free of! The Messenger of Allah (may Allah raise his rank and grant him peace) said, what means: "**Whoever invents something in this affair of ours (Islam) which is not from it shall have it rejected.**" [Agreed upon]

Multiple Layers of Deception

After duping the Muslim crowd into joining the "mass shahadah", the second level of deceit involves counting the number of people at 1,250 and claiming that they all "**took their shahadah**", without explaining the reality of what happened. When a Muslim hears that a German person "took his shahadah", the meaning is clear in English: He has just embraced Islam. Without any other explanation, who would understand something else? Reactions found in the comment sections of all the videos linked above demonstrate this clearly. Shall we blame all of the viewers who were deceived for not seeing what really happened, or shall we blame the deceivers? *[Refer to the selection of YouTube comments on p.15.]*

The third layer of this deceptive scandal includes moving from the report of 1,250 Germans "taking their shahadah" into 1,250 Germans "accepting Islam", as found in many of the video titles quoted above.

The fourth layer of deception involves taking the contrived event and its misrepresented summary to an international stage and into other languages, especially Arabic, the language of the biggest funders of the Yusuf Estes mission.

One might say: "But those are YouTubers... Are we blaming Yusuf Estes for what YouTubers do...?"

OF COURSE NOT. So then, one might ask...

How Much Was Yusuf Estes Really Involved in the Deception?

On Almajd TV, an Arabic free-to-air satellite TV station, Yusuf Estes was asked about the "big story" that happened in Germany. He himself explains:

[Estes] In 2009, that was in August of 2009. I was a guest there for some of the organizations. And on our last event, we had about 1,300 people who attended, and they were very, very impressed with what is real Islam. And approximately 1,250 - remaining only 50 left - but 12,550, uh, uh, twelve hundred, sorry, 1,250, they stood up and they made their shahadah all together all at the same time.

[Interviewer] You told me you was very tired, every few minutes and another group comes, yes...?

[Estes] What happened, yea, when we finished the program, Pierre Vogel, he was saying salam to the people, and I said: 'Well, wait a minute! Ask them if anybody would like to accept Islam?' And he said, in German, he, you have to make tarjamah [translation] into German. And then he said: 'Who would like to accept Islam?' One man came up, a wrestler, he accepted Islam, then another man, one-by-one, each time he [Vogel] would say salam [i.e. goodbye] I said, "No, no, ask who's next? Who's next?" And then finally some women started coming up. I said, "OK, wait. Let's just ask how many in the crowd would like to stand up, and you don't have to come out on the stage. Where you are, make shahadah." And all stood up, and we said, "Sit down if you don't want to be a Muslim.

Don't stand up just for this. Sit down if you don't want to be a Muslim. Only stand up if you want to be a Muslim." So, 50 people sat down, remaining: 1,250.

Source: [This interview with Yusuf Estes on Almajd TV](#) [available alternatively [here](#) or [here](#)] Remember that this was on a live satellite TV channel broadcast all over the Middle East. Almajd TV is a free channel reaching millions, and it is part of a network of channels with hundreds of thousands of paid subscribers as well.

Both the host and the translator of the interview were astonished at the large number of whom they understood to be new Muslim converts in Germany. So the interview goes on, and they ask Yusuf Estes what attracted them to Islam, and he mentions the topics he talked about, without clarifying that the 1,250 were actually already Muslims who were just told to stand up and take part in a public shahadah ceremony he invented.

As an important reminder to all those who would try to defend these acts of blatant deception, the Messenger of Allah (may Allah raise his rank and grant him peace) clarified the stance of a Muslim on deception and trickery, saying (what means):

"Whoever deceives us is not from us." [Sahih Muslim]

Packaging the Lies & Selling them to the World

Yusuf Estes himself (may Allah guide him) has been directly involved in the packaging and marketing of these blatant lies internationally – *far beyond a single television appearance!*

The following is a screenshot from *IslamNewsRoom*, one of his more active websites:



The screenshot shows the website **ISLAM NEWSROOM.COM** with a search bar and a main menu. The main content area features a news article titled **1,250 Germans Enter Islam** by Yusuf Estes, dated Friday, 22 July 2011. The article includes a video thumbnail with the text "Over 1,000 say SHAHADAH" and "1,000+ Menschen sprechen gleichzeitig die SCHAHADA". The article text states: "Yusuf Estes, Pierre Vogel, Abu Anas join together with over 1,250 people in Germany to say 'Shahadah' (testimony of faith for Islam)." The page also features a "HOT TOPICS" section with links like "MUSIC? Allah: A Moon-god? NO WAY" and "Hot Sites" with links like "GOD = ALLAH?".

