



Taliban Issue Statement on “Closing the Cages of Guantanamo.”

January 27, 2009

“The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA): Closing the Cages of Guantanamo is Not Enough.” Dated January 27, 2009



[This document is the English translation of an original Arabic-language statement issued by the Taliban and obtained by NEFA investigators on behalf of the NEFA TerrorWatch subscription service. For more information on the developing Taliban movement in Pakistan, see the NEFA Foundation report by Claudio Franco and Ronald Sandee “Developments in the Jihadi Resurgence in Pakistan: January 2008” (www.nefafoundation.org/miscellaneous/nefapakanalysis0308.pdf).]

“Barack Obama, the new president of America, on the first day of his work in the White House signed a decree, in accordance with a pledge he had made, to close the Guantanamo prison and to stop all the military trials of its prisoners. He also appointed Richard Holbrooke and former Senator George Mitchell as his peace envoys for Afghanistan and for the Middle East.”

“This action of Barack Obama regarding Guantanamo prison can be regarded as a positive step to strengthen peace and stability in the region and in the world. It is, however, another issue as to how wide the breadth of American terror in Bagram, Abu Ghraib, and other prisons compares to the suffering in Guantanamo, or whether the closure of this prison is really Obama's initiative or the result of the blessing of the strength, faith, and great determination of the mujahideen. Even in captivity, the mujahideen constantly operated as resilient warriors who could not be broken by either their abductors, jailers, or the hell of Guantanamo itself. Guantanamo became the dungeon of the pious and eventually the world came to realize that the zoo was not composed of those inside the bars, but instead, the exact opposite.”

“Anyway, as a result of the enormous chaos that the war-mongering Bush administration created in the region and the world, the closure of one prison can only be seen as an ordinary effort. If Barack Obama is really interested in peace and stability in the world, he should not suffice to this measure alone and should declare as null and void all those evil projects which have been started in the light of the satanic policies of Bush to destabilize the entire world. Bush created those projects based on his satanic policies and without any legal basis. He illegally attacked Afghanistan and Iraq, shedding the blood of hundreds of thousands of people in these two nations of believers. During the eight years of his rule, Bush orchestrated many heinous crimes against the Muslim Ummah and Islamic movements in the Middle East in order to protect the interests of the Zionists.”

“Unfortunately, these mad actions of Bush were also approved by a number of stupid leaders in the world such as Blair, as they set up an unholy crusader alliance against the entire Islamic nation in the name of the so-called war on terror. However, this international crusader coalition not only did not lessen or eradicate the existing opposition in the region against them, but on the contrary provoked such a widespread hostility in the entire world against America and its crusader allies as a result of which the American interests were seriously threatened throughout the world from New York to London, to Madrid and to Bali, and the blood of many citizens of the West was shed and the economy of the entire western world, including America, faced stagnation and slowdown.”

“Now if Barack Obama, according to his speech, really wants to open a new page of peaceful relations with the Islamic world based on mutual respect, then before anything else he should stop and declare null and void everything that has taken place under the criminal policies of Bush. He should completely withdraw his forces from the two occupied countries of Afghanistan and Iraq and he should end support for Israel which is against Islamic interests in the Middle East and in the entire world. Obama should have by now realized that increasing military forces and the logic of the use of force against the independent nations of the world have totally lost their meaning and no longer have any chance of being implemented anywhere. He should pay attention to the fact that the righteous resistance of the mujahideen against the American hooligans in Iraq, Somalia, Palestine and Afghanistan has damaged the arrogance of the American empire to the extent that that arrogant superpower has now become the laughing stock of the oppressed nations throughout the world and has lost its former grandeur.”

“Today the American superpower is grappling with difficult economic and financial problems in addition to numerous security, political and military problems because of its arrogant and expansionist policies. These are the kind of problems that in the eighth decade of the last century caused the destruction of another arrogant empire [the Soviet Union] from the face of the earth. Therefore, in order for the United States to avoid the same fate as the Soviet Union, it is essential for Obama to take steps which will reaffirm a message of peace and stability to the entire world. These steps, if taken, will also protect the American economy, military, and government. A continuation of old policies will further stoke the flames of Afghan jihad and, like sands in an hourglass, so will be the days of American barbarism and egotism.”