

Fethullah glen as a transformational leader

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Transformational leaders must motivate their followers by convincing them that their dream is worthwhile. An example of a transformational leader motivating followers is M. Fethullah Gülen. He has convinced a movement in Turkey promoting a different kind of Islam. Gülen motivates his followers with education, a promise of peace, and tolerance. He has built education centers world wide. These educational centers are based on the Islam faith but do not require students to be Muslim. Gülen teaches of respect among all religions, Christian, Muslim, or Jewish. Dialogue should be shared among all. Many of Gülen's student and followers are motivated by the thought of peace between the religions and furthering of education.

The vision is also important. Anyone can say they want to go to the moon, but it takes a leader to get followers to build a rocket ship. The vision must be practical and achievable, with benefits for the followers. It might be impossible for those not wanting change, but Gülen's vision is achievable. Thousands of Muslims have heeded Gülen's cause of non-violence. Gülen's followers believe Islam is a religion and a way of life, just like Islamic terrorists. However, his followers believe that terror or forcing Islam on other cultures is morally wrong. Gülen's vision is being carried out, maybe not by every Muslim, but by a good following in Turkey. Hopefully one day Muslims can achieve a lasting peace with each other and the world through transformational leaders like Gülen.