(Accessed December 1, 2013)

The screenshot speaks for itself. Yusuf Estes himself writes up the event with the most blatant of lies:

- **“1,000 Enter Islam”**
- **“1,250 Germans Enter Islam”**

The following screenshot shows another part of the previous article:

Then at the end, the presenters asked the crowd of about 1,300 people if anyone would like to enter Islam. Immediately a young man came up to the stage and entered Islam (see it on the video) and then Sheikh Yusuf Estes asked Pierre Vogel to ask the crowd if anyone else would like to become a Muslim - sure enough, another one came up on the stage.

And then another and another, one by one they came.

Finally, when some women came up to accept Islam - the time was running out - and they asked the entire crowd - "Whoever wants to become a Muslim, STAND UP and make the shahadah"

The ENTIRE ROOM stood up for the shahadah!

Yusuf Estes told Pierre Vogel, "Tell them to SIT DOWN, if they are not sure or if they are not ready to become full, practicing Muslims"

About 50 people sat back down, including the close relatives of Pierre Vogel.

It broke their hearts to see their loved ones sit down and not make the



(Accessed December 1, 2013)

But that's not all...

The following screenshot was taken from another one of Yusuf Estes' websites, *TubeIslam*:

The screenshot shows the TubeIslam.com website interface. At the top, there is a banner for 'GUIDE US TV' with the text 'Still On Satellite - Galaxy 19 New Satellite Frequency 11836Mhz Vertical 20770 Symbol'. Below this is the website logo 'Tube ISLAM .com' and a search bar. The main navigation menu includes 'Home Base', 'View', 'Stations', 'Hang Outs', and 'Our Place', along with an 'Upload' button. The video title is '1250 Germans Accept Islam' added by 'Kareem'. The video player shows a scene with many people, and the URL 'www.EinladungZumParadies.de' is visible at the bottom of the video. To the right of the video player, there is a section for 'Add Video To Your Social Bookmarks!' with icons for Spurl, Digg, Del.icio.us, Blinklist, Furl, Y!MyWeb, Simpy, and Google. Below that is the 'Video Information' section, which includes the uploader 'Kareem', the date 'Added: 31-07-2008', runtime '11m 27s', views '14254', and comments '7'. There is also a 'Current Rating' of 4 stars (7 votes) and a 'Send PM' button. The 'Description' section states 'Yusuf Estes Gives 1250 Shahadahs with Pierre Vogel in Ratingen Germany (July 2008)'. The 'Video URL' is 'http://www.tubeislam.com/video/3777/1250-Germans-Accept-Islam' and the 'Embed URL' is provided in a code block.

(Accessed December 1, 2013)

Notice the title given to the video once again:

- ***“1250 Germans Accept Islam”***

Under the video, comments such as the following are approved:

- ***“This is really really a miracle, subhanAllah.”***

On yet another one of Yusuf Estes' websites, *ShareIslam*, we find the following:



(Accessed December 1, 2013)

Once again, a clear lie:

- ***“1,000+ Germans Enter Islam”***

So lies are used to sell a DVD of lies, in order to help fund a mission of lies and deception.

When lies and deception reach this kind of level, it is interesting to rewind and trace Yusuf Estes' steps, in order to understand how he arrived at this point...

