



Turkestan Islamic Party (TIP): “Why Are We Fighting China?”

July 2008

“Shaykh Bashir: Why Are We Fighting China?” Released: July 2008



[This document is the translation of an Arabic-language statement obtained by NEFA investigators and translated by ceifIT LTD on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. The Turkestan Islamic Party (TIP) is a terrorist organization primarily based in Waziristan and elsewhere in the North West Frontier Province of Pakistan. The TIP is comprised of Uighur Muslims from western regions of China—who have sworn to wage war against the Chinese government and have carried out scattered shooting and bombing attacks. It is a splinter faction of an organization known as the East Turkestan Islamic Movement.]

“...We are fighting China based, among other things, on the following facts and Shariah evidence: China is an enemy which has invaded Muslim countries and occupies Muslim eastern Turkestan. There is no greater obligation, aside from belief in Allah, than expelling the enemies of the Muslims from our countries, those who are corrupting the religion and this world as well... Today, all Muslim men and women are obliged to participate in jihad, now that the Communist Chinese enemy has occupied Muslim land, violated their honor and robbed them of their wealth. Only those who have been exempted by Allah from fighting are not required to fight. We are fighting China to make them testify that ‘There is no God but Allah, Mohammed is the Messenger of Allah’ and make them convert to Islam... We are fighting China to rescue those oppressed Muslims and to stop their torment... China has stood against Islam and Muslims, has forced atheist Communism and communist education on them, has prevented them from holding their religious ceremonies, has outlawed religious education and closed schools, institutes and universities teaching Islam, has prevented them from immigrating to Muslim countries, and has maintained a policy of isolation, population birth control, and ethnic cleansing.”

“We are fighting China out of loyalty to the Muslim prisoners who we are seeking to release. They were thrown into the darkness of prison cells without committing any crime, apart from saying ‘Our Lord is Allah’ and harboring the desire to be free as they were created by Allah and born to their mothers... The release of a suffering prisoner is a duty upon every Muslim to his brother, even if it would cost an entire fortune, so that he will not be tempted to stray from his religion. We are fighting China because they have violated our honor, raped our land, robbed our wealth, starved our people, and besieged us... we are fighting the Chinese until they leave our lands, our religion, and ourselves alone. The infidels will not be satisfied with us and we will not be satisfied with them until they embrace our faith or undertake the jizya... Muslims will not be satisfied as long as someone other than Allah is worshipped. They will not be satisfied and they will remain restless until this religion appears with the glory Allah will bring with Islam—or else with the humiliation that Allah will wreak upon the infidels...”

“To those among our brothers who disagree with us and ask: ‘Why are you fighting China now, while Muslims are still fighting the Americans and NATO?’ We reply to this... The clergy have ruled that fighting the near enemy takes precedence over fighting the far enemy—because the one who is close poses a real danger for Muslims, like in eastern Turkestan, while the far enemy does not pose an effective threat to Muslims. They have ruled that fighting an invading enemy is defensive fighting that takes precedence over offensive fighting (raiding the lands of the infidels).

This is why all of our people who are able (to fight) and are not exempt are ordered to participate in jihad. Almighty Allah ordered the Prophet, prayers and peace upon him, to fight on behalf of Allah and to encourage the believers to fight. Almighty Allah has ordered us to prepare as many methods of warfare and shooting as possible... Preparing and equipping ourselves is a function of the ability [to acquire] and to master various methods and means of warfare. When Muslims could only fight with swords, spears, bows, and arrows, they would fight with them. When they were able to fight with firearms, rockets, and bombs, they would fight with them also, relying on Allah and doing their utmost... In every single battle with the infidels or the apostates, Muslims have always been outnumbered and their equipment inferior. Despite this, they were nonetheless fighting in the name of Allah and with his blessing, believing that they would earn one of the two graces [victory or martyrdom]..."

"The cause of East Turkestan has been forgotten and it has no one to defend it or to hear its voice. China has taken advantage of the fact that the Muslim and Arab world is preoccupied with regional and international problems (Iraq, Palestine, Afghanistan, Chechnya, and Somalia) in order to execute its plans and achieve its goals in Turkestan: implementing a policy of ethnic cleansing; the mass population transfer of our Muslim people; and, the abolishment of everything that is Muslim and uprooting the Turkestan people, falsely connecting them with China. China has also taken advantage of the American lie known as the 'War on Terrorism' and has asked for the assistance of the international community in its war against the Turkestan mujahideen. Under this false cover, China has begun recruiting people and exploiting its wealth to abolish Islam and the Muslims."

