



Taliban Statement: “Does Karzai Really Control the Country?” September 7, 2008

“The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA): Does Karzai Really Control the Country?” Dated September 7, 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).]

“Two days ago, Karzai has untruthfully declared again that he will demand an investigation into the martyrdom of 150 innocent people in Shendand, a district of Herat, adding: ‘I have authority over the country, the foreign forces do not have power in this country.’ During prayers for the dead, he has emotionally called for and demanded action in response to this event, and punishment for those responsible.”

“Yet, since 2001, the bombardment by Karzai’s masters of the innocent Afghan people—such as the recent disaster in Shendand—has taken place dozens of times, martyring innocent people in their cruel assaults, killing the defenseless. In the past, they have appointed various inspection delegations, which looked upon the slain families with their own eyes, but there have been no repercussions until now.”

“It is surprising that he often turns to the victims, holds up his hands, and prays for them... He can never turn his eyes up to face the people, because as the president of the country and the authority in the region, he is not merely supposed to pray for the martyred people and the innocent killed by the occupiers... he should protect his people from savagery and the hands of the criminals and murderers. In fact, Karzai has never had any authority over this honest and courageous land, nor did the Afghan Muslim people play a role in electing this administration. Anyone with sound mind and intellect will know who supports Karzai, who brought him to the capital of Kabul, and who continues to guard him...”

“Two weeks ago, when mujahideen from the Islamic Emirate killed approximately a dozen French soldiers, we watched as the president of France chose not to remain in his own country, but instead, suddenly traveled to Afghanistan in order to return home with the coffins of the slain French forces. Sympathy for the dead soldiers continues to spread throughout their country even now—that is an example of a true relationship and understanding of the people, and a true president.”

“Whenever an attack takes place in this country [Afghanistan], we never see Karzai, his Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or his Interior Ministry contact any American General at the Bagram Airbase or the U.S. Embassy in Kabul to inquire about the hundreds of innocent people who have been martyred, or to express their feelings. The latest news report indicated, ‘last week, a Pentagon spokesman openly declared that Afghan government had not passed them any information about the massacre at Shendand until now.’”

“With regards to the brutal policies of the foreign occupation against the [Afghan] people and the purely symbolic responses of the puppet regime, the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan believes that these events are, in fact, part of an intentional plan by the foreign occupation and the puppet regime. Thus, if Afghan Muslims are killed by the occupation forces according to their plan, then Karzai and his cabinet will have to react in order to [contain] popular anger... at the massacre of [innocent] Afghans...”