Al-Sahab Releases New Video Message by Azzam al-Amriki
March 5, 2009

On 4 October, a jihadist website posts many links with different download qualities to a new 30-minute videotape by Adam Yahiye Gadahn (American-born Al-Qa'ida convert Adam Gadahn, aka Azzam al-Amriki), titled "The Believer Isn't Stung From The Same Hole Twice (once bitten, twice shy). The videotape is produced by Al-Sahab Media Production Organization, the media arm of Al-Qa'ida Organization. The tape is in English with a version in Arabic voiceover. At the beginning of the video, the following "warning" appears on the screen:

"In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate: Warning! This production contains Koranic verses and Prophetic Hadith. Therefore, it should not be telecast with music.

Greeting from Al-Sahab Media Production Organization.
Shawwal 1429 Hegira, October 2008."

"O you who believe! Take your precautions (for security), then go forth in individual raiding parties or go forth all together." (Koranic verse: 4:71) A transcription of the English text as appeared on the English version of the video follows:

Praise be to God, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds. Let there be no hostility except to those who practice oppression. May God's blessings be on our Messenger Muhammad, His household, and His companions."

God Almighty says: "Now when they returned to their father, they said: "O our father! No more measure of grain shall we get (unless we take our brother): So send our brother with us, that we may indeed take our measure; and we will indeed take every care of him. He said: 'Shall I trust you with him with any result other than when I trusted you with his brother aforetime? But Allah is the best to take care (of him), and He is the Most Merciful of those who show mercy!'" (Koranic verse: Yusuf 12:63, 12:64)

In explaining these verses from the Joseph chapter, Analm said: The believer is not stung from the same hole twice. That's why Joseph's father said: Can I trust you with him except with the same result as when I trusted you with his brother before? The believer is shrewd and discerning, and thus he learns from what befell him in the past and it becomes impossible through his shrewdness and smartness for him to be befallen by what befell him before. And he is not foolish. And reliance on Allah is the cause of preventing undesirable things. Jacob did not just say: I will not send him with you. He also fell back on Allah, and Allah is the best protector and He is the most merciful of those who show mercy. So Jacob relied on Allah.

And Abu-Hurayrah, may God be pleased with him, related that the prophet of Allah, may God's blessings be upon him, said: "The believer is not stung from the same hole twice." This hadith has been agreed upon. Fath al-Bari, Ibn-Hajar, may God's mercy be upon him, said: Let the believer be resolute and wary and uncompromised by the foolishness which leads him to be deceived time after time. This might be in religious affairs as well as in worldly matters and the former are the more deserving of wariness. Abu-Ubayd said: It means that the believer, when afflicted with disaster from one side, should not return to that side. I say this is what the majority understood--among them Al-Zuhri, the narrator of the report. It has been said that the meaning of the believer in this hadith is the complete one, whose knowledge has made him privy to unclear things, so that he has become able to be aware of things that will happen. As for the
foolish believer, he may be stung repeatedly.

Muslim brothers in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and the region: God's peace, blessings, and mercy be upon you. I begin by extending to you and all Muslims everywhere my congratulations and the congratulations of my brothers on the occasion of the blessed Id al-Fitr. May God accept our and your good deeds. And I extend special greetings to the families of the martyrs in Azizabad, Shindan, Kabul, Kapisa, Bajaur, Angurada and elsewhere in Afghanistan and the tribal areas. My condolences and congratulations to you and may Allah accept your sacrifices during the blessed month of Ramadan and reward you for your fasting and patience in the face of tragedy. And may He make your martyrs a cause of victory for Muslims in this world and a cause of your salvation on the Day of Resurrection.

Whether it be the resignation of the tyrant Pervez (Musharraf, former Pakistani president) and the election of (Asif Ali) Zardari (current Pakistani president) or the renewed and frequent contacts between General Kiyani and the Americans and the subsequent escalation in attacks on the tribal region by the Pakistani Army and the American forces or the escalating chaos and looming meltdown threatening the Crusaders' economic system. Or the crushing losses suffered by the NATO coalition in Afghanistan leading the American general to assess the situation as critical and Bush to announce further troop deployments. No one with even a superficial knowledge of current events will have been unaware of the decisive and fast-moving developments witnessed over the recent weeks by Pakistan, Afghanistan and the region and the world. That being said, it is often the case that even the best informed observer may fail to see the bigger picture in a rapidly developing situation like the one being experienced by the region today, which is why I would like to take this opportunity to briefly review with you the current state of Jihad against the Zio-Crusaders and their allies in your part of the world and highlight some crucial facts which I fear some might overlook in their appraisal of current events.

