The True Facts of Jihad and the Lies of Hypocrisy
As-Sahab’s Sixth Interview with Sheikh Ayman Al-Zawahiri

By: Ayman Al-Zawahiri

As-Sahab: In the Name of Allah, all praise is due to Allah, and may peace and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah, upon his family, companions, and those who followed him.

Dear Muslims all over: Asalamu alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu. To proceed:

As-Sahab media is pleased to host today, Sheikh Ayman Al-Zawahiri, in its sixth interview with him. We ask Allah that He brings us and the Muslims benefit through him.

To begin with, we say to the Sheikh: Asalamu alaykum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu. We welcome you as a guest at As-Sahab.

Sheikh Ayman: Wa alaykum as-Salam wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuhu. May Allah welcome you.

As-Sahab: We would like to begin our interview by asking you to give us a general overview about the current condition of the Mujahidoon, but we cannot overlook the news which shook the media about the murder of over sixty locals of Waziristan carried out by American jets at a funeral procession for victims of an earlier attack which occurred the same day. What do you say about this?

Sheikh Ayman: In the Name of Allah. I see this as another butchery carried out against the Muslims by that liar and criminal Obama, who claims that he is seeking a new relationship with the Islamic world and the Muslims, while his hands drip with their blood every day. I say to Ob-ama and to Americans: plant the seeds of animosity in the hearts of Muslims, so that you can reap the fruits in the form of your blood, Allah willing.

As-Sahab: Ok, so let us begin by asking you to give us a general overview about the current condition of the Mujahidoon.
Sheikh Ayman: The Mujahidoon are progressing and their conditions are improving. If we were to only take into account the fact that the Mujahidoon are still holding out against the most vicious Christian Crusades in the history of Islam, one which they call the “War on Terror”, in addition to the various other invasions, in Chechnya, Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, the Arabian Peninsula, Somalia, and the Islamic Maghreb; if it were only for the fact that the Mujahidoon are still holding out against the most vicious Christian Crusades against the lands of Islam, that would be sufficient as victory and success, by the Grace of Allah. So what can be said when the fact is that the Mujahidoon are inflicting great damage against them and winning many battles against them by the Grace and Favor of Allah?

As-Sahab: How do you rate this invasion up till now?

Sheikh Ayman: This invasion is moving from one failure to the next by the Grace of Allah. After seven and a half years, this invasion proved a failure in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Somalia, and it is proving a failure in Iraq. The tone of the American administration has changed from that of Bush, who said that whoever is not with him is against him, to that of Obama, who claims a desire to initiate new policies with the Islamic world, only because of the losses they have suffered at the hands of the Mujahidoon in the Islamic world.

As-Sahab: How have the Mujahidoon prepared themselves to continue to hold out against this invasion?

Sheikh Ayman: The Mujahidoon will continue to fight against this crusade until they gain victory, Allah willing, even if it lasts until the Day of Judgment, without backtracking, retreating, and without compromising our fundamentals or the rights of the Muslims with the Help of Allah.

As-Sahab: What is the minimum that would be accepted by the Mujahidoon?

Sheikh Ayman: The minimum that the Mujahidoon will accept is as follows:

1) the withdrawal of all infidel forces from Islamic lands;
2) ceasing their usurpation of Muslim resources through military threats;
3) trading in resources according to their appropriate, due prices;
4) ceasing to back corrupt and apostate administrations in the Islamic world;
5) releasing all Muslim prisoners;
6) and to stop meddling with the affairs of the Islamic world.

As-Sahab: What will be the result if the Christian West does not fulfill these demands?

Sheikh Ayman: The result will be that the Christian West will continue to suffer losses and defeat, and they will remain in a state of fear until victory is achieved, Allah willing.

As-Sahab: Is this what was intended in the famous oath of Sheikh Osama, “I swear by Allah Most Magnificent, who raised the sky without pillars: America and those who live there will never even dream about security before we live it as a reality in Palestine, and before all infidel armies withdraw from the land of Muhammad (PBUH)”?

Sheikh Ayman: Yes. What should the Christian West do after seven years of their Christian Crusade? Has not Sheikh Osama’s oath been fulfilled?

As-Sahab: In this vast Christian Crusade and Christian hatred held for Islam and the Muslims, Sarkozy made a statement saying that the veil is a sign of slavery and digression. How do you explain this large-scale Christian Crusade against the Hijab?

Sheikh Ayman: The propaganda machine of the Christian Crusade is not restricted to the Hijab. Before this, pictures were drawn in degradation of the Prophet (PBUH), and before that, they desecrated the Quran in Guantanamo and Iraq. The Christian West is unable to suppress its hatred against the Muslims, because they have started to resist them, threaten them and wage Jihad against them.
As-Sahab: But why is it that the Hijab provokes them to such an extent?

Sheikh Ayman: Western civilization is a decadent one. It is an adulterous society devoid of any values, ethics or religion. Is it not a civilization of AIDS? For this reason, when a Muslim woman abides by the Hijab, she exposes all of these faults and (she exposes) how they take advantage of women, using them as objects to attract customers and advertise their products. She exposes the vulgarity of their capitalism, which regards the trade of lewdness, in all its types and faces, from the most important sources of income. She exposes the deception of their freedom; it’s not a problem for them if a woman exposes her entire body, or even more for her to sell it, but they cannot stand that a Muslim woman observe Hijab.

The Hijab observing Muslim woman exposes the fear the Christian West feels from Muslims practicing the tenets of their religion, for they know that the Muslims were only defeated due to them leaving the tenets of their religion. For this reason, Muslims abiding by the tenets of their religion, something most clearly seen in the issue of Hijab, threatens their very existence, economy and their control of the world.

As-Sahab: But why is it always France which comes to the forefront in battling the Hijab and cannot suppress its hatred?

Sheikh Ayman: France claims to be secular, while in its heart it is boiling with hatred towards Islam. It was Napoleon Bonaparte who issued his famous statement to the Jews in 1799 at Acre, in which he promised to support the Jews in taking control of Palestine. It was France that sent its troops on their horses to Al-Azhar and trampled the copies of its Quran, using it as a stable for their horses. It was France that fought against Islam and Arabic in Algeria. It was France that aided Israel in building its nuclear reactors. France is fighting the Muslims in Afghanistan. It is France that is fighting the Hijab. And it will be France who will pay the price for all its crimes, Allah willing.

As-Sahab: Some may say that the Jihadi Movement has suffered setbacks in many of its fronts, such as Iraq and the Arabian Peninsula.
Sheikh Ayman: This is incorrect. First of all, war has its ups and downs, especially in guerilla war-fare. The battle is still on and has not come to an end. Secondly, this is not the reality. Rather it is an attempt of the Western propaganda machine to distort the facts.

As-Sahab: I ask you to allow us to return to these and other battlefields in detail later, Allah willing. But let us focus a bit on America, as it is the main force in the Crusader Alliance.

Sheikh Ayman: Please do...

As-Sahab: What are your comments about the American administration’s claim of change, especially towards the Islamic world?

Sheikh Ayman: Obama is trying to sell illusions to the weak and oppressed. Obama has realized that the anger felt by the weak and oppressed towards America and its policies, especially in the Islamic world, is the reason of their pain, agony and destruction. He is trying to say, “Don’t hate us. We do not wish evil for you.” “But we will continue to murder you in Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, and Somalia. We will continue to occupy Muslim lands. We will continue our military presence in the Gulf to ensure our theft and usurpation of petrol with prices we choose ourselves. We will continue to support Israel and ensure that it remains a Jewish state, and acknowledge Jerusalem as its eternal, undivided capital.”

[Video Clip]

Obama: “but any agreement with the Palestinian people must preserve Israel's identity as a Jew-ish state, with secure, recognized and defensible borders. Jerusalem will remain the capital of Israel, and it must remain undivided.”

[End Clip]

Sheikh Ayman: “And we will continue to ensure its military superiority.”
Obama: “Our alliance is based on shared interests and shared values. Those who threaten Israel threaten us. Israel has always faced these threats on the front lines. And I will bring to the White House an unshakeable commitment to Israel's security.”

Sheikh Ayman: “And we will continue to support the governments of torturers, oppressors, and thieves in your lands, but don’t hate us.” However, we are not a nation of ignorant fools to let Obama fool us with grand words and expressions which have no meaning. He is a new face for the same old American crimes brought in to implement Zionist plans.

As-Sahab: So you do not feel that Obama has done much in the interests of Muslims?

Sheikh Ayman: How? How can we reject the excellence and glorious deeds of Obama?! He has done so much! He has done the following:

1) The Bombing of Gaza, in which more than 1300 were martyred;
2) the murder of thousands of civilians in Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia;
3) the expansion of American jails, such as Bagram, in order to accommodate more Muslim victims;
4) the bloody butcheries and physical opposition to the implementation of Shariah in the valley of Swat;
5) the airstrikes against Muslims in the tribal areas of Pakistan;
6) protesting against the anti-racism conference in Geneva;
7) pardoning the torturers in the CIA;
8) backtracking in his determination to close Guantanamo when he decided to transfer more than 50 inmates from Guantanamo to other secret US prisons;

9) and his guarantee of the military superiority for Israel, supporting the Jewish identity of the Israeli State and acknowledging Jerusalem as the eternal undivided capital, as he and they believe, of the state of Israel.

These are the glorious feats and merits of Obama, and there are many others, and they continue to appear all the time.

