

# **Bin Ladin Congratulates Pakistan on Nuclear Weapons**

**London Al-Quds al-'Arabi in Arabic 1 Jun 98 p 2**

[Unattributed report: "Bin Ladin Congratulates Pakistan on Its Possession of Nuclear Weapons"]

[FBIS Translated Text] London, Al-Quds al-'Arabi -- The Saudi oppositionist Usama Bin Ladin has congratulated the "Muslim" state of Pakistan on its possession of nuclear weapons "for the first time in the history of Muslims."

In a statement of which Al-Quds al-'Arabi has received a copy, he said that "the explosions conducted by Pakistan over recent days have caused a disruption in the international balance and a change in the balances of conflict [mawazin al-sira'], which the nations of atheism have been eager to prevent the Islamic nation and all its peoples from influencing."

He said that India "is just the visible and regional enemy of Pakistan," but the United States, "which is occupying the two holy mosques, and Israel, which is usurping the masra [the point of departure for the Prophet's midnight journey to the seven heavens, i.e. Jerusalem] of our Prophet, peace be upon him, are the real enemies of Muslims."

Bin Ladin said that India and Israel "will continue their provocation of Pakistan." He warned India that "it will not face Pakistan alone, since all Muslims will support Pakistan with all their strength."

Bin Ladin urged [Muslims] "to support the jihad of the Pakistani people and the Muslim peoples afflicted by the Indian occupation" and to follow Pakistan's example: "They should not be lax in possessing nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons."