

Al-Qa'ida's Al-Libi Urges Mujahidin in Somalia To Remain Steadfast, Defend Muslim Land

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

Terrorism: Al-Qa'ida's Al-Libi Urges Mujahidin in Somalia To Remain Steadfast, Defend Muslim Land On 13 February, a forum participant posted to a jihadist website a statement containing a video entitled "Somalia...Victory Comes With Patience." The undated video is an official release of the Al-Sahab Media Production Organization, the media arm of the Al-Qa'ida Organization, and was disseminated by the Al-Fajr Media Center. In the video, Al-Libi congratulates the Muslim nation on the "splendid victory" achieved in Somalia through "the defeat of the Crusader occupation forces." He says that "the battle has not come to an end yet," urging the mujahidin to continue the fight until the establishment of an Islamic state. He calls the election of Shaykh Sharif Ahmad, the president of Somalia, a "farce," urging continued fighting against the Ugandan and other international forces. He also advises the mujahidin to be united and not to be "dragged into side battles."

A translation of the video statement follows:

"(The first screen) In the name of God the Merciful, the Compassionate.

"Warning: This production includes Koranic verses and prophetic recitations and may not be accompanied by music.

"With the regards of Al-Sahab Global Productions

"Safar 1430 (corresponding to February 2009)

"(Voice heard saying) I seek refuge in God from the accursed evil spirit.

"Did not Allah check one set of people by means of another, there would surely have been pulled down monasteries, churches, synagogues, and mosques, in which the name of Allah is commemorated in abundant measure. Allah will certainly aid those who aid his (cause);- for verily Allah is full of Strength, Exalted in Might, (able to enforce His Will). (They are) those who, if We establish them in the land, establish regular prayer and give regular charity, enjoin the right and forbid wrong: with Allah rests the end (and decision) of (all) affairs' (Koranic verse; Al-Hajj 22:40-41).

"(Abu Yahya al-Libi appears sitting in front of a tan curtain and on his left is a microphone with the Al-Sahab logo on it. The Al-Sahab logo also appears on the lower right hand side of the screen.)

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

"Praise be to God, and prayers and peace be upon the messenger of God, upon his family, his companions, and those who support him.

"Oh Muslim ummah (Muslim community), peace, mercy, and the blessings of God be upon you.

"First, we congratulate our Islamic ummah and the Muslim people of Somalia, its brave, well born tribes, and the courageous heroes of jihad for the splendid victory achieved by the grace and help of God on the beloved land of Somalia. (This is for the) defeat of the of the Crusader occupation forces as they retreat beaten, humiliated, and degraded, swallowing the torment of defeat. This is possible through the successes of the One and the Conqueror.

"This defeat took place after two years of continuous jihad, labor, patience, endurance, and steadfastness and examples of heroism and sacrifices without weariness or laziness. This took place until God's victory came, conquest approached, and glad tidings of enabling started to show.

"But, our dear ummah, this victory was not achieved and the Crusader forces, which brought their forces upon the land and the worshipers, did not leave as a result of shuttling between international forums or by begging international organizations, nor did it come as a result of shuttling between Arab and western capitals or by begging their Security Council and United Nations.

"Rather they (Crusader forces) left after the success and help from God, the Exalted, through the jihad of men who were patient during the war and serious about the encounter of the enemy. They are true knights during battle and saints during the night. With the determination of heroes, they overcame obstacles, plunged into adversity, endured the sacrifices of battle, and paid for the price of this victory with their limbs, blood, sweat, and money, accompanied with suffering. They became familiar with all kinds of suffering, anguish, and trouble. 'Those who work hard are most deserving of glory' (poem). The conditions -- and we are people who have no intercession - say: 'From all people we either lead or die, we sacrifice ourselves for loftiness', and 'the person proposing to a beautiful woman should not deny her expensive dowry' (poem).

