

Al-Zawahiri, Al-Libi: Libyan Islamic Fighting Group Joins Al-Qa'ida

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

On 3 November, a jihadist website featured several links to a video clip produced by the Al-Sahab media group, affiliated with Al-Qa'ida, containing an 11-minute audio statement by Al-Qa'ida Second-in-Command Ayman al-Zawahiri with a still image of Al-Zawahiri, and a 17-minute audio statement by Abu-Layth al-Libi with a still image of Al-Libi and video footage of what seems to be Al-Libi and members of his group in combat. Following is a description of the video:

Shaykh Ayman al-Zawahiri begins by saying:

"In the name of God; thanks be to Him; and peace and prayers be upon His messenger, his household, companions, and supporters. Brother Muslims everywhere, may God's prayers and peace be upon you. Praise be to God Almighty who has made us witness the awakening of the Islamic nation in this critical stage of its history. The Islamic nation, praise be to God, has survived again despite all conspiracies, cunning, plots, aggression, and criminality against it by the enemy Crusaders and Jews, chief of which is the idol of this era, America, its cunning, spiteful follower Britain, and their assistants, allies, and those begging for morsels of food which they leave behind - those rulers of treason, writers of deceit, merchants of religion, scholars of begging, muftis of the Marines, counselors of the throne, and brokers of retreat; together with their hunting dogs and slaves representing bandits, criminals, and executioners.

Despite all the aforementioned, and in an attempt to confront it, even winning over all this with God's help, the spirit of pride, dignity, and challenge spreads across our nation whose submission and capitulation to its enemies has lasted long. This spirit did not spread easily or move at leisure. Rather, the Islamic nation and its pioneering mujahidin have paid a dear price of their own accord and conviction when cities were bombed and villages were burnt, and by becoming subject to killing, arrest, torture, and eviction, and turning into widows and orphans. Yes, the Islamic nation confronted all these wars and calamities and rallied around and supported its pioneering mujahidin, despite all misleading and distorting campaigns.

Also, despite all the attempts to vacate its potential, weaken its strength and doctrine, and cede its territory by the preachers of defeat and retreat; despite the campaigns that aim to distract thoughts from conscience and doctrines, coupled with the campaigns of lash burns and electric shocks to which the United States applauds and asks its agents for more victims. Despite all the aforementioned, the pioneering mujahidin were able to confront all types of cunning and aggression and to lead their nation victoriously under the banner of its prophet, may God's peace and prayers be upon him, toward the looked-for caliphate, which is coming soon, God willing.

The pioneering mujahidin of the Islamic nation have remained steadfast in Chechnya, Afghanistan, Iraq, Palestine, Somalia, and Algeria. Even in Egypt, Libya, the Arabian Peninsula, and Yemen they have not abandoned their Islam and have been offering martyrs. They have not dumped their religion despite bleeding wounds. They have not abandoned their homeland despite the captives. And they have not flattered the injustice, oppression, and tyranny, nor openly spoken just, bitter words in the face of the unjust ruler. Thanks be to God, by whose virtue and generosity the pioneering mujahidin of the Islamic nation were blessed with more strength day after day, closely united one battle after another, and tightly strengthened one conquest after another.

Today, with God's blessing and grace, the Islamic nation is witnessing a blessed, kind, and benevolent step taken by the pioneering mujahidin on the path of its unity in God's obedience and bidding for His victory and support. A group of men who initiated jihad, took the path of struggle, hoisted the flags of the call for Islam and jihad, and took the lead in patience and steadfastness of the elite Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, has announced joining Al-Qa'ida of Jihad in order to continue the march of their brothers who sacrificed their souls in battlefields and spent their lives in prison of their own accord to satisfy their God.

My Islamic nation, my mujahidin brothers, dear captives, my bereaved and widowed sisters and mothers, and my orphan sons, you should all know that this blessed step has been taken with the aim of gaining God's pleasure. It is also an attempt to help you to stop the aggression against you, and take your revenge on the wolves who for a long time have spilled your blood and violated your dignity and sanctity.

Dear brothers, his eminence, the mujahid scholar Abu-al-Munzir al-Sa'idi; the amir of mujahidin, the patient and steadfast Abu-Abdallah al-Sadiq; and the rest of the captives of the fighting Islamic group in Libya, here is good news for you: your brothers are continuing your march after you, following in your footsteps, holding the flag that you hoisted, and escalating their confrontation with the enemies of Islam: (Libyan leader) Al-Qadhafi and his masters the Crusaders of Washington. Be patient and steadfast, do not feel sad, and be strong with your faith against the affliction of captivity and the cunningness of US slaves, who are trying to repeat the experiment of Mubarak's executioners through unsuccessful and scandalous retreat and concessions in Libya. Tell Al-Qadhafi's dogs, agents of the world Crusade, that here are our brothers who have confronted your futile cunning by stabbing you and your masters in the chest.

