

Al-Zawahiri Condemns Annapolis Summit Participants

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

Terrorism : Al-Zawahiri Condemns Annapolis Summit Participants, Islamists Who Retracted Their Positions On 14 December, a jihadist website posted links to a 20-minute audio recording issued by Al-Sahab containing an audio message from Ayman Al-Zawahiri, the second-incommand of Al-Qa'ida, entitled, "Annapolis -- The Betrayal." In his speech, Al-Zawahiri condemned the Arab leaders who took part in the Annapolis Summit, especially Mahmud Abbas, whom he referred to as a "traitor." He then reassured the Palestinian people that the mujahidin will not forsake them, and asked them to rise up and resist the "Crusader-Zionist" plot. He also addressed the mujahidin in Al-Maghrib, and asked them to do the same. Several times in the speech, Al-Zawahiri made reference to former jihadists who have denounced violence. He promised that he will be speaking about these retractions at another time.

A translation of the audio statement follows:

"In the name of God, and praise be to God and prayers and peace be upon the messenger of God and his family, companions and those who support him

"Oh Muslim brothers everywhere, peace, mercy, and the blessings of God be upon you.

"Recently, the Annapolis Summit was held to Judaize Palestine. In the opening of the summit the Crusader Cesar of Washington gathered 16 Arab countries along with their crippled scrawny league and Secretary General Amr Musa, who is considered the first Secretary General for the Arab League who sits in one room, at one table with the Israelis. The governments and the Arab League were present as false witnesses to a new deal of the treachery to sell Palestine, which they often let down, abandoned, and handed to the Jews. Olmert stood in the summit inviting the Palestinians to admit the Judaism of Israel. He talked about the killing of the Jews and addressed the Arabs to adapt with them, while Mahmud Abbas stood and ignored the people who were killed and the starvation of the Palestinians. To complete the Crusader's cunning, America prepared a suggestion to present it to the Security Council that embodies what was agreed upon in the Annapolis Summit to issue a decision from the Security Council about it to enforce it upon the Muslim nation in Palestine and the entire homeland of Islam in the name of international legitimacy, their new religion.

"Here I am surprised by the position of the politicians, who have given up four-fifths of Palestine and assigned Mahmud Abbas to negotiate in the name of the Palestinians in the palaces of Mecca. Then at the end they departed giving out warnings and condemnation of the conference after they saw with their own eyes the disaster that they are driven to by the brother President Mahmud Abbas. After condemning the conference, is the traitor Mahmud Abbas still the 'brother president'? And is the collaborator Mahmud Abbas still invited for negotiations? And is the seller Mahmud Abbas the one whose legitimacy they acknowledge?

"Is it not time to return to the pure creed that does not recognize relinquishment, political tricks, and diplomatic deceptions, which lead to the loss of religion and life? Is it not time for you to announce it clearly and frankly that you are mujahidin who strive to arbitrate the Islamic law and you do not believe in the arbitration of the governorship of the multitudes and any other governorship than the governorship of the Koran and Sunnah? And that you strive to bring out the caliphate and that you are fighting so that the word of God would have the upper hand and

so that the entire religion will be for God? And that you are striving to liberate every occupied inch of the Islamic homeland from the Andalusia to Chechnya, and that you and all the mujahidin and the Muslims are engaged in one jihad for one Muslim nation against one Crusader-Zionist enemy?

"Is it not time for you to announce your guiltlessness from Mecca's agreement and from respecting the international agreements that sold Palestine and that you show disbelief, disavowal, and resist all that was imposed by the international Crusaders that they name international legitimacy to skin and Judaize Palestine? Hasn't the time come yet to announce that you are not a national liberation movement but rather a Muslim jihadist movement that is over and beyond the jihadist fanaticism and believes in the Islamic brethren and does not accept an exchange for the Islamic law? Is now not the time to extend the rope of brotherhood and love for all the Muslim jihadists including the mujahid of Chechnya, whom you have abandoned for fake Russian promises in a political affectation from which nothing was gained after it other than loss? Is it not time for you to realize who your true brothers are, who will never abandon you even if you labeled them terrorists and fanatics? They do not stop working to liberate Palestine and evoking the Muslim nation for this (liberate Palestine) even if you are bootlicking for the West by slandering them. Is it not time for you to admit that the mujahidin everywhere are closer to you and more loyal to you and truthful from Mahmud Abbas and Muhammad Dahlan and those who are of their ilk?