Behind Dusseldorf: Stages of Planning and Development

Before the scandal in Dusseldorf, Yusuf Estes had been developing the concept of “mass shahadahs” and testing it at the end of some of his lectures. Yusuf Estes seemed to believe that he could keep his "average" of new shahadahs up by asking the already Muslim audiences to repeat the shahadah and counting them as new Muslims. In a 2007 lecture, Yusuf Estes asked the audience to repeat the shahadah, after which he laughed and said:

*Now, you all became Muslim tonight, right here!
(Audience laughs) That brought my average WAY UP!!*

Source: [How to Call to Islam](#) [available alternatively [here](#) and [here](#)], at just after two hours into the recording.

At times, he would indicate that participation in a tearful public shahadah gives Muslims a fresh start or a "new lease". [\[See this\]](#)

At another event in Curacao, an Island in the Caribbean, he tested the "mass shahadah", and the finale was edited and made into a separate YouTube clip entitled, "[135 People Convert to Islam After Yusuf Estes Lecture.](#)" In [another upload of the same clip](#), the following clear lie is found in the description:

“After the lecture 135 people accept Islam.”

But the fake report of 135 people "converting to Islam" in the Caribbean was not big enough as news. An inflated version of an account of "people standing up to take

shahadah" made its way up to nearly 300 ([in this video](#)). However, a bigger attention-getter was needed, one with much bigger numbers and some white European faces to melt hearts at fundraisers all over the world.

With this, the stage for Dusseldorf was set...



Honest Reactions to Dishonest YouTube Clips Entitled: "1250 Germans Convert to Islam" (& Similar Titles)



[Bilqis Abdul Jabbar](#) via Google+ 1 year ago

ABSOLUTELY AWESOME!

Reply ·



[14954227](#) 1 year ago

This event should be in the book of records. masha allah



[majahidun1000](#) 1 year ago

Germans are accepting Islam by the thousands Mashallah Tabarakallah.



[whatNED](#) 4 months ago

allahu akbar we must do what he dose



[salamistuti](#) 2 years ago

Nothing but tears flow from eyes from 8.28 onwards.....



[xislan1156x](#) 4 years ago

mashallah - it is amazing what one can do with the help of Allah. Allah is the GREATEST!



[Alimurwin](#) 5 months ago

Did I just saw that all of the people is standing and convert to Islam? Masya-Allah...I just dropped my teardrops watching this.

A Simple Question for Honest People Victimized By the Dusseldorf 1250 Con

For those of us who have refused to listen to any criticism of Yusuf Estes because we honestly thought he worked miracles in dawah, with literally hundreds or even thousands of non-Muslims accepting Islam after his lectures... the question of the hour is in front of us:

Isn't it about time to pay attention to what the scholars have been saying about Yusuf Estes?!

Please take the time to read [this clarification \[PDF\]](#) about the serious errors of Yusuf Estes in basic Muslim beliefs.

أقوال كفرية ومخالفات الإجماع في العقيدة
ينشرها الداعي الأمريكي المشهور يوسف استس
على قناة الهدى الإنجليزية وغيرها

An Important Clarification Regarding:

**STATEMENTS OF DISBELIEF AND
OPPOSITION TO UNANIMOUSLY
ACCEPTED MUSLIM BELIEFS**

**Propagated by Yusuf Estes
On Huda TV and Elsewhere**

UPDATE: The Dusseldorf 1250 Con Now A Staple Routine in German Dawah

Since the tents closed and Yusuf Estes left town in 2008, Pierre Vogel and the team of Yusuf Estes' visiting associates and local disciples continue to run the Dusseldorf 1250 Con on the people of Germany and, by way of YouTube and the Internet, the rest of the world. Learning from the marketing techniques of their misguided mentor, they have developed the con and taken it to new levels, as can be seen clearly in the following popular YouTube clips:

- [More than 1500 People in Germany saying the Shahada \(Featuring Pierre Vogel and Bilal Philips\)](#)
- [3000 German Christians Converts to Islam in One Day in Germany \(Featuring Pierre Vogel and Bilal Philips\)](#)
- [Allahs Geschenk! ca.3000-5000 Menschen sprechen die Shahada in Frankfurt \(3,000 to 5,000 say their shahadah\)](#)
- [3000-5000 Personen bei Kundgebung Frankfurt mit Pierre Vogel & Dr. Bilal Philips 20.04.11](#)

The legacy of dishonesty and trickery left behind in Germany is evident. We ask Allah to guide him, his German associates, and all of us to sincerity and honesty in all of our dealings.