While I remember you, the grandchildren of Umar al-Mukhtar (well-known Libyan resistance man against the Italians), may God have mercy on him, and while I remember your brothers the lions of jihad in Libya, I would like to recite the verse of Jubran (well-known Lebanese poet) eulogizing Umar al-Mukhtar, may God have mercy on him, saying: 'While the sword was brandished to take your life, you sacrificed your soul like a freeman facing injustice. Out of His wisdom, God has chosen you to meet what you had met with such feelings of injustice...your bones are broken without achieving your objective, but you will never feel sad because determination resists breaking.'

Our Islamic nation in the land of steadfastness and jihad, here are your pious sons gathering under the banner of Islam and jihad to fight America, France, Spain, and their sons. O nation of the land of steadfastness and jihad, stand by your sons so that we can conquer our enemies -- Al-Qadhafi, Zine El Abidine, Bouteflika, and careless Muhammad (VI, Moroccan king) -- and purge our lands of their slaves. Our Islamic nation, you might have realized that Islam is your strong fortress, your pride on earth, and your prize after life. The secular pan-Arabs like Al-Qadhafi and Mahmud Abbas have sold you out and turned you in to America and Israel. Therefore, I call on those secular people and pan-Arabs who still have little conscience and honor to rush to repent to God and adhere to the doctrine of monotheism, especially after it has become clear to everyone that those who used to say that they were ready to deal with the devil in order to liberate Palestine had sold out Palestine and became slaves to Satan.

I call on those secular people and pan-Arabs who still have some life in their hearts and some pride to join the march of jihad and martyrdom before it is too late; to part with what has passed of their life far away from Islam; and to realize that any struggle that is far away from the doctrine of monotheism will lead them to be blackmailed and killed by the enemies of the

nation, like Arafat, work for them as informers, like Mahmud Abbas, or turn in their weapons and equipment, like Al-Qadhafi. Pride is for God, his messenger, and believers.

I call on the Fatah members and Al-Aqsa Brigades who still have some life in their hearts and some pride to confront their leadership that turned their organization into a branch of the CIA and a section of Mosad. I call on them to liberate themselves from partisan slavery, to trust their God -- the Creator and Provider with the means of subsistence -- to return to their religion, and to join their mujahidin brothers in Palestine and the rest of the Islamic countries. The battle in Palestine has never been other than part of one jihadist battle by one Islamic nation against one Crusader-Zionist enemy. Fight against all polytheists as they are fighting against you, and know well that God is on the side of those who fear him.

Finally, I will leave you with the companion of my course, lion Shaykh Abu-Layth (al-Libi). My last prayer is to thank God almighty, may His prayer be upon Prophet Muhammad, his household, and companions."

Shaykh Abu-Layth al-Libi begins by saying:

"Thanks be to God, and prayers and peace be upon the best of mankind. Nothing is easy except what He makes so, and if He wishes, He can make difficult things easy. May God ease matters for us and accept the remnants of our bodies, blood, and toil as an offering of the competence of the Caliphate, and make our deeds worthy of meeting Him on doomsday. Amen.

Forty years after the tyrant Al-Qadhafi's domination of Muslims in Libya, and after afflicting them with calamities; dividing them into groups in order to bully each one separately; slaughtering their sons and embarrassing their women; and forcing them to frequently taste bitterness through torture, killing, eviction, and impoverishment on the pretext of antagonizing the Jews on one occasion or confronting America and the West on another. Under these circumstances, Muslims have been paying a dear price for causes to which they could not find explanations or of which they could not find significance -- other than stupid, frivolous play, reckless behavior, unbalanced character, and being dragged behind Pharaoh's mentality, which consecrates the viewpoint of the ruler -- a mentality that took hold of Libya's tyrant.