Perhaps, the most eye-catching development in recent weeks has been the Pakistani Government and Pakistani Army's supposed anger at the American raids into the tribal areas and the threats of retaliation if the said raids continue, which I can only describe as a cynical public relations ploy, almost as transparent and ridiculous as Hamid Karzai's (Afghan president) recent public condemnation of American carpet bombing of Afghan villages after having talked for the last seven years about how happy Afghans are to have the Americans kill them and bomb them to bits as long as it is for what he calls a good cause. And it is almost as hypocritical as the Saudi king's supposed displeasure at what the Americans are doing in Iraq although he is the one who encouraged and helped the Americans to invade in the first place. And he is the one whose regime provides the invaders with the oil, bases, and airspace needed to perpetuate the occupation of Mesopotamia.

If Pakistan had not continued to pledge its unwavering support to the same American Crusader forces attacking and killing innocent Muslims in Pakistan and Afghanistan, we might have believed the claims of the government and the army. If Pakistan's Army was not still engaged in a massive, bloody, and tyrannical anti-Islam campaign in Bajaur and Swat--a campaign which in the end only benefits the same American Crusader forces attacking and killing innocent Muslims in Pakistan and Afghanistan, we might have believed the claims of the government and army. If Pakistan's territory and airspace was not still the primary supply route for the same American Crusader forces attacking and killing innocent Muslims in Pakistan and Afghanistan, we might have believed the claims of the government and army. If Pakistan's airbases did not continue to play host to the same American aircraft, which are bombing and killing innocent Muslims in Pakistan and Afghanistan, we might have believed the claims of the government and army. If Pakistan did not continue to maintain full diplomatic, economic and military ties with the same American Crusaders attacking and killing innocent Muslims in Pakistan and Afghanistan, we
might have believed the claims of the government and the army. If Pakistan was not still a full-fledged member of the United Nations organization, which authorized and continues to authorize criminal activities of the same American Crusaders attacking and killing innocent Muslims in Pakistan and Afghanistan, we might have believed the claims of the government and army. If the government and army had helped Pervez to account for seven years of crimes against Islam and Muslims instead of sheltering him from the retaliation of the Mujahidin, we might have believed the claims of the government and army. But as things stand, there is no way we or anyone with an ounce of common sense can possibly believe the claims of the government and the army.

Then, in accordance with his supposed opposition to the escalating American attacks on Pakistani territory, Pakistan announced the commencement of air patrols over the tribal areas, including the two Waziristans and Bajaur, to prevent any intrusion into Pakistani airspace, or so it said. Pakistan further claimed to have thwarted another American raid in the Angurada area, although the Pakistani military later denied that it had threatened to open fire on its American friends or even their remote-control drones should they be encountered by Pakistani forces in or above Pakistani territory. But that is irrelevant. What matters is that someone wanted us to believe that the same Pakistani Army which bombed the Muslims and destroyed their homes, bazaars, mosques, and schools in Chakai, Ibi, the Swat valley, Islamabad, and countless other towns and villages in the tribal areas and elsewhere is now going to protect the Muslims after seven years of treachery, betrayal, and aggression. Someone wanted us to imagine that the same Pakistani Government, which is probably responsible for the death of more Muslims in Pakistan than the Americans are, and the same Pakistani Army, which is as I speak mercilessly bombing Bajaur to please its Crusader backers, are both suddenly prepared to fight infidels instead of Muslims. Someone wanted to imply to us that the same Pakistani Army, which for seven years has left Pakistan's borders wide open in front of the Crusaders and Hindus while it fights the Mujahidin and kills defenseless innocents to please its paymasters in Washington is now interested in protecting those borders. All this, my brothers, is classic Pakistani propaganda with no factual basis. And I am happy to say it no longer fools thinking people.