*As-Sahab:* So what were his intentions in visiting Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and the address he delivered to the Islamic world?

*Sheikh Ayman:* It was nothing but another foreign relation venture, Hollywood style. He delivered a lengthy address in Cairo University from which people left with ears filled with amiable expressions without any definite meaning, while he has no true intent.

*As-Sahab:* What do you specifically mean by this?

*Sheikh Ayman:* Let us review. What is the greatest reason for the enmity between Muslims and America? Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan, Somalia, the US occupation of the Arabian Peninsula, usurping the resources of the Muslim Ummah with threats of force, backing corrupt American proxy governments which spread corruption, and waging a war against Islam in the name of terrorism.

*As-Sahab:* But in regards to the issue of Palestine, he said that he will not agree to the legitimacy of [Jewish] settlements, and that he supports the two-state solution.

*Sheikh Ayman:* This is what is called ‘tricking a child away from milk’.

*First of all,* the Muslims do not accept two states in the land of Palestine. Palestine is the proper-ty of the Muslims. It was occupied by the infidels, and it is an individual obligation upon the Muslims to oust the occupiers from it. Israel is a crime which must be removed.
Secondly, objecting to settlements and supporting the two-state solution are the same two false promises of Bush. So what’s new?

Third, he stressed the right of the existence of Israel, meaning, the continuation of the same Western Zionist-Christian Crusader crime against the Muslims since the end of WWI.

Fourth, Obama demanded that Hamas renounce violence and acknowledge the legitimacy of Israel and previous agreements, meaning that he demanded that they totally surrender to Israel, while he did not demand from Israel that they renounce their violence.

Fifth, he recently announced that he hopes that by the end of this year, serious talks will commence between Israelis and Palestinians, but this depends upon the Palestinians renouncing violence as well as encouragement of it so that they can earn the trust of Israel.

**As-Sahab:** Do you see this as digression from Bush’s stance?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Yes. Bush used to say that the Palestinian state would come into existence before the end of his term. As for Obama, he says that serious talks will commence at the end of this year, but only if the Palestinians forsake their resistance and totally surrender in their negotiations with the Israelis. What have the Palestinians benefited from about twenty years of negotiations with the Israelis? Obama promises us with yet another story of failure.

**As-Sahab:** Yes, and further proving your point, he commented on Netanyahu’s latest address, that he welcomes it and regards it as a step forward.

**Sheikh Ayman:** Yes, while it was an address in which Netanyahu stated that the condition for talks to commence with the Palestinians is that they accept a Palestinian state without weapons, and that they affirm that Israel is a state for Jewish people. In that address, he also refused the return of Palestinian refugees, demanding that they be settled in Arab states, and affirmed the rights of settlers to expand their settlements, referring to the West Bank as the lands of their forefathers.
This is what Obama wants for us: a Palestinian state which acts as a branch for the Israeli intelligence.

[Video Clip]

Dr. Azzam Al-Timimi: The problem with Obama is that he hasn’t brought anything new in regards to his concept of the Palestine issue. He believes in the establishment of two states after most of the Palestinian land has been cut up and usurped. There is no land left for a state to be established. The state which he wants to establish is the same state which George Bush wanted: a state ruled by a military intelligence establishment whose first priority is to protect the Zionist entity, and this is what we are seeing now in the West Bank.

[End Clip]

As-Sahab: Regarding Iraq, he said that Iraq is for Iraqis.

Sheikh Ayman: … which is the same empty statement made by Bush before, but he added that he will keep fifty thousand troops in Iraq. Is this leaving Iraq to deal with its own problems? Would he ever accept fifty thousand foreign troops in America, or a country allied with America?

As-Sahab: But he is reducing the number of troops in Iraq from 120,000 to 50,000.

Sheikh Ayman: First, the US military presence in Iraq is not merely limited to 120,000 troops. There are an equal number of private contractors. America never exposes the number of losses amongst these mercenaries.

Second, he was forced to reduce the number of troops without having any choice in the matter, due to the attacks of the Mujahidoon. In summary, his hope, rather his dream, is that their task of murder and devastation is handed over to the “Shi’ite” military force of the Iraqi government, leaving the US military to intervene only when necessary.
As-Sahab: Will they succeed in this?

Sheikh Ayman: The plan of attacking Iraq was a failure from the very beginning, all praise is due to Allah, and it will not end except in failure, Allah willing.

As-Sahab: They US feels that they have accomplished things in Iraq.

Sheikh Ayman: The US is reaping nothing but loss in Iraq, by the Grace of Allah. All they claim is that they have succeeded in reducing the number of attacks launched against them by forming Awakening Councils. This is nothing but distortion of the facts.

As-Sahab: How?

Sheikh Ayman: First, the US has greatly increased its expenditures in Iraq after the martyrdom of Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi. In 2006, its annual military expenditures were 99 billion dollars, which is the year Abu Musab was martyred, may Allah have mercy on him. The killing of Abu Musab, which the Americans made out to be a dazzling victory, should have solved their problem. But what happened was that US expenditure in Iraq doubled in 2008 to 195 billion dollars, while it was during these two years that the Awakening Councils were formed, after which the majority were dissolved.

It was these two years in which the US claimed that it had succeeded in reducing the attacks of the Mujahidoon against them. In reality; the US bought this false victory by doubling its expenditures in Iraq, while the Jihadi resistance still remains, rather continues to grow. The mere fact that it still exists is enough to exhaust the US financially, so how about if it grows, a fact acknowledged even by the lying American and Iraqi governments?

Will the US continue to pour this money into Iraq in their present devastating financial crisis? If they’ve spent billions in the last two years, will they continue to do so once they withdraw most of their troops from Iraq? What will happen if they cease to spend these huge amounts of money? The answer is: the Awakening Councils will break down, the budget of the Iraqi forces will dwindle, and the Jihadi resistance will grow even more.
Thus, the US has failed. Whether they spend or not, it makes no difference. This is one.

*As-Sahab:* What is the second point?

*Sheikh Ayman:* The second point is that the US has formed the Awakening Councils to be the front wall against the Mujahidoon. Thus, the decrease of American losses is equaled by the increase of losses faced by the Awakening Councils. This is something which the US forces do not publicize. The third thing is that the Iraqi and US government hide most of the facts.

*As-Sahab:* Can you give us some examples of this?

*Sheikh Ayman:* There are many examples of this. The US forces as well as their media never mention, and they will never be able to mention, the hundreds of operations filmed and re-released by the Mujahidoon. If Allah had not willed this, and if there was no Jihadi media, and if information was only limited to the statements of the US army and US media reports, they would have portrayed these losses to be great victories and conquests.

From my personal experience, how many times has the US army and the Pakistani government stated that they have surrounded me, killed me, injured me, or killed my wife, and other lies which are only present in the minds of the US and Pakistani intelligence. All praise is due to Allah that I am fine, and I ask Allah to protect us and the rest of the Muslims.

As for the Iraqi government, the whole world witnessed their exposed lie that they captured Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi, may Allah protect him and the rest of the Mujahidoon and Muslims. It was a huge disgrace when Sheikh Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi demolished them with his address ex-posing their misleading lies.

*As-Sahab:* What is strange is that even after the lie of the Iraqi government was exposed with clear, tangible proof, they continued to hold on to their lie. Why is this so?
Sheikh Ayman: They are a nation whose lives, politics, religion and media are based on lies. They were reared in the midst of these lies and they are addicted to it. They cannot stop, nor are they ashamed of it.

As-Sahab: These were your thoughts about Obama’s stance towards Palestine and Iraq. What are your thoughts about the other reasons you mentioned for the enmity which exists between America and Muslims.

Sheikh Ayman: He is continuing the same American policies that have been a cause of enmity between Muslims and America, such as his stances on Afghanistan, Pakistan, Somalia, the US occupation of the Arabian Peninsula, usurping the resources of the Muslim Ummah through the threat of force, supporting corrupt US puppet governments which spread their corruption, and waging war against Islam by calling it “terrorism”. On top of all this, he did not say the slightest word against any of the many US crimes.

As-Sahab: Such as?

Sheikh Ayman: Obama did not speak a word about the war against Gaza, nor its siege which continues until today with the approval of the US. He has not spoken a word about the suffering of the people of Gaza, the bombing of civilians in Afghanistan, the bombing of villages and tribes of Pakistan, nor the bloody massacre and exile of two million refugees from the Swat valley, nor Guantanamo, Abu Ghuraib, US secret prisons, nor the expansion of US prisons such as Bagram, nor US evasion of the Geneva convention in regards to treatment of prisoners, nor hiding the numbers and names of the prisoners held in their secret jails and their fate, nor about the obligation of the US towards them, nor the policy of rendition [of prisoners] to be tortured in Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and other places.

As-Sahab: But some might ask why you do not respond to his call for mutual understanding.

Sheikh Ayman: Do not demand the oppressed to end their resistance; rather, demand that the criminals cease their crimes. Moreover, did not Sheikh Osama bin Laden, may Allah protect him, offer two initiatives one to the US and another to Europe, to end their attack on the Muslims, starting a new
relationship based upon exchange of mutual interests and not subjugation, theft and usurpation? It was received in the worst of ways. If Obama wishes to come to a mutual un-derstanding, then let him respond to the two offers of Sheikh Osama, which are both just in na-ture. The Mujahidoon have opened the doors for them to start a new page, but they are deter-mined that their relationship with us be built upon subjugation and oppression. Then it is alright for Obama and his likes to come with some glittery words and empty calls! Do you know the example of Obama?