After this long journey of hardship, misery, strangling, and suppression, Libya's tyrant is leading the country and people toward a swamp that stinks more than his previous ones. A swamp within which he embedded a Muslim country and people for a period of 40 years. Libya's tyrant is suddenly discovering after these long years that America, the defender of the cross, is not an enemy that should be told 'we are waiting for you and so are the fish,' and is not an enemy who should be threatened with fiery speeches and revolutionary chants until our voices are lost, but is in fact a close friend and trusty ally. He joined the line of the White House worshippers to kneel in submission and humiliation to the extent that he has become a model for humiliating submissiveness. Countries are being asked to follow in his footsteps for turning in all his installations equipment.

Libya's tyrant is paving the way for the flags of the protectors of the cross to flutter in the skies of Tripoli and is opening his airports to warmly receive their politicians after they became his masters. Thus, Libya has turned into a new crusader base in the Islamic Maghreb, from which the bitter Christians can reach out and crush any jihadist renaissance that rises in the face of the regimes of collaboration and its masters. Thus, he announces his full stand and blatant support to these criminals in their war against Muslims in all parts of the world. Unjust people follow each other, and God is the lord of those who fear Him.

Libya's tyrant makes a cheap commodity out of the blood of the sons of his afflicted people in order to gain the satisfaction of the infidel western Crusaders and to patch his collapsing rule.

This took place when the world witnessed the deal of the AIDS-stricken children that were subjected to the Crusaders' hatred, who killed them with cold blood and in an ugly manner. 'If they were to get the better of you, they would behave toward you as enemies, and stretch forth their hands and their tongues against you for evil: and they desire that ye should reject the Truth.' (Koranic versa, Al-Mumtahinah, 60:2)

Despite all of this and after the charges were confirmed several times against the butchers, the Bulgarian slaughterers and those accompanying them left the country as victorious heroes to please the West, win their approval, and be subservient to them. If the Al-Qadhafi rule continues to exist and the West is satisfied, all Muslims should be transcendent. 'In a Believer they respect not the ties either of kinship or of covenant! It is they who have transgressed all bounds.' (Koranic verse, At-Tauba, 9:10)

It is with the grace of God that we fully understand Libya's importance to the West geographically, politically, economically, militarily, and in terms of security, and it was for this that the West, led by America, could not afford not to capitalize on this important spot in the crusader war it is waging on Islam and Muslims in the East and West. It was out of this importance that the West senses that they rushed to Libya and resolved, willingly or unwillingly, all their problems with the apostate regime in Libya, so that this regime may take its place among the regimes of collaboration and play its fitting role in championing the new crusader attack on the Islamic world. The Al-Qadhafi regime prepared itself to become a loyal soldier and faithful supporter of its crusader masters. Al-Qadhafi opened his doors to the Crusaders and changed his policies in order to please them, forgetting all enmities in order to bolster them.

Thus, Libya has become a secure den of the CIA, and its oil -- of which its people were deprived -- has started to flow to meet the needs of the armies of the cross in various arenas. The Libyan cities have become sites of attraction for the leaders of infidelity, who are harboring designs against Islam and Muslims day and night. It is with the grace of God that we were hoisting the banner of jihad against this apostate regime under the leadership of the Libyan Islamic Fighting Group, which sacrificed the elite of its sons and commanders in combating this regime whose blood was spilled on the mountains of Darnah, the streets of Benghazi, the outskirts of Tripoli, the desert of Sabha, and the sands of the beach. The Group's leader lions are still imprisoned behind the bars of apostate criminals, rejecting deals and concessions. We ask God to bless them and us with steadfastness until death.

Continuing on this path, which our leaders and amirs have initiated; proceeding on the course of sacrifice and patience which opened the door for us; and adhering to the Group's method, whose features have become clear and whose basics are based on the Holy Koran and the teachings of the Prophet, may God's prayers and peace be upon him, as well as through understanding the method of the good ancestors and their imam followers in the past and present... for all the above we recite what the Prophet's companions said during the Al-Khandaq battle when they said that they were those who pledged to Muhammad to carry out jihad as long as they lived.

The imminent battle between the people of right and the people of falsehood will certainly take place, and the people of right should carry their weapons and ask for God's help to confront the enemies of God and His messenger, the apostates and their Jewish, Christian, and atheist supporters. They should enrich their minds with useful knowledge and good work. Based on all that, and from our religious duty to close ranks and agree, we announce that we have joined Al-Qa'ida of Jihad so that we may, with the grace and support of God, be faithful soldiers, gentle to Muslims but fierce against apostates. We shall raise the banner of monotheism and jihad that

was raised by our leaders and amirs, led by the sword of Islam, Shaykh Usama Bin Ladin, may God watch over him, and may I redeem him with my life.