(At minute 10:19 into the tape, Usama Bin Ladin is heard speaking in Arabic with voiceover translation into English. Bin Ladin is cited saying: Your betrayal of your nation and people has been exposed. And the people are no longer fooled by your showing off militarily by launching some missiles after every disaster and massacre you commit against the populace as has occurred repeatedly in the border region or after the biggest massacre in the (Red) Mosque most recently. How is the nation benefited by these weapons and tests of yours? The same goes for the nuclear bomb itself. When American Foreign Minister Powell came to you, you cried, bowed, and submitted to him like a lowly slave. And you permitted the American Crusader forces to use the air, soil, and water of Pakistan, the country of Islam, to kill the people of Islam in Afghanistan, then in Waziristan -- so woe to you and away with you.)

Al-Amriki continues:

Against the people, (you are) attacking lions, but against the enemies (you are) rabbits and ostriches. (Islamic poetry)

The Pakistan Army and ISI (Inter-Services Intelligence), with the professional conmen and spreaders of lies in their service, are trying to make us believe that the state of Pakistan has turned over a new leaf and is now on the side of the Mujahidin in their war against the Crusaders and their allies in Afghanistan. But Pakistan's battle with those whom they call miscreants and terrorists, and whom we call Mujahidin, is justified in order to preserve national security and maintain the unity and integrity of Pakistani territory. These are blatant lies. Their
battle has always been and continues to be America's battle, not Pakistan's. And this battle is what has brought Pakistan to the verge of breakup.

(At minute 12:04 into the tape, Shaykh Mustafa Abu-al-Yazid is heard speaking in Arabic with voiceover translation into English. He says: The mujahidin know that the enemies of the Islamic Ummah (nation)--namely the Americans, Jews, Indians, and nationalists--are working to divide Pakistan and tear it apart so that it becomes weak and it becomes easy for them to eliminate it and lay their hands on the nuclear weapon and to besiege the Mujahidin and eliminate them. But the Mujahidin will not let them do any of that, God willing.)

Al-Amriki continues:

And the chief perpetrators of this battle today were the chief perpetrators yesterday, like, for example, Kiyani.

(At minute 12:45 into the tape, Ayman al-Zawahiri is heard saying in English: Now another Pervez; namely, Pervez Ashfaq Kiyani has taken over the same duties that the old Pervez used to perform for the United States. And accordingly, we see him as an equally hostile enemy of Islam (At minute 13:08 into the tape, former Pakistani President Musharraf is shown announcing Kiyani his successor as the new army chief).

Al-Amriki continues:
Let me remind my brothers and sisters that the present army chief, Pervez Kiyani, was a senior hunter of Abu-al-Faraj, may Allah release him soon.

Kiyani is not a wolf in sheep's clothing. He is a wolf in wolf's clothing, a trusted disciple and aide of the disgraced dictator Pervez. He was rapidly promoted by the latter and hand-picked by him to succeed him and is now harboring the said dictator in Rawalpindi and preventing him from being held to account. And he is a man whose almost weekly closed-door meetings with top American officials testify to the trust placed in him by the Crusaders. This then is the true face of the man some want to portray as Pakistan's new national hero, a man who during his most recent meeting with Admiral Mullen on 17 September is supposed to have reiterated that American forces have no permission to operate on Pakistani territory, not because Pakistan is a Muslim land and Islam forbids infidel soldiers to operate on Muslim soil, nor even because American operations lead to the death of Pakistani citizens in the My Lai style massacre and executions of entire families by helicopter-dropped American special forces as occurred in Angurada and Thuwara, but because Pakistan and America have yet to sign an agreement in this regard. And to round up the farce, Gordon Brown expressed his disapproval of American actions in Pakistan, but hoped an agreement would be inked soon. He thereby feigned ignorance of the numerous reports carried by Newsweek and other media: talk of a secret agreement already made some time ago between the Pakistani Government and army and the Americans, according to which America is allowed to bomb and kill the Muslims of Pakistan as much as it likes and Pakistan is permitted to lodge as many hypocritical public protests as it wishes. The Pakistani public was shown the actual value and effectiveness of these protests when yet another criminal rocket attack struck south Waziristan only hours after Mullen and the American Embassy promised to respect Pakistan's sovereignty. The professional conmen and spreaders of lies and those deceived by them might say that all of this is just a conspiracy theory and nitpicking more than a refusal on our part to recognize the Pakistani Government and army's honest change of policy direction and real turnaround. And they will say: "Pervez is no longer at home and new people are in charge, which is what you have been asking for. So why are you still complaining now that you have got what you have always wanted?" Our response is
that, first, Pakistan's institutions have a proven track record of hatching devilish conspiracies against jihads and the Mujahidin behind them. And second, when the leaders of jihad, most notably, Shaykh Ayman al-Zawahiri, called on the Muslim remnants in the Pakistani Army to play their due role and do their duty to Islam, they had specific steps in mind.