"Your best brother is the one who shares your hardship and where is the partner in the hardship, where, the one who if you were present you will be pleased by his greeting and if you were absent he was an eye and an ear like genuine rubies, if he was touched by fire he was revealed by this hardship and became more beautiful' (poetry).

"Why do you pretend to forget and ignore Abu Mus'ab al-Zarqawi, God bless his soul, who said that 'we are fighting in Iraq and our eyes are fixed on Bayt al-Maqdis (Jerusalem).' You remembered the brother president who does not hesitate to sell you in Annapolis and the others before it and after it.

Screenshot from the Al-Zawahiri Statement

"Why when I see my cousin Malik every time I approach him he goes away from me and distances himself and then tries to come closer by the ties of kinship with love, whenever there is an important matter; I witness it. 'If I were called to the grim I would be the defender, if the enemies come to you by force then do your best, and if they violate your honor then water them from the grail of death before giving out a warning, with nothing that I have done, as if I committed (something bad) then they slander me, insult me, and banish me. The oppression of those who are close to you is harder upon a person than the strike of the sword' (poetry).

"Our Muslim brethren in Palestine, we and all the Muslims and the mujahidin are with you in your jihad and your confrontation with the Crusader-Zionist enemy. We will not forsake you, God willing, no matter how much a group of your politicians retracts, gives in, or goes around in circles, even if they are members of Islamic movements, for the matter is a matter of religion and Islamic law. The matter is a matter of obligatory duty. The matter is a matter of one of the sites that are most holy to Islam which we redeem with our souls, our sons, our people, and our money.

"My Muslim brothers in Palestine: gather together under the banner of Islam and on the path to jihad for the sake of God. Reject these secular organizations that have sold you out in Madrid,

Oslo, Camp David, Wye River, Sharm al-Shaykh, and Annapolis. Have trust in your God, the Creator, the Giver of blessings, and depend on Him for 'those who fear Allah, He ever prepares a way out and provides for him in a manner beyond all expectation; and for everyone who places his trust in Allah He alone is enough. Verily, Allah always attains to His purpose and indeed, unto everything has Allah appointed its term and measure' (Koranic verse; Al-Talaq 65:3).

"As for the mufti (deliverer of Islamic advisory opinions) of Al Saud, who claims that his benefactor is the protector of the havens of the Muslims, the defender of their sanctuaries, their offspring, their kinsfolk, (he is) their barrier against the attacks of the enemies and the envy of the non-believers. We ask him: 'What do you say about the Annapolis Summit? Is it part of a series of selling out Palestine and renouncing her? Or is it a doorway to abundant wealth, copious gains as long as Abdullah Ibn Abd-al-Aziz has responded to it and as long as Saud Ibn Faisal has attended it as a false witness to the submission of the Crusaders? Provide us with your religious decree, oh you scholarly deliverer of opinions regarding the Annapolis Summit. Why do you not utter a word? Is it because you are waiting for what Al Saud will dictate to you who are waiting for what the Americans will dictate to them?

"As for those who are retractors, those who withdraw, those who are reformers, who have declared Husni Mubarak as a guardian of the Muslims and declared Sadat a martyr (after his death) and condemned the attack on America and were amazed about how the Taliban did not hand over Usama Bin Ladin, and how they did not benefit from the grants of the Americans and who swore to report those who had evil intentions for their guardian Husni Mubarak. I say to them: 'What do you say about Annapolis? Is it one of the deals of losing Palestine or is it a fruit of the fruits of the genius of your guardian and his son, the rising star in the skies of surrendering to the Americans? Is it a step in the Crusader-Zionist plan to take over the lands of Muslims, or is it another success in the path that was begun by your martyr, Sadat?'

"As for the retractors and the counselors who humiliate the jihadist, generous Muslim nation that offers many sacrifices and is strong in her God and her religion; they ask her to have patience and to quit, while her enemies do not cease stealing her bounty and her land and do not halt their attacks against her. They (the reluctant counselors) ask her to have patience and to quit, even though she is able with the grace of Almighty God and by the energies of her sons and her mujahidin, and to confront aggression. She was the one who confronted, with the aid of God, through her Muslim vanguards, the Crusader-American plan in Iraq and Afghanistan and ruined it. She transformed it (the plan) through continuous defeat and a gushing hemorrhage, as testified to by the Americans and not through the testimony of the retractors.