"They were able to defeat the evil of the non-believers. God is truthful when He said: 'Fight them, and Allah will punish them by your hands, cover them with shame, help you to victory over them, heal the breasts of Believers, And still the indignation of their hearts. For Allah will turn in mercy to whom He will; and Allah is All-Knowing, All-Wise' (Koranic verses; Al-Tawbah 9: 14, 15).

"It was impossible for those men to flee the heat of the battle while seeing the forces of the Abyssinians (Ethiopians) raiding their homeland, raping their women, tyrannizing their elderly people, massacring their youth, and boasting on their land. How? When they read the words of Almighty God: 'ye who believe! When ye meet the Unbelievers in hostile array, never turn your backs to them. If any do turn his back to them on such a day - unless it be in a stratagem of war, or to retreat to a troop of his own- he draws on himself the wrath of Allah, and his abode is Hell,- an evil refuge indeed!' (Koranic verses; Al-Anfal 8:15, 16) They were victorious and religion honors those who support it; they delivered while support for religion was almost lacking. They went ahead facing death in the fierce battle, and they brought light after darkness; those are my people, 'sufficient unto us is God.' I praise them as God's verses are recited and written.

"We congratulate our brothers in Somalia for this victory, after the epic-like battles of this day and age. They should know that the battle has not come to an end yet, and there is a lot still ahead of them. We would be exaggerating if we said that the next phase is the most perilous, difficult, and most critical phase of jihad in that land, which has always been unconquerable to the tyrants. The enemies of God will not stop; they will not cease their interference and uproar in different forms and through multiple channels. In clarifying their stance to us, God Almighty said: 'Nor will they cease fighting you until they turn you back from your faith if they can'

(Koranic verse; Al-Baqarah 2:217), and God Almighty said: 'Never will the Jews or the Christians be satisfied with thee unless thou follow their form of religion' (Koranic verse; Al-Baqarah 2: 120). God Almighty also said: 'Quite a number of the People of the Book wish they could Turn you people back to infidelity after ye have believed, from selfish envy, after the Truth hath become Manifest unto them' (Koranic verse; Al-Baqarah 2:109).

"Therefore, prepare to engage in a battle of conspiracies, the features of which appeared through the mockery of the presidential elections that took place lately in Djibouti. The first to welcome its results was America, the head of global non-belief. This suffices as evidence of its nature and its incentives. So what then of a presidency that is welcomed by -- and who's holders are praised by -- the butchers of the past; the leaders of the Christian Ethiopia? Is this anything but a new version of the versions of the Karzais (Hamid Karzai, plural) of the modern times which started to be reproduced and distributed, that started to be shaped and divided among these countries or others? God Almighty said: 'Those who turn back as apostates after Guidance was clearly shown to them,- the Evil One has instigated them and busied them up with false hopes. This, because they said to those who hate what Allah has revealed, 'We will obey you in part of (this) matter'; but Allah knows their (inner) secrets' (Koranic verse; Muhammad47:26). And in the face of the new battle of conspiracies, we have inevitable stances and recommendations to our brothers the rightful mujahidin who have been brutally attacked by the forces of evil from every side, and against whom internal and external gangs conspired. 'Fain would they extinguish Allah's light with their mouths, but Allah will not allow but that His light should be perfected, even though the Unbelievers may detest (it)' (Koranic verse; Al-Tawbah 9:32).

"So first, dear brothers, you have to fear God, for this is the best sustenance and the best equipment. You have to have patience thereupon, the patience of those who are certain of (achieving) victory, those who are seizing their religion like holding a live coal and those who are certain of God's promise to his faithful worshippers. This is the greatest weapon with which you can confront your enemy's conspiracies, to answer his intrigues and to revoke his schemes. God Almighty said: 'If aught that is good befalls you, it grieves them; but if some misfortune overtakes you, they rejoice at it. But if ye are constant and do right, not the least harm will their cunning do to you; for Allah Compasseth round about all that they do' (Koranic verse Al-Imran; 3:120). God Almighty has taken it upon Himself, and He is the Strong, the Firm, the Subtle, the Kind and the All-Aware, to dispel their malice and crush their intrigues for 'Allah hath full power and control over His affairs; but most among mankind know it not' (Koranic verse Yusuf; 12:21). God Almighty said: 'They plotted and planned, but We too planned, even while they perceived it not' (Koranic verse; Al-Naml27:50). And God the Great and the Almighty said: 'They plot and plan, and Allah too plans; but the best of planners is Allah' (Koranic verse; Al-Anfal 8:30). And God Almighty said: 'As for them, they are but plotting a scheme, And I am planning a scheme. Therefore grant a delay to the Unbelievers: Give respite to them gently (for awhile)' (Koranic verse At-Tariq; 86:17). And He, the Great and the Almighty, also said: 'And (the unbelievers) plotted and planned, and Allah too planned, and the best of planners is Allah' (Koranic verse; Al-Imran3:54).

"So be assured my dear brothers of God's promise and be convinced that He is with you, surrounding you, safeguarding you, taking care of you, and watching over you. All you have to do is fulfill the conditions and to resolve to be patient and pious in all affairs. God Almighty stated, 'Ye shall certainly be tried and tested in your possessions and in your personal selves; and ye shall certainly Hear much that will grieve you, from those who received the Book before you and from those who worship many gods. But if ye persevere patiently, and guard against evil,-then that will be a determining factor in all affairs' (Koranic Verse; Al-Imran;3:186).

"Second, when you raised the banner of jihad and plunged into the desolation of this violent war, you had a clear goal and a specific purpose that you fought for and sacrificed for the sake of achieving. This goal is to establish an Islamic state, which rules in accordance with the Shari'ah and obeys its rulings and which acquires its legitimacy from its genuine Islamic affiliation, not from the infidel international legitimacy and deceptive and false slogans. This State would not agree to partly worship God. If this goal is not achieved and realized, continue on with your jihad and carry on with your battle. In addition to that, strengthen your determination and bear down on your enemies. 'Pray for help from Allah, and (wait) in patience and constancy: for the earth is Allah's, to give as a heritage to such of His servants as He pleaseth; and the end is (best) for the righteous' (Koranic verse; Al-Araf; 7:128).

"Third, you must agree and be allies and be wary of disputes and disunity. Work as one tight-knit rank as God Almighty wishes. 'Truly Allah loves those who fight in His Cause in battle array, as if they were a solid cemented structure' (Koranic verse; Al-Saff; 61:4). God, to whom might and majesty belongs, said 'And obey Allah and His Messenger. and fall into no disputes, lest ye lose heart and your power depart; and be patient and persevering: For Allah is with those who patiently persevere' (Koranic verse; Al-Anfal; 8:46). The prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, stated, 'God's hand is with the united people' (Hadith). There is nothing worse for jihad than disunity and disputes. 'Be not like those who are divided amongst themselves and fall into disputations after receiving Clear Signs: (For them is a dreadful penalty)' (Koranic verse; Al-Imran; 3:105). Take the advice of our predecessors when they said, 'Disputes are evil.' They also said 'what you hate while united is better for you than what you love when disbanded.' Know that the unity of your ranks, the unity of your stands, and the cohesion of your group is tougher on the enemies of Almighty God than dozens of operations carried out against them.

"From here, the enemies of God's religion spread lies and madness until unity is disbanded, ranks are scattered, voices are divided, and hearts are alienated. God Almighty stated, 'If they had come out with you, they would not have added to your (strength)but only (made for) disorder, hurrying to and fro in your midst and sowings edition among you, and there would have been some among you who would have listened to them. But Allah knoweth well those who do wrong' (Koranic verse; Al-Tawba; 9:47).

"Dear brothers, sympathize with each other, be merciful, love one another, humble yourselves and be rightly hard on infidels but kind to each other, and may God render you as He described: 'O ye who believe! if any from among you turn back from his Faith, soon will Allah produce a people whom He will love as they will love Him, lowly with the Believers, mighty against the Rejecters, fighting in the Way of Allah, and never afraid of the reproaches of such as find fault. 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).

"Dear mujahidin brothers in Somalia, the enemies of Islam wanted, through this conspiracy, to place you between two choices and they do not care which one you follow. The first one is to accept the establishment of a secular and deviated state, decorated and headed with the appointment of an agent and a traitor who replaced an even worse agent, so they can circulate this state within their orbit and control it as they please, forcing you to believe its legitimacy and adhering to the decisions of their organizations, while wasting your efforts, burying your sacrifices in its graveyards and looting the wealth of your country in contrast to what you fought for. The second choice is to return Somalia, after it survived its misfortune, back to the era of the tribal pagan fighting and to the life of looting, stealing, ravishing, raping, criminal gangs, and highway robbers. By God, these infidels will not accept anything but one of those two choices, therefore you must expose their conspiracy and fail their mockeries and schemes through your

self-preservation and devout belief, holding unto God's strong faith, and uniting on a single word without evasion or elusion. Be careful not to be dragged into side battles which will weaken your strength, waste your efforts, and occupy you from what is ahead and important, enabling your enemies to move around freely and cheerfully, while conspiring and planning with confidence and relief.

"Therefore, you must aim your arrows at their chests, direct your battles at them, bolster your campaign against them, and reach their supporters behind them. 'And slacken not in following up the enemy: If ye are suffering hardships, they are suffering similar hardships; but ye have Hope from Allah, while they have none. And Allah is full of knowledge and wisdom' (Koranic verse, Al-Nisa 4:104).

"These people represent ruthlessness and violence. God, the Exalted, said 'O, ye who believe! Fight the unbelievers who gird you about, and let them find firmness in you: and know that Allah is with those who fear Him' (Koranic verse; Al-Tawbah 9:123).

"Fourth, dear beloved brothers, you should know that our religion does not differentiate between the blatant occupation and another that is covered up. The latter has been adapted by the West as a new method to control Muslim countries under flashing slogans like 'Peacekeeping Forces' and others that belong to either the UN, the African Union, or other regional or international organizations. Therefore, you should continue to carry out your attacks on the Ugandan forces that occupy your territory, so you would inflict them with what you have done to the crusader Ethiopian forces. Kill them everywhere you find them without distinction. Take them on, close in on them, and disable them through ambushes! You should announce that with your statements and actions.

"Somalia is a Muslim land which will only be ruled by Islam. Only Muslims can protect it. Peace is what we achieve through our strength and impose through our sacrifices. It is not what you impose on us. You have lied and by God, you will not take it. Defiance will remain as long as the sword is active. There is no truce until the horses strike the objective and the pure swords strike the skulls

"Fifth, give people the positions they merit, recognize them, be generous with those who are kind among them, protect the homes of those who died in the past, and elevate the position of their noble people, as well as leaders and masters of honor and pride! Bring those who are blessed among you to your side, especially those who have acquired knowledge! Be merciful to poor widows, orphans, and the elderly! Be good to the needy and the poor, and console those injured and others inflicted with calamities!

"Victory comes through those people, and the doors to the means of subsistence are open through them. The prophet, peace and prayer upon him, said 'Do you not achieve victory and gain subsistence through the weak ones among you' (Hadith). He also said 'Indeed Allah aids this ummah due to its weak ones, through their supplication, their prayer, and their purity of intention' (Hadith). Fulfill the requirements of God in order to achieve victory and control. God said, '(They are) those who, if We establish them in the land, establish regular prayer and give regular charity, enjoin the right and forbid wrong: with Allah rests the end (and decision) of (all) affairs' (Koranic verse; Al-Hajj 22:41).

"Our last prayer is 'Praise be to Allah, the Cherisher and Sustainer of the worlds' (Koranic verse; Al-Fatiha 1:2).