May Allah save the Muslims from the scams of deceitful liars who wish to swindle them out of their wealth with falsehood.

Written by: Moosaa Richardson

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Replacing Islam's Scholars With Entertainers and Comedians

Dear Muslim Brothers and Sisters,

Please be warned of modern movements, especially in the West, those that seek to turn the Muslims away from the scholars and connect them to storytellers, magicians, comedians, TV personalities, swindlers, and con artists.

They wish to first lead people away from the clarity of pure Islam in its pristine beauty as learned from the senior scholars of today, claiming:

- They do not know the reality of life in the West.
- They are government scholars without objectivity.
- They are not connected to the youth.
- They do not concern themselves with current affairs.
- They are old, uninteresting, and not funny.
- They do not address social ills, like common marital dysfunction.

This is in comparison to what modern groups promote as witty, charming, funny, highly knowledgeable, grounded Western “scholars”, who can relate to the youth and connect with the masses. In reality, they are merely:

- Ignorant storytellers
- Jokers and comedians
- Magicians and illusionists
- Academics (pretend scholars)
- Misguided preachers
- TV stars and celebrities

These are the replacements intended for the senior scholars of Islam who “have their faces buried in old, yellow books” and are “unconcerned with the problems facing the Ummah...” (LIES)

Misguided groups in the West gradually instill in the Muslims deep-rooted attachments to these personalities through fan clubs, “qabeelahs”, and other membership-based clubs and programs, trying to sell them “edutainment” (education mixed with entertainment) as knowledge of Islam. They breed a deeply-rooted form of hizbiyyah (fanatical partisanship) which becomes a barrier that protects their figureheads from any valid academic criticism of the misguided teachings they actually spread.

After altering the standards for what a scholar should be, the senior scholars of Islam who have the real solutions for the Ummah’s problems (by Allah’s Permission), are abandoned, as Muslims are led to choose the person they learn from based on a number of innovated criteria:

- Who has the best jokes
- Who has the cutest appearance on TV
- Who talks about politics and current events the most
- Who tells the best stories
- Who dresses the best
- Who has the most Twitter followers or Facebook friends

This leaves the scholars of Islam out of the picture, as they are not concerned with any of the childish concerns mentioned above. It is an intended and deliberate

strategy, in order to take control of the Muslim youth and lead them into misguidance.

And when the scholars warn against clear misguidance at the hands of such people, most fail to heed the warnings, save those whom Allah wants good for.

Seek refuge with Allah, ask Him for guidance in times of confusion, and abandon all those in the West playing tricks on the Muslims, directly through illusions and scams, and indirectly through the gradual replacement of the scholars.

O Allah! Show us truth for what it is, and grant us the ability to follow it! And show us falsehood for what it is, and grant us the ability to shun it. And do not take our souls unless You are pleased with us and our hearts and actions.

Exposing Academic Dishonesty Series

Case Studies in Plagiarism

- [Study #1: Yusuf Estes steals an article in praise of Ibn Sina and other scientists and publishes it as his own work.](#)
- Study #2 (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)
- Study #3 (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)
- Study #4 (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)
- Study #5 (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)

The Dusseldorf 1250 Con Exposed

- [A detailed exposition of some of the more blatant lies of Yusuf Estes – Requesting Muslims to stand up and repeat their shahadah, filming it, and marketing it as new Muslims accepting Islam, to strengthen his image as an “effective” preacher.](#)

The Reality of Yusuf Estes’ 3,000 Websites (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)

False Claims of Academic Qualifications

- Dr. Devonshire PhD: A Doctorate in Theology? (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)
- [Yusuf Estes – Does he or does he not claim to be a scholar?](#)
- Yusuf Estes - A student of knowledge who studied under the scholars? (to be published soon, in sha' Allah)



Important Websites



www.YusufEstesQuran.com



www.YusufEstesArabic.com



www.YusufEstesFrancais.com

bakkah

www.Bakkah.net
(Author's Homepage)