(At minute 16:52 into the tape, Al-Zawahiri is heard speaking in English: This is why I am addressing here everyone possessing a remnant of intelligence and conscience in the armed forces of Pakistan: Be aware that many among the Muslims continue to hold onto a glimmer of hope that among you are some decent and Allah-fearing individuals who refuse to soil their hands with Muslim blood, and who do not agree with the direction Pakistan is being taken in, and are prepared to take it upon themselves to ensure that the reins of power in Pakistan neither remain in the hands of Pervez and his supporters in the army nor in the hands of the present lot of politicians, but are taken over by leaders who believe in implementing the law of Almighty Allah, who believe in legislating and judging according to the laws of Almighty Allah, who shun the Western democratic system and judiciary, who refuse to be slaves of the crusaders and Jews, and who believe in the command of Allah and his statement: "And this (He commands): Judge thou between them by what Allah hath revealed, and follow not their vain desires.' (Koranic verse; 5:49) "It is not fitting for a Believer, man or woman, when a matter has been decided by Allah and His Messenger to have any option about their decision: if any one disobeys Allah and His Messenger, he is indeed on a clearly wrong Path.' (Koranic verse; 33:36))

Al-Amriki continues:

So have the reins of power now been wrested from the hands of the supporters of Pervez and the secular politicians who disbelieved the laws of Allah and worshipped the democratic system of their Jewish and Crusader masters and who sell Pakistan and its Muslim people to the highest bidder? Clearly not. In fact, the reins of power in the military have been placed in the hands of, as I mentioned, a protégé and hand-picked successor to Pervez who continues to protect his revered master from being taken to account even as he picks up right where his predecessor left off. And the reins of power in the government have been surrendered to a political party whose sole objection to the massacre at the (Red) Mosque and Jami'ah Hafsa was that it was carried out by a military regime and not a so-called a democratic government, by a futile political party led by a man who a couple of years ago claimed to be mentally unfit to stand trial, but today claims to be mentally fit to run Pakistan, which means that he is either crazy or a liar or both. Zardari, Gilani, Kiyani, and those who revolve around them are intent on fulfilling the promise of total surrender of Pakistani sovereignty Benazir made to the Americans in exchange for her return from exile. These are not the leaders Pakistan wants and deserves. They are the leaders America wants and preserves in order to achieve its policy objectives, hinder the jihad against the Crusaders in Afghanistan and the Hindus in Kashmir, and ensure that nuclear-capable Pakistan remains docile, contained, and Shari'ah free.

(At minute 19:58 into the tape, Ayman al-Zawahiri is heard speaking in English against footage of Pakistani officials, injured US soldiers being evacuated, and US soldiers carrying coffins wrapped with US flags. He says: Let there be no doubt in your minds that the dominant political forces at work in Pakistan today are competing to appease and please the modern day Crusaders in the White House, and are working to destabilize this nuclear capable nation under the aegis of America. So, do not allow the fruits of the victory achieved through the sacrifices of the Mujahidin fighting in Afghanistan, Iraq, and the tribal belt of Pakistan to be hijacked by the politicians who sat passively while the girls and boys of Jami’ah Hafsa and the Red Mosque perished and burned. These are the same politicians who followed the tenets of an alien western
democratic system and judiciary, and exploit Islam to fulfill their own greedy aims.)

Al-Amriki continues:

And I do not have to remind you, my brothers and sisters, of the losses, suffering, and casualties of the modern day Crusaders in Afghanistan and Iraq at the hands of the Mujahidin—those who rely on Allah alone and reject the hypocritical and subservient tactics of Pakistani politicians, in the same way they reject the cowardly and greedy miscalculation of the Pakistani military junta. Neither freedom, nor justice, nor dignity, nor independence can ever be achieved without the full and proper implementation of Shari’ah, and the expulsion of the neo-Crusaders, their agents, and their influence from Pakistan and Afghanistan. Otherwise, we shall get nothing except the trifles the prisoners get from their jailor.