*As-Sahab*: What is his example?

*Sheikh Ayman*: His is the example of a wolf whose fangs gnaw into meat, whose claws scratch at your face, both dripping with your blood, who then calls you to stop resisting, because he wish-es to live in peace with you. Do you remember the famous poem by Ahmed Shawqi about the fox and the rooster, which starts with his saying:

*A fox appeared one day

in the clothes of a religious warner,

walking about guiding others,

cursing evil plotters...*

*As-Sahab*: Yes, which he concluded with his saying:

He has surely erred who has thought even once

that foxes have any religion.

*Sheikh Ayman*: And similarly, Obama has no religion. He was born to a Muslim father, then he became Christian, and finally he prays the prayer of the Jews.

*As-Sahab*: Good. Now I wish to ask your opinion about the effect of this Christian Crusade upon the US itself.
**Sheikh Ayman:** Economically, the Jihadi movement has caused this financial crisis being suffered by the US and its followers today. The economic stalemate which resulted from the blessed operation against the US was resolved by the Federal Reserve by a sharp cut in interests, which in turn resulted in increase in the flow of currency and competition for lending. This led the masses to take loans beyond their ability to pay back. When the masses were seen unable to pay them back, the financial establishments started to fall one after another, leading to a catastrophic financial crisis.

Militarily, the US has suffered huge losses in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Somalia. It has reached a point with them where it is as if it is in a closed tunnel, due to what it suffered from its financial crisis. On the other hand, the Mujahidoon have become much stronger and they operate in ever more areas. For example, the area in which the Mujahidoon operate in Afghanistan has extended to Pakistan. They have formed a new strong base in Somalia, by the Grace and Favor of Allah.

Politically, the trend of Bush and his aides, such as Cheney, Rumsfeld, Wolfowitz, Richard Pearle, Khalilzad is no longer existent, and Obama has been elected because the American masses acknowledged Bush’s defeat, his lies, and his stupidity.

**As-Sahab:** While we are on the topic of Obama’s winning the elections, how do you see him after more than three months after taking office?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Obama has evaded many of his promises.

**As-Sahab:** Such as?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Such as his promise to withdraw all US troops from Iraq, now saying that he will keep 50,000 troops there. Another example is his promise to close Guantanamo Detention Facility, now deciding to transfer fifty inmates to various of their secret prisons. Another example is his refusal to release pictures of US torture after the Defense Secretary agreed that they be re-leased. Another example is his defense of the CIA’s torturers from criminal investigation.

**Sheikh Ayman:** Ok, let us move on to Afghanistan.
As-Sahab: Please do.

As-Sahab: What do you think about the situation of Jihad in Afghanistan today?

Sheikh Ayman: Afghanistan is a miracle of Allah. It is the most amazing land Allah has created. This poor, primitive and deprived nation has shaped the history of the world twice in less than thirty years, once when the Soviet empire was defeated, and here is it today, by the Grace and Favor of Allah, defeating the American empire. It is sufficient for us to compare Bush’s tone be-fore his Christian Crusade of Afghanistan with that of Obama today, who now says that his strategy in Afghanistan is a withdrawal strategy. All this is from the Grace of Allah alone, and then the sacrifices put forth by the Afghans and their helpers, who have given tens of thousands of martyrs and injured, and even more widows and orphans in a continual Jihad which has not ceased for the victory of Islam and the honor of the Muslims.

What is happening in Afghanistan is a lesson which must be learned by the entire Muslim nation. It is enough pride for the Afghans that they will be remembered in the history of Islam, that their Islamic Emirate led by the Leader of the Believers, Mulla Muhammad Omar, may Allah protect him, threatened America, the strongest force on the face of the Earth, sacrificing everything it had in the Cause of its creed, principles, and protection of its brothers amongst the weak and oppressed emigrant Mujahi-doon.

As-Sahab: What is the cause of what you described as America’s defeat in Afghanistan at the hands of the Taliban?

Sheikh Ayman: The continual victories of the Mujahidoon under the leadership of the Leader of the Believers, Mulla Muhammad Omar, may Allah protect him, occurring today in Afghanistan is from Allah’s aid and support for his weak and oppressed slaves who chose His Pleasure over the crumbs of this passing worldly life. The accomplishments in Afghanistan today, which are the victories of the Mujahidoon and the defeat and losses of the Christian Crusaders and apostates have not come about from nothing. Rather, they have been achieved by the aid of Allah which He has given to the Mujahidoon by making them steadfast on the path of Islam and Jihad, granting them patience and forbearance to give tens of thousands of martyrs, and even more injured, and even more widows and orphans and disabled.
**As-Sahab:** So you think that the reason Allah favored the Mujahidoon of the Islamic Emirate with victories is their methodology of remaining steadfast upon the truth?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Yes. These victories have not come as a result of following the “scholars of inabil-ity”, who deem Jihad impermissible except by the permission of the American Wali Al-Amr (legi-timate leader), nor the “scholars of the marines” who deem it permissible to spill the blood of the Mujahidoon in Afghanistan under the American Cross, nor the “scholars of elections”, who think they are trying to establish the rule of Islam by accepting a constitution and laws which contradict Islam. Thus they fail before they even start.

I advise the leaders of the Islamic Movements to come to Afghanistan and learn from the Talib-an and Muhammad Omar lessons from which they can correct their beliefs and renew their Faith.

**As-Sahab:** This reminds us of the oft-repeated claim of negotiations between the Islamic Emirate and the US, sponsored and intermediated by Saudi Arabia. A person who claimed to have inside knowledge claimed in a conference in Cairo a few months ago that your surrender is the price the Talib-an accepted to pay the US, and this is about to take place. What are your comments on this?

**Sheikh Ayman:** My comment is the saying of Mutanabbi:

*Life is pleasant for a fool, ignorant about what occurred and what will occur and for those who err in understanding the reality itself, trying to force the impossible, and so they have false hope.*

These poor wretched people were born and have grown old competing over interests, profits, and positions. They have never tasted or smelt asceticism, Jihad, Martyrdom or Trust in Allah. The Islamic Emirate which sacrificed everything it had for the protection of their Islam and brothers, which wrote its stance in the annuls of Islam with ink of gold, how can it backtrack to-day, while it has tasted the seven bitter years of sacrifice, losing some of its
most honorable and noble men, and losing much money, women and children? How can it retract after all that it has sacrificed, while it sees the signs of victory are now starting to appear, and it is chasing after the Christian Crusade, which has started to retreat.

If the men of the Islamic Emirate and its leader, Mulla Muhammad Omar, the Mujahid, may Allah protect him, were of those who bargain, as imagined by those who claim they have inside knowledge, they would have compromised from day one, before the invasion of Afghanistan, when all the temptations were present in front of them.

All people remember how the Leader of the Believers, Mulla Muhammad Omar, expelled Turki Al-Faisal, the head of Saudi Intelligence, from his gathering in Qandahar because he thought Turki to have disgraced him by saying that the Leader of the Believers promised to surrender Osama b. Laden and those with him, and that he came to ask him to fulfill his promise.

He told Turki, “The Americans have some difference with Osama about some events which occurred in Africa. What do you have to do with this? Indeed your forefathers,” he meant the Sa-habah, may Allah be pleased with them, for the Afghans respect Arabs because they are the progeny of the Sahabah, may Allah be pleased with them, “indeed your forefathers taught the world honor, might, and jealousy, so why do you work for the interests of the US?”

The next day, Saudi Arabia cut relations with the Islamic Emirate and it did not care, even though Saudi Arabia was one of only three countries which recognized it.

As-Sahab: Our discussion about Afghanistan leads us to speak about the latest developments in Pakistan. What is your opinion about them?

Sheikh Ayman: There is a battle taking place in Pakistan today between two forces: one which represents a Jihadi outlook striving to establish Islamic Law and expel the infidel invaders from the lands of Islam, one which has many supporters in Pakistan, especially amongst the defiant Pashtun and Balochi tribes, and another force which has sold its honor and religion to Christian America, sacrificing every single thing, including the peace and security of Pakistan, all for cheap personal gains.
As-Sahab: Who represents this other force?

Sheikh Ayman: It is represented by the corrupt ruling politicians and the deviant leadership of the Pakistan army which work as hunting dogs for the US, receiving bribes and commands from the US ambassador in Islamabad.

As-Sahab: What is the true picture of the battle taking place in Pakistan?

Sheikh Ayman: The true picture is that the Pakistan army is pushing its troops towards death, imprisonment and disability so that its leadership can profit and receive even more bribes.

As-Sahab: What is the reason behind the latest attack on the Swat valley?

Sheikh Ayman: The reason is the refusal of the US that Islamic Law be implemented, even partially. It has also exposed the true face of the ruling class in Pakistan which wages a war against Islamic Law. Instead, it wants a secular system subservient to America, immersed in the spread of corruption and immorality. What was accomplished in Swat should have taken place all over Pakistan more than sixty years ago.

As-Sahab: Pakistani officials claim that the Pakistani political system and its constitution is based upon the principles of Islam. How much truth is there to this?

