Installing 'Sources of Faith' Demonstration

To run the 'Sources of Faith' demonstration, you must have an 80386 AT or better, running DOS 5.0 or later, with the Windows 3.1 or later front-end, at least 4M of free RAM, and at least a 2M swap file. You should consult your user manuals for assistance if you don't know how to check these.

If you are happy that you have enough RAM, then run the setup program called 'setup.exe' which you will find in the same directory as this document's file. You can run setup by double-clicking its mini-icon from within the 'File Manager' program, or by selecting 'Run' from under the File menu in the 'Program Manager'. All it does is set up a Program Group in the Windows 'Program Manager' window. It makes no changes to your DOS 'autoexec.bat' or 'config.sys' files, and copies no additional files to your host system. So as soon as the installation is complete, you can double-click the 'Sources of Faith" icon and run.

If you don't want to install the Sources of Faith program group, all you need do is double-click the 'sofdemo.exe' mini-icon from with the 'File Manager' or via run from within the 'Program Manager'.

Restrictions on Use

The 'Sources of Faith' demonstration must be run from the CD-ROM on which it is distributed. It is intended for inclusion on 'give-away' CD-ROMs and so we have no control over where it is sited within the CD-ROM volume's directory structure. All we can be sure of are the directory structures at or below the level of the main 'Sources of Faith' application. Thus, if you attempt to copy just the 'sofdemo' application to your hard disc and run it from there, it will almost certainly fail to find associated files and will be unable to continue.

You can if you wish copy the entire 50M of the 'Sources of Faith' demonstration folder to your hard disc to get really quick performance. It's up to you. Of course, the release version of 'Sources of Faith' gives you maximum flexibility to set up the program as you see fit, you can run entirely from the CD-ROM or copy selected files to your hard disc for best performance.

Note that the ability to access religions other than Islam, and the ability to print have been disabled. The Glossary has been reduced to include only those terms that are immediately relevant to the Islamic faith.

The convention of BCE for Before Christian Era and CE for Christian Era is used on dates throughout.

Known Problems

All Macromind and QuickTime movies have been optimised to give best playback performance on 25Mhz 80486 computers or better, with Apple CD300 for Windows CD-ROM drives, or better. However, because KimTec UK Publishing has no control over the layout of the CD-ROMs on which the demonstration version of 'Sources of Faith' is distributed, it is likely that the performance of Macromind and QuickTime movies will be less than optimal.

To improve QuickTime movie performance on low-end machines (25Mhz 80486 and below), all movies play in a mode known as 'Direct to Stage'. This leads to a cosmetic side-effect in that if a pop-up menu-palette is selected whilst a QuickTime movie is playing, the menu will appear to lie underneath the movie image. In most cases this is not a problem. Where you are likely to be inhibited in making the choice you require from the menu, simply dispose of the movie before selecting the menu. Even menu choices that are apparently hidden by the movie remain active and wil respond correctly to mouse clicks within their bounds.

You may sometimes discover that when you dismiss a QuickTime for Windows movie the last frame remains visible on screen, although any buttons or other controls underneath it remain

active. The next screen update always clears the away any residual clutter. We are not certain why this should be. It is either a bug in Macromind Director for Windows, a bug in QuickTime for Windows, or a bug with our current crop of SVGA adapters (Trident, Tseng-Labs and Paradise). We suspect a bug in Director since everything works fine in other Windows development environments including KalediaScriptX and Asymetrix ToolBook. Also, we get the same bug on Macintosh PowerPCs, but not on 680x0 CPUs.

Although we have conducted very thorough testing of our own, it may be that there are 'features' we have not observed. We would be delighted to receive any comments vis-a-vis the functionality and reliability of this demonstration version of 'Sources of Faith'.

Best regards,

Dr Ian Sedwell, KimTec UK Publishing

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About 'Sources of Faith'

This project began life in June 1991, in a conversation about the educational potential of multimedia, between myself and Mike McGuire in London. It wasn't until January 1993 that I met up with Dr. Ian Sedwell at the Bett '93 show at Olympia in London. He expressed an immediate interest in this 'interactive guide to major religions' that I was involved with. At that time the title 'Sources of Faith' had not been coined.

To do justice to this massive topic would require many CD's on each religion. 'Sources of Faith' tries to offer a sketch of each religion's belief system but, of course, it can hardly be described as a complete picture. A high standard of accuracy of the information has been attempted, but there are bound to be omissions and discrepancies.

There are many people to thank for their assistance, but most notable would be Mike McGuire, Research Fellow at Kings College, University of London. Mike has worked solidly on the research, interviews, music and narration for the duration of the project. Also, I must thank Brian Cattell, multimedia designer, for his stalwart work in the face of great difficulties. Many thanks too, to all the photographers who have donated their images to the project and to everyone who has helped to make this disc possible.

Finally thanks to Kim Stainton and Ian Sedwell of KimTec UK Publishing. Kim was responsible for testing the software, and Ian brought the code to commercial release standard and performed the Windows conversion work.

I hope you gain pleasure and insight from 'Sources of Faith'.

John Jostins, cineMAC