"Oh you retractors, let us hear your guidance and your corrections of the mistakes of the Annapolis Summit, as you have made us listen to your lengthy corrections regarding what you have claimed as the mistakes of the mujahidin. This is your guardian, the bloodthirsty betrayer, who sent his delegation to participate with the witnesses of the deal. What is your ruling of him? Is he one of the caliphs of the wise Muslim caliphate? Or is he a betrayer, a degenerate corrupter who has given power to the Jews and Crusaders? Provide us with your religious decree so that the truth may be revealed and so that the truth of the reconsideration, the retractions, the concessions, and the rationalizations may be revealed!

"I hereby address the lions in captivity to the overpowered majority in the prison camps of the Crusader campaign, who are proud of their faith, steadfast in truth and grasping of fiery embers. I say to them: Do not be astonished by the noise of the media regarding retractions and concessions. They will be revealed shortly. Here is the Annapolis Summit, which has quickly uncovered the truth about them.

"As for those who are reluctant about the truth who call for a new American religion which contradicts what God has given to the people and decreed in denying injustice and those who are unjust. When any Muslim looks -- however little his knowledge may be -- to all the noise made by the media that distributes the idea that a Muslim is required --when he sees his enemies assaulting him, his religion, his lands and his sanctuaries -- must remove himself, silence his voice, tranquilize himself, and surrender or he must look at the speech sent by two of those retractors to Husni Mubarak where they thank him for his efforts in serving Palestine. He (a Muslim) should then look at the government of Husni Mubarak and the rest of the Arab governments while they are driven by the American will to Annapolis to the Judaization of Palestine, will immediately realize that this American religion is not the true religion because it goes against what God has decreed to humans in terms of resisting injustice and fighting against it.

"This is the simple truth that was discovered by the combatant hajj (a person who has conducted pilgrimage in Mecca), Malik al-Shahbaz or Malcolm X, may God have mercy on his soul, as we have quoted him previously. That free, combating Muslim who battled injustice discovered that Islam is the religion of freedom when he said about his Muslim religion: 'I believe in a religion that believes in freedom and if ever there is a time where I would have to accept a religion that does permit me to go into battle for my people, then let that religion go to hell.'

"This is the simple great truth in Islam that Hajj Malik al-Shahbaz (Malcolm X) had discovered, may God rest his soul, when he accepted Islam. This is while the other so-called Muslim scholars, supported by the government's media campaign, attempt to conceal.

"This is why the Muslim nation must be very cautious from these fatwas and claims that attempt to inflict our nation with a disease that attacks its ability to defend itself against its Crusader and Jewish enemies.

"There is a scholar that approves of the campaign under the US flag to go to war against his Muslim brothers in Afghanistan, while another releases an edict forbidding the Muslims to answer the call to support their Muslim brothers without the approval of their caretakers (leaders), the agents of the Crusaders. A third insists that we must be silent and quiet and focus on our livelihood and raising our children as well as our lives since we are weak, frail, and disabled (unable to do otherwise). All these claims are in fact designed to be aligned with the welfare of the enemies of our nation and no one is happier than they are at such terms and therefore they will be the biggest advocate and supporter.

"My intention here is not to address these latest claims for I will address them in detail later, God willing. With the grace of God, we will expose all of them to the Muslim nation and we will expose the truth behind them. I am here to focus on their relation of the Annapolis Summit and its consequences on our nation in this dangerous phase of its history. Those behind these claims only desire to shift the focus from their weakness to our entire nation. In their blindness they failed to see the great victories that the nation is achieving in Afghanistan and Iraq that have exhausted the US plan to consume the region; this is with God's blessing.

"To our Muslim nation, this is just another new plot against Palestine and the homes (lands) of Islam. Stand by your brothers in Palestine, do not forsake their jihadists, and do not leave them alone between the hammer of the politicians and the Zionist-Crusaders' aggression.