Sheikh Ayman: This is the biggest lie in the history of Pakistan. The constitution and laws of Pakistan are in direct contradiction to Islam. They delay its implementation with various ruses and deceptions. I have written a small treatise on this issue called “Al-Subhu wal-Qindeel” in which I clarified the lies of these claims. When the judicial aspect of Islamic Law was implemented in Swat, the hunting dogs of the US could not bear it, so they immediately took to spilling Muslim blood in Swat, expelling them from their land and homes so that US bribes could continue to pour into their pockets and accounts.
**As-Sahab:** What is the true ground reality of these military invasions, in specific in Swat and the tribal regions?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Nothing but failure! As I told you, the leadership of the Pakistan army does not care if all their troops and junior officers die, as long as their pockets are filled with US bribes. Nothing has been achieved in any of the various attacks on the tribal regions and on the Swat valley. Every time, the army has been forced to retreat and negotiate with the Mujahidoon. Even the recent invasion of Swat which the army claimed would only last a few days is still in progress. Allah willing, they will face the fate of their predecessors.

**As-Sahab:** What is the effect of the missile strikes carried out by US spy planes?

**Sheikh Ayman:** First of all, the attacks in the tribal regions are not carried out solely by spy planes. Rather, they are also carried out by ground missiles, planes and helicopters. Secondly, these bombings carried out by spy planes only increase the determination of the Mujahidoon.

**As-Sahab:** But the US claims that these strikes have achieved tangible results

**Sheikh Ayman:** The US looks for any way to cover their failure in Afghanistan. If these strikes were beneficial, they would have benefited them in Vietnam. Did they not kill five million Viet-namese? They totally burned Vietnam but then were forced to retreat in loss and failed hopes. If it were beneficial, it would have benefited them in Afghanistan and Iraq, in which they were forced to admit their huge losses, meaning their failure and defeat, after Bush had announced that he had achieved victory after his mass bombing campaign in the beginning of the war.

These bombings in the tribal regions do nothing but increase Muslims’ animosity towards the US, expose the fact that the Pakistan regime are true agents of the Christian Crusaders, reaffirm that Obama is lying in his claim of initiating new policies with the Islamic world, and clarify that Obama is nothing but a butcher of Muslims, like his predecessor Bush.
**As-Sahab**: Obama has said more than once that he would cooperate with Iran in order to achieve what he calls “stability” in Afghanistan. What do you think about this?

**Sheikh Ayman**: I see this as a continuation of the cooperation between the Iranian government and the crusader campaign, one which has been in existence since even before the blessed raids on America. They aided Ahmed Shah Masood, who not just cooperated with America, but who also publicly called upon them in Brussels to intervene in Afghanistan. They then colluded with them in the invasion of Afghanistan, and then Iraq. And now they are trying to save America from its dilemma in Afghanistan, but this is in vain, for “Allah does not allow the work of those who spread corruption to prosper.” (Yunus: 81)

**As-Sahab**

**Ahmed Shah Masood** requested his Iranian ally for American intervention in Afghanis-tan in order to safeguard the security of America and its allies.

**Ahmed Shah Masood**: This is my message to Mr. Bush. If he does not make a move to establish peace in Afghanistan, if he does not help the Afghani people to attain peace, most certainly this problem will not be confined to Afghanistan alone. It will spread to America and other countries.

**As-Sahab**: For this reason, the death of Masood was a cause of concern for both America and Russia. As for America’s concern, it was mentioned in the 9/11 Commission Report when it re-counted a meeting which took place one day after the death of Masood:

By the end of a deputies meeting on September 10, officials formally agreed on a three-phase strategy. First an envoy would give the Taliban a last chance. If this failed, continuing diplomatic pressure would be combined with the planned covert action program encouraging anti-Taliban Afghans of all major ethnic groups to stalemate the Taliban in the civil war and attack al Qaeda bases, while the United States developed an international coalition to undermine the regime. In phase three, if the Taliban’s policy still did not change, the deputies agreed that the United States would try covert action to topple the Taliban’s leadership from within.
The deputies agreed to revise the al Qaeda presidential directive, then being finalized for presidential approval, in order to add this strategy to it.

This alert reached the highest level of American decision makers on September 10, 2001 as a reaction to the death of Ahmed Shah Masood on September 9, for the American administration considered the murder of Ahmed Shah Masood to be a declaration of war from the Islamic Emirate against American interests. Although the murder of Ahmed Shah Masood was an internal matter according to international law, the greatest criminals on the planet saw it as a declaration of war against them by the forces of Islamic Jihad. They finalized this criminal plan against the Islamic Emirate on September 10, but the Mujahidoon, by the Grace of Allah, took the initiative before they could implement it, striking them on their own territory on September 11.

As for Russia, President Putin’s concern was obvious in the statement he made about the murder of Ahmed Shah Masood:

_Vladimir Putin – President of Russia_: Mr. Bush and I spoke. I said that Masoud, the leader of the Northern Alliance, has just been killed. I told my American colleague, “I’m very worried. Something big is going to happen. They’re planning something.”

_As-Sahab_: When America began to prepare for the invasion of Afghanistan, President Khatami felt that he must cooperate with America in its war on Islam in the name of terrorism, and he successfully convinced his ministers.

_Muhammad Khatami – President of Iran_: The Taliban were our enemies, and America also believes them to be its enemy. If they topple the Taliban, then this will primarily serve the interest of Iran.

_As-Sahab_: The Iranians decided to talk to America, and the only place where the two delegations, Iranian and American, meet was the United Nations. There, one of the members of the Iranian delegation delivered a message for the United States government. About this message, Hilary Mann, a member of the U.S. Mission to the United Nations said the following:
**Hilary Mann:** He said that Iran was prepared to work unconditionally with the United States in the war on terror, that they could work with us on this issue. It had the potential to fundamentally transform US-Iranian relations.

**As-Sahab:** The Iranian and American diplomats began to meet secretly in what was called the 6+2 group, about which Hilary Mann said:

**Hilary Mann:** These meetings took place in New York and also in Geneva. The Iranians were willing to do whatever was necessary to help to ensure that the US military campaign could succeed.

**As-Sahab:** The US airstrikes which began on October 7, 2001 continued for almost one month, but without any result. The Northern Alliance, Iran’s allies, were besieged in the valley of Pan-shir, and they needed America to bomb the Taliban who were blocking the roads to Kabul. This is when the Iranians decided to provide live intelligence to the US, and for this, they used the 6+2 group.

**Muhsen Aminzadeh – the Deputy Foreign Minister, Iran:** There was nothing left in Afghanistan to destroy. It had all been destroyed already. America targeted bunkers – caves actually. They dropped stupendous bombs that could destroy mountains. No result. One of our delegates was from the military. He was briefing them on the situation inside Afghanistan.

**Hilary Mann:** He pounded the table and said, “I have had enough of this. This is just nice talk, but we’re not going to get anywhere if this bombing campaign doesn’t succeed.

**Muhsen Aminzadeh:** If America wants to succeed they’ll need help of the Northern Alliance and the friends of Iran.

**Hilary Mann:** And then he took out a map and he unfolded the map on the table, and started to point to targets that the US needed to focus on, particularly in the north. We took the map to Cent Com, to the US Central Command, and certainly that did become the US Military strategy.

**As-Sahab:** After the fall of Kabul, Iran participated in the formation of a government in Afghanistan that was an agent of the United States. It gave
legitimacy to a government which rode in on top of American tanks under the shade of more than thirty Crusader flags. On top of that, they expelled Sheikh Hikmatyar from Iran because he stated that this government was an agent which the Afghani people reject.

After nine months, America and Britain sought a resolution from the UN Security Council to justify their invasion of Iraq. At that time, the British foreign minister traveled to the Middle East requesting support, arriving in Tehran:

**Jack Straw – UK Foreign Secretary:** Iran was a big cheese in the region, and it was important to me to see the Iranians to get them on board for what we were seeking to do with Saddam, which was to get rid of him.

[In his address to Iran] “We cannot ignore the threat posed by Saddam Hussein to this region, to countries like Iran and Kuwait, to the Iraqi people themselves and to the security of the region and the world.”

**Mohammed Khatami:** They didn’t always oppose Saddam. Saddam was our enemy. We wanted him destroyed.

**As-Sahab:** Khatami proposed something which could never be imagined. He proposed that Iran offer the intelligence and stratagem needed by the US for them to topple Saddam.

**Jack Straw:** There had been an international arrangement in regards to Afghanistan in which they had participated, and I don’t know whether you know or not, but it did work pretty well.

**Mohammed Khatami:** I told him, “Let’s repeat the Afghanistan experience in Iraq. Let’s make it 6+6. That’s the six countries bordering Iraq, America, the other Security Council members, plus Egypt.”

**Mohsen Aminzadeh:** For us, Iraq’s future was no less important than Afghanistan’s. Many key Iraqis were exiled in Iran. They would be Iraq’s leaders.

**Mohammed Khatami:** Look at Iran as a power that can solve problems rather than the problem itself.

[End Video Clip]
**As-Sahab:** What do you think about the role of Iran in these important events since the beginning of the Christian Crusades against Afghanistan?

**Sheikh Ayman:** I think that Iran in the end has lost much.

**As-Sahab:** What have you based your opinion upon? Some feel that Iran has benefited the most in these events, for the US has overthrown two of its enemies, Afghanistan to the East and Sad-dam to its West.

**Sheikh Ayman:** I think that Iran is like one who seeks protection from the heat in fire. First, the Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan was keen on not showing enmity, creating a relationship based on mutual interest with Iran, so that it could break the sanctions imposed upon it. It was Iran that interfered with the affairs of Afghanistan and aided the Northern Alliance with wealth, ammunition and experience. Iraq, after the first Gulf war, and specifically just before the US invasion, was unable to pose any threat to its neighbors, and it was proven that all the US claims and justifications for attacking Iraq were lies and deception.

This was the state of Iran before the Christian Crusades on Afghanistan. Today, it is surrounded by about 250,000 troops of the US and its allies to its east in Afghanistan and its west in Iraq, not to mention the large military presence on the other bank of the Gulf. They are all forces which dream of wiping out the present regime in Iran.

**As-Sahab:** But the present government in Afghanistan is friendly to Iran while the one in Iraq is loyal to it?

**Sheikh Ayman:** No. The governments of Afghanistan and Iraq are allied to the US. They arrived on top of its tanks, and they cannot survive except by its presence. This is something which Kar-zai and Maliki have stated repeatedly, demanding that the US not yet withdraw from Afghanistan and Iraq.

**As-Sahab:** But the Iraqi government is in the hands of the Shi’ites
Sheikh Ayman: It is true that the Iraqi government is in the hands of the Shi’ites who once re-sided and were supported by Iran, but it is the US that has the real influence, not the Iranians. The only thing Iran can do is to threaten to create problems for the US in Iraq. The fierce encounters between the Iraqi government forces backed by the US and other militias, such as the Mahdi army, in which the battling parties struck the shrines of Hussein and Abbas, may Allah be pleased with them, is one face of the current battle between the US and Iran in Iraq, and it is also a proof that Maliki and his regime, when put to the test, put their allegiance to the US above their allegiance to Iran. This conflict is also apparent from Iran’s opposition to the security agreement between the US and Iraq, on the basis of which some of the American troops will be withdrawn.

As-Sahab: So you feel as if Iran has suffered a strategic setback in aiding the US in their invasion of Afghanistan and Iraq?

Sheikh Ayman: Not only this, but on top of their financial loss, their morale has also suffered greatly.

As-Sahab: How?

Sheikh Ayman: Iran exposed itself to the Islamic world, and it has become clear that it is not part of its resistance front as it and its supporters like to claim. Rather it is a bargainer, ready to sell the Muslims anywhere to the Crusaders and help them against the Muslims if it deems this col-lusion to be in its own limited interests. Iran deems Jihad to be permissible in Palestine and Leb-anon, but deems it impermissible in Iraq and Afghanistan. Not one verdict has been given by any Shi’ite scholar, whether inside or outside Iran, stating the obligation of waging Jihad, fighting and bearing weapons against the American Christian Crusader occupiers in Afghanistan and Iraq. Rather the opposite is true, as every statement they make calls for pacification and non-resistance.

America, “the Great Satan”, has become the favored participant in Iraq and Afghanistan. There is nothing wrong with the US Crusaders occupying Afghanistan or Iraq, rather there is nothing wrong with them attacking the grave of Ali, may Allah honor him, but woe to them should they even touch a speck of dust on Iran’s territory.
As-Sahab: Those who defend Iran say that Al-Qaeda accuses Iran of colluding with the Crusaders in Iraq and Afghanistan even though it is not alone in this crime. The majority of the Arab countries which claim to be Sunnis participated one way or another in this Christian Crusade. It was not only the Shi’ite scholars who turned a blind eye to the Christian Crusade on Iraq and Afghanistan, but rather there are also scholars who claim to be Sunni who gave verdicts of the permissibility of Muslim participation in the US Christian Crusaders’ invasion of Afghanistan. There are official scholars, especially in the Arabian Peninsula who gave verdict stating the impermissibility of participating in the Jihad in Iraq.

Sheikh Ayman: By the Grace of Allah, we have exposed the role played by Arab countries in their alliance with the Crusade against the Islamic world, and by the Grace of Allah, we also exposed the role played by those who I call, “Scholars of the Marines”, demanding that they repent and retract their shameful verdicts, seeking forgiveness from the Muslim nation for this historical error. We have also exposed the role played by the official and semiofficial government scholars in the Arabian Peninsula and elsewhere in the service they render to the Crusade against the Islamic world. In the latest address of Sheikh Osama b. Laden, may Allah protect him, he called on the Muslim Ummah and the truthful scholars to expose those scholars and to prepare lists of their names with their statements and stances which support the Crusades against Islam and Muslims.

As-Sahab: These scholars who gave verdicts stating the permissibility of Muslims participation in the Crusade against Afghanistan were not spared by the supporters of Iran when they warned against Shi’ite activity in Sunni societies, describing them as agents of Israel.

Sheikh Ayman: Yes, this is the first accusation directed towards all who oppose them, while the pretend to forget how they themselves helped the US in Iraq and Afghanistan. Even in the last elections, Ahmedinijad accused his opponent of working for the interests of Israel. Allah, the Truth (SWT), says:

\[
\text{أَتَأْمَرُونَ الْإِنسَانَ بِالْكَبِيرَ وَتَنَسُّوْنَ أَنْفَسَتَكُمْ وَأنَّتَمُّ نَتَّازِلُونَ الْكُتُبَاء أَفْتَلِيَ}
\]

“Do you enjoin righteousness upon others and forget yourselves, while you recite the Book? Do you have no sense?” (Al-Baqarah: 44)
As-Sahab: Allow me to stray a bit from the topic of Iran to something which our discussion about the scholars who have colluded with the Crusades reminded me of, which is the statement of some of them claiming that Al-Qaeda never praises anyone, and that it only regards itself, thinking anyone who opposes them to be upon falsehood, and that it has never praised anyone.


Not only that, we may even disagree with some of those who we mentioned in some matters. Also, Sheikh Osama praised those who stated that besieging Gaza is considered aiding the Jews and explained the ruling of their aid. We also support the Al-Azhar Scholars’ Front for their truthful stance concerning normalization and the siege of Gaza. In any case, we praise those who we see to have done well and we criticize those who has done evil. We ask Allah to grant us objectivity in our statements and actions.

As-Sahab: Some supporters of Iran accuse you of criticizing Iran to serve the interests to Arab Gulf states which are allied to America.
Sheikh Ayman: We say to them: There is a proverb which says: if you are a liar, then at least have a good memory. By the Grace of Allah, we are of those who played the greatest role in ex-posing the role of the treacherous Gulf rulers against the Muslim Ummah since their conspiracy against the Palestinian revolt in the year 1936 CE to their alliance with Roosevelt right before the end of WWII, and to their participation in the Crusades against Iraq and Afghanistan to their initiative which caused the loss of Palestine and Israel’s acknowledgement their co-conspiracy in the siege of Gaza. Rather, we challenge the claimants that they speak as clearly and explicitly as Al-Qaeda in opposition to those corrupt ruling families in the Gulf, rather in the rest of the Islamic world as well.

As-Sahab: How?

Sheikh Ayman: The supporters of Iran have peace accords with many of the Gulf rulers, especial-ly the Saudi family. On this basis, most of the (Shi’ite) prisoners have been released, while tens of thousands of monotheist Muslims who enjoined the good and forbid evil remain in the pris-ons of the Saudi family, or are expelled from work or are troubled.

As-Sahab: OK, let’s move on from our discussion of Iran to the situation in Iraq.

Sheikh Ayman: Pease do…

As-Sahab: What do you think of the situation in Iraq today?

Sheikh Ayman: The situation in Iraq is good, by the Grace of Allah, and things are looking favora-ble for the Mujahidoon. The US is retreating, Allah willing, or at least they will reduce their pres-ence to a great extent. The Shi’ite Iraqi government must face its fate, and the Shi’ites lean to-wards both the US and Iran, and the Awakening Councils have dilapidated and are now threat-ened by the Shi’ite government, while the Mujahidoon have remained steadfast and deter-mined, and they have continued to strike heavy blows and inflict losses on the Crusader occupi-ers and their aides, by the Grace of Allah.
As-Sahab: If I ask you what is your message to the people of Iraq, would what you say?

Sheikh Ayman: Really I wish to send several messages to the people of Iraq, not one.

As-Sahab: Please do

Sheikh Ayman: My first message is to the people of Jihad, Islam, proper creed and steadfast methodology in Iraq, and especially the Islamic State of Iraq, may Allah aid and protect it. I say to them: remain firm, be patient, vie with your enemy in patience, and remain at the ready, for indeed victory is near, Allah willing. The difficult stages have come to pass, and the coming ones are easier, Allah willing. I also ask them by Allah to sincerely strive to unite upon the correct methodology and pure creed. Sheikh Abu Omar Al-Baghdadi, may Allah protect him, has called them to this. Take the initiative to respond to his call, and I believe that my brothers in the Islamic State will open their hearts for any Jihadi group which seeks unity, rather to every Muslim who seeks to come to the aid of Islam and the Muslims.

As-Sahab: Good, this is the first…

Sheikh Ayman: Yes, the second is to our leaders, elders, and teachers from the truthful and sincere scholars of Iraq steadfast on the way of Allah and his Messenger (PBUH), for them to stand for truth and with the Mujahidoon, and that they expose the traitors who buy and sell the religion and name them, and that they do not fear any criticism made of their work for Allah’s sake. They must call to account the traitors who make a business of the religion, those who did not enjoin the Ummah to carry out the individual obligation of fighting the Crusader invaders. They must expose the fact that the Shi’ite scholars in Iraq, Iran and elsewhere did not issue even one verdict to fight the Crusader invaders in Afghanistan and Iraq, and that the government scholars in the Arabian Peninsula and Egypt forbid people from leaving to fight Jihad only in implementation of the orders of their proxy rulers empowered by the US. These scholars are the slaves of slaves and the agents of agents.

