The Saudi Regime and the Repeated Tragedies of the Pilgrims
Osama bin Laden
April 12, 1997

[Please note: Images may have been removed from this document. Page numbers have been added.]

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Thanks to Allah, Lord of the Two Worlds. Prayers and peace upon the most noble of prophets and messengers, our prophet Muhammad, and upon his disciples and all his followers:

It has become familiar, well known, and customary that every year the pilgrims to the sacred house of Allah are faced with catastrophes and tragedies that claim thousands. Hundreds of those pilgrims are hurt or killed, and there is not might or power except with Allah.

In accordance with this trend, a huge fire erupted on Tuesday the eighth day of pilgrimage of this year, in the camps of the pilgrims, The fire engulfed seventy thousands tents, leaving two thousand dead and wounded, according to the Saudi regime. The final count could be a lot higher.

With that, a renewed picture of the seasonal tragedy of each pilgrimage year comes to mind, It carries with it images of terror that are represented by the scattered bodies of the dead and the wounded at Muna Camps once, at Jamarat another time, and al-Mu’isam tunnel or other locations in the holy city.

If we look into the direct causes of these accidents, we will find several reasons. One reason is the limited space in public accommodations for the pilgrims, which leads to over crowdedness. This hustle and bustle is what occurred at Jamarat several times. The other reason is the lack of security procedures or the bad handling of events, as was the case in the pilgrimage year 1407H and at al-Mu’isam tunnel following that. Another reason for these accidents is overall negligence of the safety of the pilgrims and failure to take the necessary precautions for their safety. This negligence is the cause of most of the repetitive fires in the tents of the pilgrims.

Another cause is the increasing number of pilgrims. However, accidents could be avoided by taking the necessary precautions and eliminating the other causes. Large gatherings take place in the entire world, Some are officially sponsored by the government, such as sporting events, Others are sponsored by the capabilities of the Saudi government, and yet we never see or hear about accidents similar to the catastrophes and tragedies that take place almost every pilgrimage year.

We have listed the most important direct causes for the incidents and the tragedies that occur every pilgrimage year. All of these reasons point to one basic principal cause which the nation of Islam has generally been plagued with, especially the land of the Two Mosques. This reason is
the dominance of the rulers and the princes of the Saudi family on this holy land. We are referring to their despotism in all matters and their insensitivity to the feelings of one billion Muslims in the five continents who face the holy house of Allah and His peaceful city with their hearts and their faces five times a day.

If we look at all the previously mentioned causes, we will find that getting rid of them is an assumed responsibility of this regime that rules the land. Its princes monopolize for themselves the responsibility for all its affairs, whether small or large, and they monopolize the pilgrimage affairs in particular.

Sufficiently equipping the facilities, maintaining them in an appropriate manner, and getting them ready for the needs of the pilgrims is an assumed responsibility of the rulers of the land. They have enormous resources and huge budgets through the virtue of Allah.

There is no intercession for those who built the facilities and offered the various services that are accompanied by harm, hypocrisy and reputation. These facilities and the services, through tests and incidents, have proven that they do not meet the required sufficient standards. The amount of money spent on them does not compare to what the princes and the rulers of the appetites on the inside and the outside. In addition, America country, even though their weekly income exceeds what the pilgrimage facilities collectively need for the entire year.

Taking the required security precautions and dealing appropriately with these incidents is part of the assumed responsibility of those who are still filling the world with their boasting about their accomplishments and their security capabilities.

Getting rid of the negligence which was the cause of several of the fires in the pilgrims’ camps is also part of that responsibility. The fires could have been avoided and their effects minimized in any number of ways. People offered their opinions and advice as potential solutions but the rulers threw them (TN: the solutions) across the wall.

The problem is not the ability to find solutions that will spare the guests of the most merciful and the pilgrims to his ancient house these tragedies and catastrophes that they are exposed to every year. Nor is the problem the application of those easy solutions which were presented to the ruling regime a long time ago. The amount of money that is needed to implement the solutions is nothing worth mentioning compared to the money they spend on intelligence and spying on the pilgrims. This surveillance annoys the pilgrims and tries to empty the pilgrimage of its context and meaning. Can anyone believe that this region with all its palaces and house is competing with the pilgrims for holy sites? Can anyone believe that this regime that spends billions is unable to provide appropriate lodging for the pilgrims, sparing them the danger of the repetitive fires? Can anyone believe that this regime cannot provide the pilgrims with safety so that they can perform their pilgrimage?
The truth is that providing comfortable facilities for the pilgrims and giving them peace of mind does not present a problem. The problem is the Saudi regime that wants to monopolize each of these matters for its princes, without tasking itself to comply with the simplest basics of this responsibility. Can anyone imagine or fathom in any religion, sect, or system of being asked or tried or fired, and without determining whose shortcoming was the cause?

