



Usama Bin Laden: “The Way for the Salvation of Palestine”

March 20, 2008

Transcript of Usama Bin Laden Audio Recording Produced by the As-Sahab Media Foundation: “The Way for the Salvation of Palestine.” Released March 20, 2008



[This document is a transcript of an Arabic-language audio recording obtained by NEFA investigators and translated into English by ceifiT LTD on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. This transcript is provided for educational and informational purposes only. The As-Sahab Media Foundation is the official propaganda arm of Al-Qaida and is the exclusive source of audio and video recordings of Bin Laden, Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri, and other high-ranking Al-Qaida leaders in South Asia.]

“Praise be to Allah, and prayers and peace upon our prophet Mohammed, and upon his family, companions and followers.”

“My dear Islamic nation! Peace be upon you... I address you today regarding the siege laid upon Gaza and how to liberate it and the rest of Palestine from the hands of the Zionist enemy. First of all, I must say that it is very difficult and distressing, and our hearts are breaking at the pain of the men who watch their children die slowly before their eyes due to poor nutrition and lack of medicine, which result from this unjust siege.”

“My Islamic nation! Palestine and its people have been exposed to the greatest hardships for almost a century at the hands of the Christians and the Jews. These two enemies did not take it [Palestine] from us through negotiations and dialogues, but with iron and fire. And this is the way to reclaim it—iron shall only yield to iron. Allah the Exalted has made clear to us the way to restrain the power of the infidels with his words: ‘So fight thou in the way of Allah; thou art charged only with thyself; and urge on the Believers. Allah may restrain the might of the unbelievers; and Allah is stronger in might and more terrible in punishing’ [Surat Al-Nisa'a 84]. Through our enthusiasm and fighting, the power of the infidels shall be restrained. What is standing between us and fighting a jihad in the cause of Allah are the enormous amount of restrictions, which were put in place by the Christian-Zionist treaties upon the rulers of this area, and—after due consideration—they have in turn enforced them upon us.”



“Servants of Allah! This unjust siege upon Gaza has demonstrated once again that the sons of the Islamic nation and its leaders are surrounded by our enemies, deprived of our free-will, and limited in our freedom—besides those whom Allah bestows His mercy upon. Our weakness and humiliation has already overwhelmed our people, and how can one who is besieged break the siege laid upon another?! He who lacks something cannot give it to another. This is the bitter truth that should be faced and efforts must be made to find the appropriate solutions, rather than

futile ideas and meager opinions which revolve around the orbit of our enemies, the rulers of the region.”

“My Islamic nation! Despite this heavy siege upon you, a great opportunity stands before you: to regain your freedom and be released from slavery and subordination to these Christian–Zionist treaties. In order to accomplish this, you must first be liberated from the bonds of humiliation and slavery with which we have been burdened by the agents of this treaty, namely the rulers of our country and their agents—especially those from the ranks of the clergy who advise the sultans and also from the ranks of the leaders of Islamic organizations who regularly acknowledge the legitimacy of rulers who have betrayed their religion and the Islamic nation and enter into their political systems, and it makes no difference whether they take part in the government or the opposition. Or else, the other organizations, which have become so cautious that they have reached the level of discouraging the practice of jihad—an act of worship forbidden by our rulers, but which is the peak of our religion, and the correct way to both restrain the power of the infidels and to break the siege on the Muslims. Several of these organizations allow deceit by the ruler and stop engaging in jihad under the pretense of an interest of missionary activity. This false pretense has become like an idol which is worshipped in the place of Allah...”

“My Islamic nation! There is no choice but to be liberated from these absurd restrictions, and to surrender and worship Allah the Exalted alone, and none other. Only then, will you be liberated and be able to endeavor to liberate our nation, Palestine and Masjid al-Aqsa. You shall witness the doorway that leads to the path of freedom and dignity, to the fields of men and battle, fields of killing and fighting in the cause of Allah in Afghanistan and Waziristan, the Islamic Maghreb, Somalia, Kashmir, Chechnya—and the most critical in defeating our enemies, Baghdad and its environs. In these territories and under the shades of swords, [our] power shall grow... On the ground, the necks of the oppressors shall be crushed and the chests of the believers shall be healed.”

“My Islamic nation! You know that the nearest field of jihad today to support our people in Palestine is the Iraqi field, so it is necessary to be concerned with it, focus on it, and support it. The duty of support is most urgently needed from Muslims living in neighboring countries. It is necessary for all the people of the Levant [Palestine, Lebanon, Jordan, and Syria], the people of that blessed land, to recognize the power which Allah has bestowed upon them, and to support their mujahideen brothers in Iraq as they are obliged to do. It is a great opportunity and a great duty upon the arriving brothers from Palestine—who were prevented from waging jihad on the hills of Jerusalem—to shake off the illusions of the political parties and other groups which are immersed in the deception of the democracy. And they should hasten to take their positions among the ranks of the mujahideen in Iraq, and through support and trust in Allah... He will aid them by His will. Then, there shall be a move towards the blessed [Masjid] al-Aqsa [in Jerusalem] and then the mujahideen coming from outside shall encounter their brothers within—and this moment will remind us of the legacy of [the battle of] Hittin, and the Muslims shall delight in their clear victory.”

“My Islamic nation! Verily, a siege to the death is an utterly depraved form of injustice. The only ones who have the audacity to carry one out—or to be part of one—are those with hearts of stone without any sense of mercy. It was rightly said regarding our Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him salvation, that he said, ‘A woman once brought a cat to hell, and shackled it, and she did not feed it nor let it eat the insects of the earth until it died.’ And if a siege of a dying cat [was wrong], O’ servants of Allah, then what will happen during a siege of hundreds of thousands of orphaned children and widowed women?! It is a most significant matter, and a great crime, which leaves me speechless in describing my woe and distress.”

“My Islamic nation! This deadly siege was laid upon the mujahideen in Palestine after the Arabs gave their support to Annapolis for America and the Zionist enemy. This is one of the ten prohibitions of Islam, and through this, they have now become a part of this horrible crime. The Muslims should hate them, curse them, and endeavor to disown them. Moreover, they should

publicly disavow and condemn them as much as possible, even if it may be difficult in certain locations. What has made the disaster even more calamitous is that several noteworthy individuals, who are known for their religious scholarship and missionary work, have approached the Islamic nation during our most recent troubles with deceitful offerings. They have shown up to praise our rulers and endorse them as the best hope for the Islamic nation in removing the siege, while they know that [the rulers] are actually a cornerstone of this siege...”

“Servants of Allah! Before us there are three factions: the faction of the mujahideen and those who support them; [a faction of] those who refrain from supporting Palestine by waging jihad in the cause of Allah without any excuse; and, a faction which advocates the Christian–Zionist treaty, their supporters, included among them, the rulers of the region and the clerics of evil. To all of those from the first faction—I pray to Allah that he will make us all martyrs. As for those apostates from the second faction who have failed to support our religion, and the condemned ones from the last faction—Allah shall repay you.”

“In conclusion I say: Palestine shall not be returned to us by the negotiations of our subservient rulers, nor by their conferences, nor by means of rallies, impassive propaganda, nor their elections—for all of these are traps that will lead to catastrophe for the Islamic nation. Palestine shall be returned to us, Allah willing, if we awake from our carelessness, adhere to our religion, and sacrifice for it with our wealth and ourselves...”