As-Sahab: OK, do you have any other messages?
Sheikh Ayman: Yes, my third message is to those who fell into the Crusader Awakening Councils, whether they be from those groups who previously fought Jihad or otherwise. I say to them: Will you repent before it’s too late? You have seen with your own eyes your loss in this world, what do you think the loss of the Hereafter will be like? Allah, our Master (SWT), said:

أٍل آٍخِرَةٍ وَلَعَذَابَ الآخِرَةِ أٍبْقَىَ شَدًّا

“The punishment of the Hereafter is more severe and lasting.” (Ta-Ha: 127)

and also:

وَلَعَذَابُ الآخِرَةِ أَحْزَىٰ وَدَمَّ لَا يُصِيرُونَ

“The punishment of the Hereafter will more disgracing, and they shall not be helped.” (Fussu-lat: 16)

I say to them: is your religion and honor so unimportant to you that you have sold it for $300 a month, thrown to you as leftovers are thrown to a guard dog who is only loyal to he who feeds him? Respond to the invitation of Sheikh Abu Hamza Al-Muhajir, may Allah protect him, and know that the Mujahidoon are truthful in offering you a chance to repent. They are also truthful in the warning they issue to you, for there is no alternative after the offer of repentance they made you except for the way of Abu Bakr Al-Siddeeq (RA) in dealing with the apostates: a war of elimination or humiliating surrender. I have one more message.

As-Sahab: Please go ahead...

Sheikh Ayman: My last message is to my Muslim brothers, the progeny of Salahuddin, the ho-norable Kurds. I remind them of the saying of Allah, the Truth (SWT)

وَلَنَ صَرْصَرَى عَنْكُمْ الْيَهُودُ وَلَا الْكَوْنِيَّةُ حَتَّى تُخَضَّبُوا مَعَهُمْ

“The Jews and Christians will never be pleased with you until you follow their religion.” (Al-Baqarah: 120)

and also:
“O you who believe! Take not for intimates any from outside your own ranks, they would spare no pains to bring you ruin. They desire suffering for you. Hatred has already appeared from their mouths, but that which their breasts conceal is greater. We have made plain for you the revelations if ye will understand.” (Aali Imran: 118)

Allah has created you free, defiant of oppression. You will never find freedom and honor except in Islam. Allah says:

“O mankind, We have created you from a male and female and made you into nations and tribes so that you may know one another. The most noble of you in Allah’s sight is the most pious of you. Allah is Knowing, All-Aware.” (Al-Hujurat: 13)

The Americans and the Jews are using your government for their own purposes, and they will never let you oppose them. They will desert you once their needs are met, and they will not defend you if they see that your enemies are of greater service to their interests. So be Helpers of Allah and His Messenger and hold fast to your Islam and creed.

Understand that the Americans and the Jews will spoil your sons and daughters, so that they will become their slaves. Your brothers, the Mujahidoon, are extending their hand to you, and they are the furthest of people from racism and nationalism. We in Al-Qaeda have pledged allegiance to the Leader of the Believers, the Afghani, Mulla Muhammad Omar, we are proud of this and call upon Muslims to do the same. So be free as Allah created you, and don’t be tools in the hands of the Jews and Americans, who will use you for a while and then throw you away.

As-Sahab: Good. Allow me to move on to Lebanon. First I would like to ask you about Hezbollah and their stance on Gaza. What do you think of their stance?

Sheikh Ayman: The events of Gaza as those before it have exposed Hezbollah.
As-Sahab: How?

Sheikh Ayman: Hezbollah’s stance on Gaza was contradictory. On one hand, Hasan Nasrullah consistently blamed Hosni Mubarak and the Egyptian government, saying that they should open the borders, calling for the Egyptian army to make a move, and calling on the Egyptian masses to open the borders with their chests, etc.

On the other hand, he himself totally refused to launch any of the tens of thousands of missiles which he claims to own, and which he boasts about and threatens Israel with. He did not launch a single missile – or even a tenth of one - in defense of the people of Gaza whom he called upon the Egyptian army to come to their aid, and for the Egyptian masses to open the borders for them with their chests.

This, while he threatened Israel that if it attacked Lebanon, he would launch thousands of mis-siles which would reach here and there! So here is Israel carrying out a holocaust in Gaza, where is the threat of missiles? Or are the Muslims of Gaza second class?

As-Sahab: …to the extent that some missiles found in an orchard ready to be launched were called “suspicious” by Nasrullah.

Sheikh Ayman: Glory be to Allah! Why are his missiles “pure and true”, blessed by the Leader of the Muslims in Iran, while others’ are “suspicious”?

Do you enjoin righteousness upon others and forget yourselves, while you recite the Book? Do you have no sense? (Al-Baqarah: 44)

As-Sahab: He claims to follow international resolutions, and that those “suspicious” missiles would bring much more harm than good, and that he does not want to give Israel an excuse to wage war against Lebanon, etc.
Sheikh Ayman: Glory be to Allah! Are these not the same excuses given by Hosni Mubarak? Then why is Hosni Mubarak a traitorous agent against which the Egyptian army and masses must move?

As-Sahab: He claims that he and his group have fought for the liberty of Lebanon, and that this fact gives them the authority to act as they will.

Sheikh Ayman: Glory be to Allah! Hosni Mubarak has fought more wars than him, and regained much more territory than him. Why is Hosni Mubarak then a traitorous agent who is an enemy to the Palestinians?

As-Sahab: So what do you think are the reasons for these contradictions?

Sheikh Ayman: The explanation, which is known to all, is that he was not given orders from the “leader of the Muslims” in Iran. The key which may explain the actions of Iran and its followers is that they seek political influence any way they can, legitimate or illegitimate. If they can achieve this political influence through war, they will fight war, and if they can achieve this by avoiding war and agreeing to guard the Israeli borders, they will refrain from war and prevent all those who wish to fight, calling them “suspicious”.

As-Sahab: …or the ready Iranian accusation: Israeli agent. This is also what they called Sheikh Al-Qaradawi who was once their friend.

Sheikh Ayman: Exactly. If they can gain this political influence by helping the Crusader invaders against the Muslims, they will do this without hesitation.

As-Sahab: What is the secret why Iran’s followers accept all these contradictions and misdeeds?

Sheikh Ayman: The hidden secret is that the religious scholars preach to their followers that they are agents of the 12th Imam, claiming to speak in the name of the infallible Imam, and thus they too are infallible! Additionally, Khomeini, in his book Al-Hukoomah Al-Islamiyyah, stated
that the just Faqeeh (Jurist) has all the authority of the Messenger and the Imams in regards to governance and politics, and that the prophets transferred to the jurists all powers given to them. Then ten years after the Iranian revolution, Khomeini preached the concept of “Unrestricted Authority of the Jurist”, and one of its main precepts was that governance is a branch of the unrestricted authority of the Messenger (PBUH), taking precedence to all juristic rulings, even the prayer, fast, and Hajj, and that the government has the authority to unilaterally cancel any agreements it makes with its masses if it deems it harmful to the interests of the country and Islam.

It has the authority stop any matter, worship or otherwise, if it is harmful to the interests of Islam. Thus, if you oppose the authority of the Authoritative Jurist, you have in fact opposed the infallible Imam, and if you have opposed the infallible Imam, you have in fact opposed Allah. Thus, if the authoritative jurist says that Jihad in Lebanon and Palestine is permissible, yet impermissible in Iraq and Afghanistan, this is the Will of Allah!

**As-Sahab:** So its priesthood in the name of Islam.

**Sheikh Ayman:** Rather, sometimes it’s against Islam. What can you call helping to spill the blood of Muslims in Iraq and Afghanistan and the killing of Muslims by Shi’ite militias in Iraq, burning them and boring into their heads with electric drills?

**As-Sahab:** There is a question which keeps arising: Don’t you think that Hezbollah and Hasan Nasrullah are given much more media coverage than the Taliban?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Of course. This is something clear to all who can see. The Taliban is up against an international alliance of more than thirty countries, besieged by Pakistan to its East and Iran to its West, but in spite of this fact, they have liberated far, far greater areas, freed many, many more prisoners, and killed many, many more Crusaders than Hezbollah. Even after all this, they are given minimal coverage in the media.

**As-Sahab:** What is the secret behind this?
Sheikh Ayman: The secret behind this is that the media, especially the Arab media, has a specific objective, despite their claims of neutrality, objectivity, etc., etc. This objective accommodates the methodology of Hezbollah, a party which claims to represent Allah, but at the same time, it is secular, involving itself in the secular political processes, accepting international resolutions and the legitimacy of the UN.

It restricts itself to a small pocket of land, saying that its goal is achieved if it is liberated. It does not call at all for Jihad to liberate all Muslim lands nor to the Caliphate, for it believes that it is a crime for the Ummah to choose its leaders through mutual consultation (Shura). They can come to an understanding with them (i.e Hezbollah), especially through the Authoritative Jurist in Tehran. They can negotiate with them and use them as a blocking wall against the Jihadi efforts against UNIFIL or northern Israel.