America knows the importance of Pakistan to the success, or Allah forbid, failure of the jihad against it and its allies in Afghanistan. And, that is why it is doing everything in its power to try to turn the tide against the Mujahidin in Pakistan, and reverse the gains made by them over seven years of heroic resistance to Zio-Crusader hegemony, and the meddling and interference of Pakistani agencies. And one of the dearest wishes of the Pakistani institutions and agencies is to come between the Mujahidin and their supporters among the Muslim Pakistani people, which would negatively affect the jihad in Afghanistan, Kashmir, and the region as a whole, which is why I remind my Muslim brothers that for them to respond positively to their overtures would be a direct violation of the commands of the Koran.

(At minute 22:25 into the tape, Usama Bin-Ladin is heard speaking in Arabic with voiceover translation into English, transcribed from English. He says: Some of the munafiqin (hypocrites) among the ulema of vice and idols may say that Islam orders us to stay together, and the people to unite with the army and government to stand in the face of the enemies, and avoid fitna (strife). I say: The one who says this is creating lies about Allah. The government and army have become enemies of the Umma (Muslim nation) after becoming a weapon in the hands of the Kuffar (infidels) against the Muslims, and they refuse to rule by the religion of Islam in all of life's affairs. Allah has ordered these and their likes to be fought, not to be united with and hung unto, as those hypocrites claim. Allah the Most High says: And fight them until there is no fitna, polytheism, and religion is wholly for Allah. So, if some of the religion is for Allah, and some of it for other than Allah, fighting is obligatory to make the religion entirely for Allah, the Most High.)

(At minute 23:34 into the tape, Shaykh Mustafa Abu-al-Yazid is heard speaking in Arabic with superimposed translation into English, transcribed from English. He says: The blessed jihadi operations shook the pillars of government in Pakistan and took down the senior aggressors, agents, and tyrants in the army, intelligence, and police. And the operations will continue, Allah permitting, as long as the secularist puppet government continues to stand behind the Americans in their war against Islam and the Mujahidin, and as long as it does not return to the foundation, principle, and theory on which the state of Pakistan was set up, which is Islam, and there is no God but Allah, Muhammad is the messenger of Allah in word, deed, and implementation, not mere deceptive slogans. We say to the jealous people and Mujahidin of Pakistan that in order for the jihad in Afghanistan to continue and be victorious, you must stand with your brothers the Mujahidin in Afghanistan and fight the puppet regime of Pakistan and its aggressive and tyrannical army, and strike the interests of the Crusader allies in Pakistan. How? When you are people of jealousy and courage, can you agree to the passing of the enemies' caravans carrying arms, provisions, and equipment through your territory-- caravans which carry death, destruction, and doom for your brothers in Afghanistan? And how can you agree to
the bombing of your brothers' regions of Bajawar and Suhat, and the eviction and displacement of hundreds of thousands of their inhabitants?)

Al-Amriki continues:

This is why my brothers the Mujahidin and their supporters in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kashmir, India, and the region must be on guard against the plots and conspiracies being hatched against them in the corridors of ISI headquarters, Army House, and other centers of satanic scheming in Islamabad, Ruwalpindi, and Kabul, and must close ranks and never allow the agents of America and the criminal regimes in the regions' capitals to come between them and their brothers, or between them and the continuation of their blessed operations against America's agents in Pakistan and Afghanistan until the Crusaders are defeated and Islam and its purified Shari'ah is supreme.

(At minute 25:26 into the tape, Usama Bin Ladin is heard speaking in Arabic with superimposed translation into English, transcribed from English. He says: In such events the people are tested and the friends of the Most Merciful are separated from the friends of Satan. The ulema who are from the friends of the Most Merciful declare the truth, and if they are unable or are weak, they observe silence and do not help falsehood with their words or action. As for the friends of Satan, they are led by Pakistani military intelligence to speak falsehood and help its people. Some of them deem it obligatory to unite with Pervez and his army, while others deem as haram (religiously impermissible) martyrdom-seeking operations against the soldiers of the taghut (despot), while still others assail the mujahidin, slandering and defaming them, and this is the way of the hypocrites.)

