



Statement from Taliban Commander Mullah Mohammed Omar September 30, 2008

“The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA): Amir al-Mumineen Mullah Mohammed Omar Mujahid Concerning the Pleasure of Eid al-Fitr.” Dated September 30, 2008



[This document is the edited transcript of an Arabic-language text interview obtained by NEFA investigators and translated into English 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).]

“To the entire Islamic nation, to the mujahid nation of Afghanistan and those who are fighting against the illegitimate American-led war, I extend my congratulations for the holiday of Ramadan and Eid-ul-Fitr. May Allah make this day a day of pride and success for the Muslim Ummah.”

“First of all, keeping this religious day in mind, I extend my sympathies to all those families who lost relatives in this unjust and inhuman war—especially to those who were separated from their loved ones in the merciless and cowardly aerial attacks by the inhuman enemy in the eastern regions and the districts of Herat. I pray to Allah for their patience, rewards, and share their deep sorrow and grief. I assure all the affected families that their innocent blood shall not have been shed in vain. The blood of your loved ones, although very cheap to the arrogant and merciless enemy, holds great value to Allah, and Allah will one day return this pure blood and will bring a harsh and embarrassing defeat to the invading enemies. Allah will bless us with his just Islamic system in return for these sacrifices...”

“But the Afghans, the Islamic nations of the region, and around the world must all comprehend the reality that the common enemy of our lands and beliefs will never be satisfied with us until we accept total slavery to them. The only way to get rid of their slavery is the path demonstrated by the Quran, which has ordered us to fighting in jihad in order to defend one’s lands and beliefs.”

“The current situation of our country provides clear evidence of Allah’s help. America—which never, ever imagined facing defeat due to its technological advancements—now welcomes very day the coffins of its soldiers, and is facing great human and financial losses. A few years ago, no one would have believed that U.S. and its allies would have faced such resistance in Afghanistan, compelling their president to beg other counties to provide economic assistance, military equipment, and soldiers in order to help combat the resistance... This reality reveals the good news to the Islamic nation that if we adhere to our faith in our Lord and stick to our principles with one voice, then the day is near when these foreign invaders will flee. That destiny is very near now. The invaders have come here to eliminate the mujahideen, capture the Muslim commanders, establish military stations in Asia, and seize the resources of central Asia by propagating immorality and distortion of religious beliefs. The last seven years of their efforts have led to nothing, and they will still not see success in one hundred years, because the resistance of the Islamic nation has become a reality which gains momentum each day. Blocking the path of this resistance is becoming increasingly difficult with each passing day. And the invaders themselves have accepted this reality on the ground.”

“We tell the intruders that, in your pride and arrogance, you attacked our lands without any legitimate reason. Now, given the intensity of the events currently taking place, you must revise your views of your illegitimate attacks, and seek a way to withdraw your forces. If you demonstrate an intention of withdrawing your forces, we once again will demonstrate our principles by giving you the right of safe passage, in order to show that we never harm anyone maliciously. We will also try to disprove the false misconceptions which you are always concocting in order to attack us, in the process, making our lands safe from you in future.”

“If you still stick to your illegitimate attacks on us, then—first of all—this region will face historic changes in future. Secondly, you will also face defeat and will be humiliated in front of the whole world, just like the Soviet Union. Future generations around the world will also not accept the justification for your attacks. Our poor country has become like a lawless jungle due to these illegitimate attacks. Forces from many countries and thousands of internal forces operating under the name of the police and national army march across the country—but still the murder, looting, and plundering of the people has turned this country into a wild jungle in which nothing is sacred—neither life, nor property, dignity, or honor. This is because the forces from abroad have stolen the rich resources of our land, and the internal forces have stolen our property, dignity, and the honor of the people of this land. So how one can imagine and expect peace and harmony when both local and international thieves are in power. If police and security forces of a state consist of such people—of low character, faithless, drug addicts and adulterers—how can they can safeguard the lives and property of the people.”