On the other hand, these interests are opposed to and do not welcome anything which calls to the establishment of the Sharia and making it the highest source of governance; anything which calls to rejecting the present world order, preaching it to be an order based upon oppression and subjugation, especially against Muslims; anything which calls to the liberation all Muslim lands and establishment of the Islamic Caliphate which will unite them; or anything which sees Israel to be a crime that must be removed.

Due to this, Hezbollah is given huge coverage in the media, while barely any achievements of the Islamic Emirate in Afghanistan are allowed.

As-Sahab: OK. Do you have a message to the Muslims in Lebanon?

Sheikh Ayman: Yes. I say to them: those who do not become lions are eaten by wolves. All those around you are preparing themselves, so beware of the traders of lewdness and baseness, the agents of the US and the Saudi family, for they will be the first to desert you at your time on need, as they have done before. So propagate, prepare yourselves and unite under a truthful and free leadership which does not do business with its religion and honor. Know well that Leb-anon is an Islamic front, and it is an obligation upon you to prepare to fight Israel and to con-front it. So seek help in Allah and rush to abide by His rulings, and repent from your sins. May Allah grant you success and guide you to honor in this life and success in the Hereafter.
As-Sahab: Ok. Can we move on to Palestine?

Sheikh Ayman: Please do…

As-Sahab: Can you summarize for us what is taking place in Palestine today, specifically in Gaza.

Sheikh Ayman: What is taking place in Palestine, and Gaza in particular, is that they are trying to force the Mujahidoon in Palestine to submit. The key figures in this are Egypt and America. The Jews and America have succeeded in the West Bank, which has come under the iron fist of the security apparatus of Mahmoud Abbas which is in direct cooperation with Israeli intelligence through the coordination of the CIA. This security apparatus arrests and kills the Mujahidoon and reveals to Israel their hideouts.

[Video Clip]

Dr. Azzam Al-Timimi (in a lecture entitled, “After the war on Gaza”):

Out of about 700 prisoners, around 40 or 60 or so prisoners were released before the recent events, and the rest… Every day they arrest people: the Israelis do it and the Ramallah authorities do it. The prisoners have to released. Now, of course it has reached me from those who took part in the meeting in Cairo that the members of Fatah told them that the matter is not in the hands of Fatah, so don’t require it of us. This is something mandated by the United States on the authority in Ramallah, on Salam Fayyad, and he is not from Fatah. Therefore, don’t ask us. In other words, it is another stalemate for which there is no solution.

The other matter is bringing an end to the cooperation and security arrangements between the Ramallah authority and the Israelis, because the information that the Israelis use to conduct arrests, raids, and seizures in Gaza, from them the information provided which led to the assassination of Saeed Siyam, is given to them by elements from Fatah and Mahmud Abbas. Therefore, this is a real dilemma. How can we declare we’ve reached an agreement while knives are stabbing us in the back day and night.
Yes, what is going on in the Palestinian theater is painful, but this happens with all liberation movements. Always, the way to strike a liberation movement is by creating a fifth column inside the movement itself. This happened with the Irish struggle against British occupation. It happened in South Africa against Apartheid, and in Vietnam.

It is no secret that as a result of the Oslo Accords, the Israelis transformed some of the old freedom fighters into VIP’s who benefited from the occupation. As a consequence, their interests now lay with the occupation, and they became a fifth column that started imprisoning and punishing… go back to the Amnesty International reports dated between '96 and '97. Twenty-four supporters of Hamas died under torture in the prisons of the Palestinian Authority, and now recently, two more were killed under torture in Ramallah.

[End Clip]

Sheikh Ayman: The objective now is to strangle the Jihad in Gaza just as it was strangled in the West Bank.

As-Sahab: How?

Sheikh Ayman: The equation is simple: “O people of Gaza, if you want to live, to eat and drink and to dwell here, then submit to the American-Zionist demands.”

As-Sahab: What are those demands?

Sheikh Ayman: Recognize Israel. Explicitly accept the international resolutions. Forsake Jihad or what they call ‘violence’. Then, above all, accept the government of Salam Fayyad.

As-Sahab: Why Salam Fayyad in particular?
Sheikh Ayman: A charming personality! Beloved to the hearts of the Americans and the Jews. He keeps no secret from them, and he disobeys no command. His purpose is to slaughter the Jihad and the Mujahidoon.

As-Sahab: And if the government of Hamas does not accept these demands?

Sheikh Ayman: If it does not respond, the siege will continue and no development will be possible. The bombing might also be repeated for a second time, a third time, a fourth time…

[Video Clip]

Dr. Azzam Al-Timimi (in a lecture entitled, “After the war on Gaza”):

Some people tie any improvement of the situation to internal reconciliation in Palestine. Thus, Egypt is busy in this matter. Recently some meetings were held in Cairo, but in reality, many people don’t understand the issue. What happened was not a mere difference of opinion, but rather something much bigger: there are two disparate projects altogether which are colliding with each other. They are completely at odds. Yet, it is expected of them to find some common ground, which is something impossible. For this reason, I personally am not optimistic that there can be any Palestinian reconciliation at this time.

While Fatah and Hamas met in Cairo, Mahmoud Abbas, in the presence of Hilary Clinton, said that the future government must be one which abides by international resolutions. In other words, he already decided the agenda. Hamas will never agree to the agenda of Abbas, Ramal-lah, and Salam Fayyad, nor is it something that the Palestinian people will accept.

Thus, any reconciliation must succeed in finding some common ground, so what common ground is there? What can we agree upon? What ground can we both stand upon? If you want to become part-ners with the Zionists while I believe that they have no right to exist in my father and mother’s house, the matter is difficult. So it was a mistake, and this mistake may have been intentional, to insist that there can be some Palestinian reconciliation before anything else: before the reconstruc-tion of Gaza, before opening the borders, before lifting the siege. So the cane will be placed back in the closet as they say. They do not want to open the borders, lift the siege or reconstruct Gaza.
As-Sahab: So what is the solution?

Sheikh Ayman: The solution, simply put, is that Palestine will never be liberated except through Jihad. The Mujahid must not accept the siege, nor that the enemy choose the time and place of the battle. If conditions are tough in one area, they are easier elsewhere,

As-Sahab: You have said this to them before, what exactly do you mean?

Sheikh Ayman: I mean to remind all Muslims and Mujahidoon that Palestine will never be libe-rated except through Jihad; and that if it becomes difficult to wage Jihad in Gaza, there are many dwelling places on earth and much provision; and that we are with our brothers, the Mu-jahidoon, in Gaza, Palestine and everywhere else, and we will place all our abilities at their dis-posal; that they should not stop the wheel of Jihad; and that targets of the enemy can be found all over the world.

As-Sahab: Ok. Can you summarize for me a practical solution to the Palestinian Crisis in a few points:

Sheikh Ayman: It is an obligation upon the Mujahidoon inside Palestine that they do not allow the enemy to choose the time, place, and the prerequisites of the battle. Enemy targets can be found everywhere, as the enemy is not Israel alone, but rather everyone who aids and supports them with the weapons used to kill our people in Palestine.

2) If the Muslim nation wished to liberate Palestine and stop the Jewization of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Holy Mosque, it must support the Mujahidoon in Iraq, for they are a real hope for tearing down the borders and obstacles which prevent the Muslim Ummah from their brothers in the precincts of the Holy Mosque (al-Aqsa). If these borders and obstacles are re-moved, the whole Ummah will be able to participate in the liberation of Palestine.

3) It is an obligation on the people of Egypt in particular to carry out a strike which does not end until Mubarak’s regime ends his siege of Gaza.
And it is a specific obligation on the honorable and defiant tribes of the Sinai that they do not desert their brothers in religion and blood in Ga-za. They must aid them with all they need, from a loaf of bread to anti-tank mines.

_As-Sahab:_ OK. This is a large topic but our time is limited and there are some other important issues. Please allow me to focus on them due to the time.

_Sheikh Ayman:_ Please do…

_As-Sahab:_ The Arabian Peninsula, especially Yemen, is experiencing a rejuvenation of Jihad. What do you think of this?

_Sheikh Ayman:_ The corrupt and rotten regimes who are in collusion with the Crusaders in the Arabian Peninsula, particularly the regimes of the Saudi family and Ali Abdullah Saleh, are trying to cover up and suppress the Jihadi uprising which has overcome the Arabian Peninsula, but the ground realities and events have overpowered them. The whole region is experiencing a Jihadi awakening, from Somalia to Iraq, an awakening which is gaining more and more momentum, awareness and firmness, fixing its goals and coming to know more about its enemies.

It challenges the Crusader influence which is spreading in the Arabian Peninsula and its followers, defending the usurped rights of the Believers and their honor which is being desecrated by these regimes day after day. For this reason, more and more people support it, both from the tribes as well as the cities. This is something acknowledged by many analysts. The sympathy and support of the general body of the Ummah, and specifically Yemen, for the Mujahidoon in the Arabian Peninsula is not something hidden. Due to the general awareness of the masses, more and more people are becoming convinced that these rotten and corrupt regimes are the reason for the existing injustices, corruption, political enslavement and societal breakdown, and that there can be no reform except through Islam and the methodology of the Quran, and this is the methodolo-dogy of the Mujahidoon by the Grace of Allah.
**As-Sahab:** OK. If we can focus a bit on the latest developments in Somalia, what do you think of them?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Somalia today is witnessing a fierce battle between a government imposed by the International Crusader Alliance, directly backed by America and Ethiopia. What’s more, Ethiopia has intervened once again to support it. [This government] seeks shelter with the invading Crusader forces, called AMISOM and other names, and it cannot survive without them. Its president and the head of the parliament sought help from the East and the West to defend this traitorous government. Thus, it is a government of America, Ethiopia, the Crusader West, and the big warlords who erected Sheikh Shareef, the new Ahmed Karzai in Somalia.