"The hatred of the crusader NATO enemy, including America and the other Jewish and Christian infidel factions, towards Islam and Muslims is supreme. Their war has taken the shape of an ideological holy war characterized by antipathy and hostility towards Islam and Muslims... The advanced military equipment and modern technology used by this crusader enemy is more cruel and lethal than anything else possessed by any other country—and yet, the Islamic nation has still rushed to confront it in fierce combat across many battlegrounds, such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Palestine, and Somalia. At no time did anyone ask, 'Why are you fighting America and NATO who possess overwhelming nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons, while Muslims have none of these?' And now, we are seeing the first signs of victory appearing in the horizon... Praise and gratitude to Allah, who has brought success to the faithful mujahideen in smashing this idol as a warning to the others. Of course, this was made possible by the good fortune and assistance granted by Allah to his faithful worshippers. Who could have imagined that one day America would be defeated and its myth will be smashed and wiped out? And what material means of power did the Al-Qaida organization have to confront this oppressing enemy which invaded Muslim lands? And what was in the inventory of Shaykh Usama Bin Laden (may Allah protect him) when he declared war on America, other than reliance on Allah, inciting the believers to fight, and his own personal wisdom? ...The fighting is taking place under the divine providence of Almighty Allah, guaranteeing the protection of believers and striking terror in the hearts of the infidels..."

"If one studies thoroughly the history of the infidel nations who have fought the Muslims, you will discover the following facts: our Islamic nation is a dear and noble nation that will not be satisfied with oppression and will not remain silent in the face of exploitation. It will most certainly be awakened and rise up. The Islamic ideology has been the main motivation for its followers to sacrifice everything that is dear to them for the sake of glorifying this religion. We have witnessed operations of self-sacrifice which have changed the balance of power and have struck terror in the hearts of the enemy. As armies have grown in size, their expenses and casualties have grown with them. The price of war has risen, affecting the economies of belligerent nations and speeding up their defeat and collapse. We have witnessed this taking place with the American people, who are suffering from increased taxes and increased prices due to the war in Iraq and Afghanistan—in addition to the human losses of those who were killed, wounded, crippled, and suffer mental illnesses. This affects the morale of the people, who see no point in occupying foreign countries which will eventually be liberated."

“So, is China wealthier than America? Is the Chinese soldier better-trained than the American one? Is the Chinese treasury bigger than the American treasury? The Chinese are a defeatist people and their history has not seen them win even a single war. They were defeated by the Japanese during World War II and they were also defeated by the Russians and the Vietnamese. During its history, China has never had any colonialist aspirations in the region and actually feared wars (especially with Muslims), preaching peace and security. The 60-year Chinese occupation of Eastern Turkestan has survived only because Muslims have neglected the issue while being pre-occupied with their own worldly lives instead of the next life—and because of the policy of iron and fire towards the Muslims. The Turkestan Islamic Party (TIP) has taken its place as the spearhead of the nation of Turkestan, to restore its past glory and triumphant history, when Turkestan was the Muslim stronghold in Central Asia. The Party has sworn before Allah and before its Islamic nation to defend the honor, sanctity, and territory of Turkestan. It has vowed to become the first arrow in the bow of the Islamic nation, to be shot at the throat of its enemies, pleasing gracious Allah and seeking his guidance.”

“O’ Muslim people of Turkestan! Rise together as one for Allah and defend your religion, your honor, and your sanctity! Avenge your blood and do not fear the enemy, for you should know that Allah is with you and He will not fail your efforts. Remember that victory comes with patience and that victory is but one more hour of patience away. Do not fear death, but seek it, for life is a gift to you. Look at how your brothers in Iraq and Afghanistan have defeated their enemies and ripped them to pieces. Your enemy is not crueller than theirs. Look at how your brothers in Palestine and Somalia are fighting under siege and against all kinds of warfare. Neither death nor imprisonment is diverting them from jihad in the cause of Allah. Stand by your sons, the faithful mujahideen, and support them even if only by wishing them well after prayers....”