

FYI - Al-Sahab Releases German-Language Video on Financial Crisis, No Specific Threats

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

On 26 February, a forum participant posted to a jihadist website several links to an undated 44-minute 13-second video produced by the Al-Sahab Establishment for Media Production, the media arm of Al-Qa'ida Organization, and disseminated by Al-Fajr Media Center. The video, entitled "Islam and the Financial Crisis," is an audio message with a still image of the Al-Qa'ida German affiliate Abu-Talhah al-Almani (Abu-Talhah the German), who delivers his message in German, with Arabic subtitles. Abu-Talhah discusses a number of reasons for this financial crisis, including "usury," adding that the solution is to stick to the Islamic laws. Throughout the video, the Koranic verses are recited in Arabic and subtitled into German. The video ends with recitation of a number of Koranic verses, followed by a screen caption announcing the upcoming release of a video production by Al-Sahab Establishment entitled "What Does the West Owe Islam?"

Abu-Talhah begins the message with raising many questions about the misuse of tax money and savings by the world governments.

Talking about Germany, he affirms that "if the state wants to collect money by all means from the people through exaggerated taxes, it should at least provide essential life needs to the people without usury." He adds that "the tax money" is being "spent on soldiers in Afghanistan, who are doing everything except fighting."

Abu-Talhah then gives a number of reasons for the current financial crisis, such as "being far from the religion," and "the financial system itself," which is based on "usury" that is "prohibited" by God and the Islamic Shari'ah. He also mentions "injustice" as a reason for the current financial crisis because "the West achieved its prosperity at the expense of the Muslims' wealth. Thus, God punished them accordingly for this injustice and this prosperity was destroyed. However, Germany escaped with relatively little losses because it was not stained with the blood (of Muslims) as the others."

Abu-Talhah argues that "the mujahidin do not have any interest in conflict with Germany. However, if Germany does not distance itself far from the evil and its people, God's laws on His creatures do not favor anyone."

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