Somalia is witnessing a battle between these forces and the forces of Jihad and Islam which will not accept that even one Crusader soldier, whatever name they are given, desecrates Somalia, Islam and Jihad. This government imposed by the International Crusaders will share the fate of every other force which has allied with the International Crusades, everlasting loss in this life as well as the Hereafter.

**As-Sahab:** Egypt is witnessing a growth in the number of opposition movements which are seeking a change in government. What do you think of this?

**Sheikh Ayman:** There is no doubt that the Egyptian regime has reached a level of corruption, decay and treason that none can bear, but there are a number of facts that all those who seek reform must keep in mind.

1) The first is that there can be no real reform if it is distanced from the methodology of Islam, and this is a religious and political fact.

2) The second is that the regime in Egypt and the regimes of the rest of the Arab and Islamic world can never be removed except through the use of force. The Egyptian government will never surrender to any peaceful attempt at reform, and Hosni Mubarak and his son will never abandon their rule willingly.

3) The third is that any attempt to bring reform from inside, through its laws and constitution will only lead to the increase of corruption, tyranny and servitude, and the modern history of Egypt gives proof to this fact.

4) The fourth matter which is clear to all who are just is that America supports these corrupt governments and uses them, and Obama’s visit to Saudi Arabia and Egypt was a clear message in this regard. The US will
never welcome any change in government un-less it guarantees that the new one will work even harder for it and be more subservient to it, as was the case in Pakistan recently. Musharraf was removed to bring someone even more corrupt and even more of a slave: Zardari.

*As-Sahab:* We often hear news that the US is pushing Saudi Arabia to try to mediate negotia-tions with the Taliban. What do you think of this?

*Sheikh Ayman:* Another lie like the previous one, for the Leader of the Believers publicly an-nounced that there will not be any negotiations with any party before the invading forces leave Afghanistan, and the only thing that can be given the invading forces is a path out of Afghanis-tan. At any cost, Saudi Arabia strove and is still striving to render their services to the US in Af-ghanistan, and their history in spreading corruption amongst the various Afghan groups with money, and erecting the Mujaddidi government is a well known matter.

*As-Sahab:* Some analysts think that the US will lean towards Iran more than Saudi Arabia.

*Sheikh Ayman:* The US is only concerned about its own interests, and thus it is ready for this. The Saudi Family is nothing but a tool in its hands which it uses. It will throw them away if it finds someone who will serve their interests better.

The danger of Iran on the Arabian Peninsula is great and growing, the reason being that the Saudi Family for decades has been interested only in fulfilling their desires and joys, leaving the defense of the Arabian Peninsula to the US who also guard their thrones. For this reason, de-spite the fact that Saudi Arabia is the wealthiest nation in the region, its army is unable to de-fend it.

On the other hand, Saudi Arabia has submitted to the demands of the Shi’ites, and their prison-ers have been released, although their prisons are still filled with thousands of Islamic scholars, propagators and Sunnis. Ahl Al-Sunnah have not gained even a tenth of what the Shi’ites have, and only those who play the role of devil’s advocate, by defending the Saudi Royal Family, and those Islamic Propagators who forbid Jihad unless it has the permission of their American ruler are employed in the media. As for those who speak the truth in public, their fate is prison.
**As-Sahab:** Lately, we have noted that media activity and statements of a number of Islamic Propagators, some of them from the Arabian Peninsula, attempting to deface the Jihad in the Islamic Maghreb, at the same time portraying a good picture of the ruling government there. What is the reason for this in your opinion.

**Sheikh Ayman:** The reason is clear. It is the appearance of a major and growing Jihadi force in the Islamic Maghreb which threatens American and French influence there, one which exposes the corruption, decay, and servitude of the local regime. Thus, they feel that they have to try to somehow restrain it.

**As-Sahab:** Do you think they have succeeded?

**Sheikh Ayman:** Those who defend Satan ruin only their own image. The facts are too great to hide. The Muslim Ummah in the Islamic Maghreb know all too well the extent of corruption of these rulers and the extent to which they fight Islam and spread licentiousness, even fighting the Hijab. Those who defend these corrupt rulers, the offspring of France, and thank their mother (France) have ensured their own downfall.

**As-Sahab:** OK. What is the obligation upon the Muslims of the Islamic Maghreb today?

**Sheikh Ayman:** The obligation upon the Muslims of the Islamic Maghreb today is that they start to abide by Islam, that they leave sinfulness, and that they be keen on raising their children ac-cording to Islamic ethics and manners. It is an obligation upon Muslim women in the Islamic Maghreb that they confront those who seek to rip off their Hijab and lower them from the peak of their honor, chastity and nobility. All women in the Islamic Maghreb must know that these people are the vanguard and slaves of France and America. It is an obligation upon all Muslims in the Islamic Maghreb that they implement the saying of Allah:
“O you who believe! Be you helpers (in the Cause) of Allah as said Jesus, son of Mary, to the disciples: "Who are my helpers (in the Cause) of Allah?" The disciples said: ‘We are Allah's helpers’ (i.e. we will strive in His Cause!). Then a group of the Children of Israel believed and a group disbelieved. So We gave power to those who believed against their enemies, and they became the uppermost.” (Al-Saff: 14)

All Muslims must support the truth physically, verbally, financially, and ideologically. They must confront the new sons of France, and they must support their brothers from the Mujahidoon, who have remained firm, defending the honor and rights of the Muslims. They must know that Jihad does not hasten their death nor decrease their sustenance, and that dying in the Cause of Allah is better for them, in this life as well as the next, than dying in obscurity, while seeking the leftover crumbs of Europe.

As-Sahab: OK Before we conclude this interview, we don’t want to lose our share of goodness. What is your message to those working in the field of Jihadi Media?

Sheikh Ayman: I say to them: May Allah grant you the greatest of rewards for your services to Islam and Muslims, for you have demolished the Western media idol, and you have exposed their lies, forgeries and their distortion of the facts, providing correct information about the battlefields which have been for so long kept hidden by those media outlets which falsely claim truth and neutrality. You have nullified the most important weapon of the Christian Crusades in their intellectual and media war against the Muslims.

I say to them: Know that you are defending one of the vulnerabilities of the Ummah, so beware lest the Muslims are invaded from your direction. Know that the risk of harm, chasing, prison, hijrah and losses you are exposed to is part of the path of Jihad and victory.

Allah, the Truth, (SWT) says:

أَمْ حَسَبُتمُنَّ أَنَّا نَدْخِلُونَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةَ وَنَأْتَيْنَىَ مِثْلُ الَّذِينَ قَصَدْنَاهُمْ مِنْ بَيْتِنَا مُسْتَمِدُونِ

الْبِنَاءَءَ وَالْقَمْرَاءَ وَزَلَّلَتْ وَزَلَّلَتْ حَتَّى يَقُولُ الَّذِي يُرِيدُ الْبِنَاءَءَ وَالْقَمْرَاءَ حَتَّى يَقُولُ إِنِّي مُهَيْرٌ مَّعَكُ ثُمَّ أَنَّا نُصْرُ الْلَّهِ وَقَرِيبٌ

“Or think you that you will enter Paradise without such (trials) as came to those who passed away before you? They were afflicted with severe poverty and ailments and were so shaken that even the Messenger and
those who believed along with him said, ‘When (will come) the Help of Allah?’ Yes! Certainly, the Help of Allah is near!” (Al-Baqarah: 214)

Remain firm, have patience, outdo your enemy in patience, remain ever alert and at the ready and give your full efforts for Islam, spreading it, and exposing the lies of the enemy. Try to improve and develop your work as much as you can. May Allah grant you success, watch over you, protect you, guide you and accept your righteous works.

As-Sahab: In concluding this interview, is there anything you would like to add?

Sheikh Ayman: Yes. I would like to say to our beloved Muslim nation that the tone of the US has only changed because of the operations of the Mujahidoon, their sacrifices and the great blows inflicted upon the Crusader invaders. Let the intelligent learn a lesson from this. Support your children and your brothers from the Mujahidoon with your lives, wealth, skills, education, intellect and your prayers.

I ask Allah to guide this Nation to a state of uprightness, in which the righteous are honored and the sinners are disgraced, one in which the good is enjoined and the evil is forbidden.

And the last of our prayers is that all praise be to Allah, the Lord of all that exists.

As-Sahab: Dear brothers, what preceded was an interview with Sheikh Ayman Al-Zawahiri, we thank him and pray for him, and we thank all the Muslims and pray for them.

Sheikh Ayman: May Allah give you the best of rewards, and may Allah accept from me, you and all the Muslims their righteous works.

As-Sahab: And the last of our prayers is that all praise be to Allah, the Lord of all that exists, and may peace and blessings be upon our leader, Muhammad, and upon his family and companions.

Source: Global Islamic Media Front (GIMF)
Minbar of Tawheed and Jihad

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