Terrorism: 'Abu-Mansur al-Amriki' Condemns 'Courts,' Praises MYM Views, Bin Ladin

On 7 February, "Bint al-Jihad 1" posted to a jihadist website a statement issued by the Global Islamic Media Front entitled "Letter from Abu-Mansur al-Amriki to the beloved mujahidin in particular, and Muslims in general," in which Abu-Mansur set differences in views between the Mujahideen Youth Movement and the foreign migrants on the one hand, and the Islamic Courts on the other. He also clarified some "ambiguous" "facts" regarding the latter's stand on jihad, warning against defeatism, and pointing out the MYM's "sincere" commitment to true jihad.

A translation of the statement follows:

"In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

"From Abu-Mansur al-Amriki to the beloved mujahidin in particular, and Muslims in general.

"Praise be to God who distinguished truth from falsehood, and evil from goodness. All praise be to God who made non-useful things wither away and left what benefits mankind on Earth. All praise be to God alone, He who has no partners, the One who sent the messengers with the Shari'ah and the path; He Who made the path leading to Him a glowing lamp, and sent Muhammad to be a crown, and a source of knowledge and enlightenment for messengers, peace and prayers be upon him, his household, and companions.

"I saw it is very important nowadays to clarify some facts that might be ambiguous to many people, especially what relates to the Mujahideen Youth Movement (MYM) and the Islamic Courts.

"It is well-known amongst the committed Muslims in Somalia that these two groups have a long history, and are not new to the scene. Rather, the founding of the MYM's command dates back to the period that experienced the fall of Siad Barre, and the earliest battles with the Americans. However, what is even more important than their early presence, is proving the major and large differences between the two groups from the very beginning.

"While the Courts used to rule over each individual tribe, the MYM was made up of many different tribes and used to cooperate with the muhajirin (foreign migrants). Also, while the Islamic Courts had a goal limited to the frontiers set by the tyrants, the MYM had a larger goal which included the establishment of an Islamic caliphate (Islamic state) in every part of the world. This difference has not only lived on, but has even grown larger and clearer to everyone, including the brainless infidels.

"As for the days of victory, it is known that the image that was presented to the world regarding the Islamic Courts was a 'moderate' one, as they say. They tried to control the financial resources and foreign affairs, and direct the course of jihad. Despite these facts, the infidels perceived something else behind the scenes, when they declared that there is an extremist group, as they claimed, within the government of the Courts. They were right in most of their declarations, but were mistakenly believing that the leader of this extremist group was 'Hassan Dahir Aweys.'
"The MYM was aware of these facts, and encountered countless troubles caused by the policies of the Islamic Courts. The muhajirin too endured such policies. The Islamic Courts welcomed them at the airport with unpleasant statements such as 'we don't need the muhajirin,' and tried to send them back, had it not been for a few members of the MYM, such as Shaykh Fu'ad and Abu-Talhah al-Sudani who rescued many of them at the airport, and took care of them.

"The situation remained unchanged until the defeat happened, when the most excellent members of the MYM got martyred. Consequently, most of these realities remained unknown to the new fighters, who in early days had witnessed unity that was aimed at combining the strength of all groups so as to avoid any outbreak of sedition, and in pursuance of the Koranic verse saying 'Help ye one another in righteousness and piety, but help ye not one another in sin and rancor: fear Allah for Allah is strict in punishment,' and to rule with God's revelations, as all groups claim. However, those new fighters did not witness the hidden reality that their predecessors experienced.

"Therefore, this issue unquestionably needed clarification; but we realized the seriousness of this need only after the conferences in Asmara as these conferences raised our doubts for several reasons:

"First: Eritrea still fights the mujahidin on its territories. So how would it be able to assist the mujahidin in a neighboring country? There is no doubt that Eritrea is not serious about our best interests and those of jihad.

"Second: Eritrea had maliciously rooted out the mujahidin on its lands through the Sudanese Government. This had opened the door wide to politics at the expense of the armed resistance, which is the right solution to the problems of the nation nowadays. Here are the members of the Islamic Courts in the lands of the infidels and under their control, marching on the path of politics that leads to failure and defeat which they had always escaped.