"Stand by them with all that you can, with your lives, your money, your experience, your knowledge, your information, and your prayers. Go out and target the Crusaders and Zionists

wherever you may find them. I am also specifically calling on the Muslim nation in Egypt and say to it, where is your role in the repelling of the aggression against Muslims and Islam? How did you agree to turn Egypt into a base of supplies for the Crusaders' campaign against Muslims? Rise and rebel against this campaign by the Crusaders and the Jews, and beware of the poison of weakness and submission, which the collaborating regime is attempting to release in you using the speeches of the retractors, apologists, and advisors. Some of the brokers of retractions will try to release it (the poison) by claiming, while deceiving themselves before deceiving others that we must ally ourselves with Husni Mubarak to stand against Israel. Ask them, in what way do we ally ourselves with Husni Mubarak? In Oslo, Sharm al-Shaykh, or Annapolis? What do we agree upon? Should we agree to train thousands of Palestinian police members to take on the government of HAMAS or the shipment of weapons supplied to Mahmud Abbas and Muhammad Dahlan? Or should we support the enforcement of the blockade around Gaza to deny the jihadists the supplies and weapons as well as medical and food supplies from all the Palestinians? Or to the imprisonment and torture of anyone intending to support the jihadists in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Palestine? Or should we agree to the imprisonment of women, children, the sick at the Rafah crossing to obey the commands of Washington and Tel Aviv? Or the torture of thousands in Sinai to protect the corrupt Israeli trade there? Oh noble and free tribes of Sinai, I'm calling, instigating, and imploring you, by the righteousness of no god but God and your love of the messenger of God, peace and blessing be upon him. Oh soldiers of Islam and the pillars of Arabism, the founders of strength, morality, and nobility (to heed my call).

"Your grandfathers have emigrated from the Arabian Peninsula to join jihad in the name of God and to spread Islam and monotheism. This is while the regime of Mubarak today wants to make you servants and subjects of the corrupt trade of Israel in the resorts of Sinai. The regime of Mubarak, which has killed your youth, imprisoned your children, skinned (tortured) you, struck at your nerves, lifted (unjustly) the hijab (head cover) and niqab (face cover) from your daughters, encroached on your homes, and desecrated your honors, wants you to join him in the blockade against your brothers of faith and kinship in Palestine.

"But God wants you to rise up in the name of God, 'O ye who believe! what is the matter with you, that, when ye are asked to go forth in the cause of Allah, ye cling heavily to the earth? Do ye prefer the life of this world to the Hereafter? But little is the comfort of this life, as compared with the Hereafter' (Koranic verse; At-Tawbah 9:38)]."

"I (Also) direct my appeal to the soldiers and officers of the Egyptian army and I say to them, do not become aides to the Crusaders and Jews in the blockade of your brothers in Palestine. America wants to besiege the Muslims in the Gaza Strip between you and the Jews. Do not become the supporters of the Crusaders of the Jews, but become the supporters of God and his Messenger. 'O ye who believe! Be ye helpers of Allah. As said Jesus the son of Mary to the Disciples, Who will be my helpers to (the work of) Allah. Said the disciples? We are Allah's helpers! then a portion of the Children of Israel believed, and a portion disbelieved: But We gave power to those who believed, against their enemies, and they became the ones that prevailed' (Koranic verse; As-Saff 61:14). Pass along to your brothers in Palestine what they need in spite of the Crusaders and their agents.

"I (also) direct my appeal to the Muslims in the Western (Land of) Islam, the Maghrib of jihad and encampment, and I say to them, 'Your governments sent their delegations to Annapolis to witness the forfeiture of Palestine, while your brothers and sons the mujahidin, are sacrificing their lives and their blood in the jihad against the Crusaders and their agents that extend the

lines of friendship and treachery at the side of Israel. Stand with your brothers and your sons against the Zionist-Crusader and their agents.

"My Muslim nation, be my witness. We will not lay down our arms, stop our Jihad, abandon our doctrine, or forfeit Andalusia, Septa, or Me Lilia, Bosnia, Kosovo, Cypress, Jerusalem, Hayfah, Umm Al-Rashrash (District of Beersheba), or Baghdad, Kabul, Kashmir, or Groznyy, even if they hold a thousand summits in Oslo or Annapolis and a thousand summits in London or Salah al-Din (Iraq). The eyes of the cowards will not rest.

"Our last supplication is praise be to God, Lord of all creation and Peace and blessings upon Muhammad, and his family and companions.

"God's peace, blessings, and mercy be with you."