“In such a situation where the institutions of Kabul have time and again acknowledged the involvement of security forces in incidents of looting and rape, how can our people believe that they will safeguard our sovereignty, natural resources, and borders, when ministers and governors are the leaders of the criminal gangs and agents of foreign mafias—or are on the payroll of the intelligence agencies of the occupiers. If the occupiers failed to establish control over the system during the past seven years, they will never be able to control it. Nor will they be able to feed venom to Afghans disguised as sweet drinks through press and publications. The situation has changed now, and the occupiers recognize this change. All the Muslim nations say that peace can only come to this region when these imperialist invaders withdraw their forces from this region. Now is the time for the whole world, and especially neighboring and regional countries, to help us expel this demon and achieve freedom. They should desist from providing any further support to arrogant American policies and their poor advice, because continued support to failed policies is itself wrong.”

“Finally, I call for unity in the resistance and the respected and proud mujahideen in this holy jihad. My great mujahideen brothers: by virtue of your struggling day and night, [we] have broken the pride of the enemy and the Islamic nation now sees the power of revenge in itself, thanks to your determined resistance. People wear different kinds of clothing across the rest of the Muslim world, but you have decorated yourselves with bullets and jackets of gun powder on the battlefields. Given the current condition of the Islamic nation, the best and most respected cloth is the one that you wear. I once again give you the same guidelines, to stand in front of the enemy like steel. But be very careful when you face the general population and your innocent countrymen. Don't go ahead with an attack which has the possibility of harming the general population. All your operations must be in the light of the sayings of Allah and the way of Mohammed. Always leave your personal and emotional feelings behind. Every act [must be avoided] which is not in harmony with the teachings of Islam, which is not customary in our Islamic civilization, or which reflects poorly upon the Islamic nation. Covert enemy operations carried out in your name—such as the blasts in the mosques where there are gatherings of innocent people, highway robbery, the chopping of noses and ears in the name of what is forbidden in Islam and what is considered permissible or not permissible, and the burning of Islamic books—must be strongly countered. Whoever is responsible for acts such as this for whatever reasons must restrain his group, and must not defame our mujahideen.”

“Our enemy is always involved in such activities; therefore, the mujahideen should be very careful and vigilant. Furthermore, due to their demonic nature, our enemy is very clever in carrying out such trickeries, and when facing defeat, they always turn to these trickeries—often entangling the Islamic nation. It is a historical fact that the Islamic nation has never been defeated by the sword—but instead has always been subjugated through these trickeries, and now the enemy is plotting to somehow inject disunity among the mujahideen, or between the mujahideen and the general public. They used the same tactics in Palestine and have practically almost divided the Palestinian resistance in two. They fan the flames of Shiite-Sunni differences in Iraq and have created a vast gulf between the people and the mujahideen. Now, they want to use the same tactics in Afghanistan and across the region. Take care that, in all your power, to keep a place in your hearts for your brothers and your people, in order to defeat your enemy completely. The enemy wants to distract the mujahideen with such small and unnecessary targets in order to dissolve their economic and military power. Take close heed of this point and deal a powerful and deadly blow to your enemy—focus your efforts on striking the eternal enemy.”

“Muslim clerics and and the great scholars of the faithful mujahid Islamic nation should encourage the young men who are involved with these enslaved institutions and enslaved militias which are fighting the mujahideen, and tell them that working with these unsuccessful institutions and enslaved militias is like standing against Islam and the Islamic nation. They have named them the ‘National Army’, ‘National Security’, and the ‘National Police’ in order to keep the people in dark. In reality, they are militias fighting against Islam and have no national or Islamic basis. I once again invite those elders who call themselves mujahideen and yet are still standing with the American institutions to stop standing against the mujahid nation. They should not take the wrong path in the cause of Allah. They should not defame the great words of ‘jihad’ and ‘mujahid’ for personal gains and positions. They should come and stand in the rows of mujahideen, and if they cannot participate in fighting, they at least should not strengthen the enemy.”

“Finally, along with the mujahid nation of Afghanistan, I also demand from the great nations of Palestine and Iraq to... move past their internal splits and to be united against the treacherous and merciless foreign enemy. I pray for the eternal defeat of the occupiers and eternal victory of the mujahideen.”