These tragedies continue, playing with the minds of the Muslims and numbing their feelings. People in positions of responsibility continue without any questions being asked, and they do not take sufficient actions to stop the repetition of such tragedies. They are stupidly satisfied in offering cold condolences to the families and governments of the victims from the guests of the most merciful. This is negligence, without caring about the lives of thousands of guests of the most merciful and the pilgrims of his house. All of this is done at a time when the Saudi regime is paying unusual attention to the lives of the enemies of the nation, both Jews and Christians after the death of sixty occupying Jews in Palestine, the regime hastened to go to the Sharm al-Shaykh conference to offer its condolences to a band of occupying Zionists in Palestine, the regime has show friendship towards them, and it has endorsed them divisions or the conference to condemn Jihad and the Mujahidin. The regime is making a big deal about the killing of a handful of American military personnel. To satisfy the Americans, the regime offered the head of a group of pure youth who are zealous about their belief, their country, and their nation. The regime also put thousands in prison and removed high ranking military leaders who were accused of not doing enough to protect the occupying Americans. Eighty-one precautionary steps were taken to prevent the repetition of those incidents. The American government acknowledged that in cooperation with the Saudi regime, seventy-nine of those steps were implemented.

Since when are a handful of defiled Jewish souls and the conquering Americans more precious than thousands of guests of the most merciful and the pilgrims of his ancient house? Those pilgrims came from everywhere and every direction, bearing the pains of travel and burden themselves. Those pilgrims have paid the high costs, and they have endured all kinds of insults from degradation, discrimination, bias and annoyance that the Saudi regime imposes on them. They bear all of this for the sake of performing this duty, this great pillar from the pillars of Islam. After all of this, they find themselves as fuel for a fire that was caused by the negligence and lack of caring of this regime for the lives of thousands of victims, and the regime’s indifference to the feelings of double that number of widows, orphans, and their children. Families joyfully awaited the return of their family from the trip of a lifetime, and instead, they received motionless bodies in a big international funeral. And that was only of they were lucky enough to receive the body at all. In several instances, the Saudi regime has kept the bodies as autopsy materials. The regime often keeps the bodies of the pilgrims that die in pilgrimage incidents when it does not find anyone claiming their bodies. These bodies become material for experimentation by professor and students of medical universities (and there is no power or force except with Allah).
At his time, we offer our deep condolences to the nation of Islam in general, and to the families of the victims in particular. We confirm the right of those people to ask for just compensation that is proportionate to the enormity of the crime and the horribleness of the harms to which they were exposed.

We confirm the innocence of the countrymen of the behavior of the regime. This regime is a stranger to our religion, our customs and our good character. As the men of the religion have pointed out, this regime has lost its legitimacy. We charge the regime with the responsibility for these repetitive and renewed tragedies during almost every pilgrimage season. The expenses for providing safety to the guests of the most merciful and what is needed for their comfort and safety is the assumed responsibility of this regime. The regime has full responsibility for finances and security. However, maybe its excuse for neglecting its security responsibility was that it was busy chasing the preachers, the religious scholars and those who are working for Islam and fighting them and locking them up by the thousands in their prisons. Or maybe the regime was busy protecting the occupying American forces and their vases that have become exposed to the resentment of the Muslims. The Muslims became resentful after their holy places were occupied. The wealth of their country was stolen, and their riches were pillaged. Perhaps the regime’s excuse for neglecting its fiscal responsibility is that it exhausted its budget by spending on the communists in Yemen, the Christians in the South of Sudan, and the tyrants in Egypt, Algeria, elsewhere.

(TN: The author quotes from the Hadith, and the gist is that what people perceived from the words of their first prophesy is that if you are not ashamed, then do what you want).

dated: 8/12/1417 an. corresponding to 16 April 1997 ad
(TN: this statement is not signed). page 97 - 98 (duplicate copy of statement 19 above)

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