Al-Amriki continues:

Lest we forget, it is the interference of the munafiqin (hypocrites) from the ostensibly helpful Pakistani agencies and the disunity resulting from this interference which has delayed victory in Kashmir for all these long years. And it is the liberation of the jihad there from this interference, which, Allah willing, will be the first step towards victory over the Hindu occupiers of that Muslim land. And what is true for the Kashmiri jihad holds true for other jihads, including the jihad in Afghanistan.

(At minute 27:17 into the tape, Al-Zawahiri is heard speaking in English. He says: The jihad to liberate Kashmir should first be liberated from the ISI, because corrupt governments spoil jihads. These governments defer to the wishes of the superpowers, and no jihad will succeed unless it is freed from the wishes of the enemies of Islam.)

Al-Amriki continues:

It was the interference of two-faced Pakistani agencies and their buying of loyalties and exploitation of differences among the Afghan Mujahidin which delayed victory against the Soviets and prevented the establishment of an Islamic government after the fall of the Najibullah regime, and it was the treachery and betrayal of these agencies which led to the loss, albeit temporarily, of the Islamic emirate, and the occupation of Kabul by the Crusaders, Hindus, and their hirelings. And today, these two-faced agencies are dusting off their old satanic tactics and ruses, and plotting to use them to the detriment of the jihad and Mujahidin and the benefit of the crusaders and their agents. "But they plot and Allah plots and Allah is the best of plotters" (Koranic verse: Al-Anfal: 8:30). And it is time for the enemies of Islam to resign themselves to the fact that today's Mujahidin are wiser, more experienced, and, Allah willing,
better prepared to render ineffective their devilish anti-jihad conspiracies.

Muslim brothers in Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kashmir, and the region, immigrant and helper Mujahidin, ulema Kiram (honorable scholars), brave Muslims of the tribal areas, Afghanistan, Baluchistan, Sarhad, Punjab, Sind, Kashmir, and elsewhere, do not betray Islam and the martyrs of Islam by falling into the trap set for you by the devious enemy or by letting the flourishing tree of Islam and jihad your martyrs have watered with their innocent blood sag, wither, or die. It is time for you to put aside tribal, ethnic, and territorial differences and petty worldly disputes, not just for now, but forever, and unite to restore the glories of your forefathers and hasten, Allah willing, the defeat of the Zio-Crusader enemy and the establishment of the Islamic state the Ummah is so eagerly anticipating. So, put your trust in Allah alone, and depend and rely on Him, and fight the Crusaders and their agents wherever they are, and do not be intimidated by their weak and futile plots.

My dear brothers and sisters, today the Muslims are on the verge of an historic victory against the imperialism and tyranny of the unbelievers, and the enemies of Islam are facing a crushing defeat which is beginning to manifest itself in the expanding crisis their economy is experiencing-- a crisis whose primary cause, in addition to the abortive and unsustainable crusades they are waging in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Iraq-- is their turning their backs on Allah's revealed laws, which forbid interest-bearing transactions, exploitation, greed, and injustice in all its forms, and demand the worship of Allah alone to the exclusion of all false gods, including money and power.

As for what lies behind our widespread success and their military and political defeat despite their material and financial advantage, it is first and foremost Allah's promise to help the believers who help his religion, followed by our compliance, by the grace of Allah, with the laws and commands of Allah, and then of course, the enemies' cowardice, arrogance, aggression, barbarity, and total disregard for the lives of innocents. So, we can only thank Allah for guiding us to obey His divine command: "Fight in the cause of Allah those who fight you, but do not transgress limits; for Allah loveth not transgressors. (Koranic verse Al-Baqara 2:190). And we only can thank Allah for guiding us to comply with the noble verse: "Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah, and those who reject faith fight in the cause of Evil: So fight ye against the friends of Satan: feeble indeed is the cunning of Satan" (Koranic verse: Al-Nisa: 4:76). "We might teach him the interpretation of stories (and events). And Allah hath full power and control over His affairs; but most among mankind know it not" (Koranic verse: Yusuf 12:21). And our final prayer is: God's peace and blessings be upon our messenger Muhammad, and all his household and followers. God's peace and blessings be upon you."