"Third: They chose to be attired in national costume while attending the conferences. The very name of their party indicates that this issue is strictly Somali, leaving no room for any interference from foreigners-as they call the muhajirin- unless the interference is from John, or Tom, or George! In that case, such interference is allowed! So, they deny the presence of the muhajirin in Somalia-despite the fact that I was seen on a Al-Jazirah channel in a Somali training camp belonging to the Courts. That was before I realized that the path had become extremely distorted. While they say that they are not in need of foreigners, their actions indicate that they are in need of the apostates from Abdullahi Yusuf's government and the original infidels of Eritrea. Praise the Lord! How have the yardstick of loyalty (to believers) and disavowal (from disbelievers) been turned upside down !

"Fourth: They tried to steal the efforts of the MYM by claiming that they are controlling the jihad path and the events taking place on the ground from their hotels in Eritrea!

"The aforementioned facts would have led-if it was not for the MYM's disavowal of these conferences- to several problems such as:

"1-Lack of clarity in this issue for Muslims abroad, and even for those inside as we have seen from some of the fighters, who might aid us with self, wealth, or supplication.

"2-Lack of a clear example to guide the mujahidin in the future, despite the fact that the Ikhwan (members of the Muslim Brotherhood, MB) had a good example in Sayyid Qutub and Al-
Mawdudi, who both refused to take part in infidel governments as a solution. It seems that according to those who ascribe themselves to the MB today- that there is no other solution for the problems of the nation, except through the ballot box. One wonders how would it have been if their beginning was characterized by their exemplary figure compromising his principles and having an unclear path?

"3-There will be confusion among the people if power is reached. If the MYM differs with the Courts after victory has been achieved, the people will label the MYM as Kharijites, or Jama'at al-Takfir, or benefit seekers, in the same way that they have labeled the Courts following their victory, that is as just one tribe who are not sincere in their claim to establish Shari'ah. This will lead to many seditions and the loss of previous gains.

"4-Our inability to control the direction of jihad because the wealth and media are in their hands

"Therefore, due to this grave danger, the mujahidin of MYM, may God reward them, proclaimed their disavowal of these conferences. At the same time the Al-Muhajirin, who gradually came to Somalia after the capture of Mogadishu, also felt the need to do this. In due course, they wrote a word of advice to some officials of the Courts regarding these matters. Then, after becoming sure that they will continue on this dangerous path, the muhajirin, along with the MYM, declared their disavowal of the Courts.

"This is their declaration of disavowal from the deviated leadership of the Courts before all Muslims, praise and gratitude be to God.

"As for the path of the MYM, we saw to it that we focus on the pure one adopted by the mujahidin in other blessed lands of jihad. It is the same path repeatedly heard from the mouth of the mujahid shaykh Usama Bin Ladin, May God preserve him. It is the same path heard in the speeches of the lion, the genius Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri, may God preserve him, and in the guidance of the martyr, may God accept him as such, the hero, Abu-Mus'ab al-Zarqawi, may God have mercy on him and others from the list of the heroes of this time.

"We stress that we are striving to establish the Islamic caliphate from East to West after driving out the occupation and killing the apostates. We will do this while holding on to the Koran and the Sunnah, on the path of the salafis, and carrying the Koran in one hand and the sword in the other under the black banner, God willing.

"We do not care if there is criticism, or threat of scarce provision. We do not need suspicious funds. Rather, God is our provider and our protector. What a great protector to rely upon. He is the best of providers.

"Here is an important point that must be made. There must be cooperation with any group belonging to Muslims, as long as they are truly Muslims, whether the group is the Courts or otherwise. This must, of course, be in accordance with the guidelines of the correct path.

"Finally, before closing my speech, I would like to mention that there are still sincere people amongst the Islamic Courts. I regard them as such, and God knows best. Therefore, these words do not mean that all of them want to destroy the religion and betray the Somali jihad. However, sometimes, oblivious people require a harsh reminder to wake them up from their deep slumber,

"I ask God for sincerity in these words. Whatever truth they contain, it is from God and what
error they contain it is by me and the devil. Peace and prayers be upon the most noble of the prophets and messengers. Our last call shall be praise be to God, Lord of all creation.