We shall raise it anew over Libya side by side with our brothers of the Al-Qa'ida Organization in the Lands of the Islamic Maghreb, who took precedence in this virtuous action, and urged procession on this righteous path. By doing so, they have gained high ranks and manifested the blessing of unity, as a result of which the agents of France experienced the taste of death and their struggle was refreshed with the spilling of their chaste blood. Following these sacrifices, world conspiracies began against them and the armies of infidelity started to encircle them after they had made the lives of apostates uneasy. The hero men of this organization attacked these armies in places in which they never thought. 'That is the grace of Allah, which He will bestow on whom He pleaseth. And Allah encompasseth all, and He knoweth all things.' (Koranic verse, Al-Ma'idah 5:54)

All infidel nations should know that the Islamic nation is proceeding on the path of competency with firm strides, well-entrenched belief, harmonized feelings, and consolidated efforts and that we will face the coalition of infidels with the unification of the people of Islam. We will confront the unity of the nations of the crucifix with the unity of the soldiers of monotheism; and we will drive back the alliance of Satan's soldiers with accord among the soldiers of the Merciful. God loves those who fight for His sake in one line like a strongly-built entity. If the Jewish, Christian, and atheist infidels stand behind America, the protector of the cross, in a manner in which they appear united but in reality are not, we urge all mujahidin to come under the banner of jihad that is raised by the Al-Qa'ida Organization, who have been loyal to their religion and expressed zeal about the honor of their nation. For the sake of their doctrine and religion, these mujahidin have sacrificed great men and leaders as prisoners and martyrs. The series of their sacrifices is still ongoing; we hope God will accept them.

May God's enemies die of their anger and keep thinking of black days to come that will disturb their lives and obliterate their plans and schemes, God willing. We will not give up confronting these enemies and we will never become weak. We have experienced the taste of pride and have known the meaning of jihad, which is our life and without which we will not live. It is our path; we have no other. It begins with pride and victory and ends with heaven and ease. We are adhered to it. Let those who prefer life after death to normal life fight for the sake of God. Those who fight for the sake of God and are either killed or win victory will be greatly rewarded at the end.

O Libyan youth, the grandsons of the shaykh of mujahidin Umar al-Mukhtar, the echoes of 'God is great' have returned and the cries of warning are going up loud to wake up those who are sleeping, alert the inattentive, and bring hope into the hearts of despairing and frustrated individuals. Be prepared and get ready for a new round of Islam's battles. Be prepared to engage in battles with the determination of men and the resolution of heroes. Be prepared to descend on the battlefields of jihad to train and launch jihad -- not only against the apostate Al-Qadhafi's regime, but against his keepers and masters the Americans and their brothers, the infidels of the West, who want to turn your territory into a safe haven and a fortified place where they seek refuge and from which they launch their blatant Crusader war against Islam and Muslims. You should be united and consolidate with us to confront them. By God, the owner of Earth and Heaven we will fight them, God willing, until God disgraces them or we die before we accomplish this task. 'Can you expect for us (any fate) other than one of two glorious things -- (Martyrdom or victory)? But we can expect for you either that Allah will send his punishment from Himself, or by our hands. So wait (expectantly); we too will wait with you.' (Koranic verse, At-Tauba, 9:52)

You should also know that the battle of monotheism against atheists and their followers has reached its climax of ignition and those who lean on earthly life and resort to ease will repent as they miss the train and watch it moving gradually away. They will stay motionless, unable to catch it or do anything, so that when the banners of victory flutter and the sun of competency rises they will bite their fingers with repentance and sorrow and wish that they were with them so they would be greatly rewarded.

Our Muslim people in Libya, you should seek help from God and be patient. The land is God's, inherited by whoever He wants of his people, and the winners are those who fear Him. There is nothing left in this life over which you are concerned after this tyrant has spoiled your religion and earthly life, turned you into a field in which to experiment with his corrupt ideas, annihilated you individually and in groups, ravaged your honor and property, and tore you up savagely. There is no escape for you from this continuing hell other than returning to your real religion, abandoning cowardice and weakness which have dominated your minds for decades, and standing on the side of your sons who accepted to be the fuel for the battle, which begins with patience and determination and ends with competence and victory. Victory is granted by God, the Precious and Wise. 'But if it had been Allah's Will, He could certainly have exacted retribution from them (Himself); but (He lets you fight) in order to test you, some with others.' (Koranic verse, 47:4) God is great, and pride is His together with His messenger and believers, but hypocrites do not know that. Thanks be to God, the Lord of the worlds."