The Arab TV station al-Jazeera has broadcast an audiotape of two messages which it attributed to al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden. In the first message the voice calls on young Muslims to join a holy war against the Americans.

Praise be to God, Praise be to God, who says: "O Prophet! strive hard against the unbelievers and the Hypocrites, and be firm against them. Their abode is Hell - an evil refuge indeed."
May God's blessings be upon our prophet Mohammed, who says: He who is killed in defence of his property is a martyr; he who is killed in self-defence is a martyr; he who is killed in defence of his religion is a martyr; and he who is killed in defence of his family is a martyr.

This is the second message to our Muslim brothers in Iraq. O grandchildren of Sad, al-Muthanna, Khalid, al-Muanna, and Saladin. May God's peace, mercy, and blessings be upon you.

I greet you, your effort, and blessed Jihad. For you have massacred the enemy and brought joy to the hearts of Muslims, particularly the people of Palestine. May God reward you for that. You are to be thanked for your jihad. May God strengthen your positions and guide you to achieve your targets.

You should be pleased, for America has fallen into the quagmires of the Tigris and Euphrates. Bush thought that Iraq and its oil are easy spoils. Now, he is in a critical situation, praise be God. Today, America has started to cry out and crumble before the entire world.

Praise be to God, who foiled its plots and made it ask for help from the lowliest people and beg for the mercenary soldiers from the east and the west. No wonder you did these deeds to America and made it suffer in this way, for you are the sons of those great knights, who carried Islam eastward until they reached China.

Duty
Let it be known to you that this war is a new crusader campaign against the Muslim world, and it is a war that is crucial to the entire nation. Only God knows the extent of its serious repercussions and negative effects on Islam and Muslims.

O young people of Islam everywhere, especially in the neighbouring countries and in Yemen, you should pursue jihad and roll your sleeves up.

Follow the right path and be careful not to support the men who follow their whims, those who sat idle, or those who relied on oppressors. For those would seek to shake you and inhibit you from pursuing this blessed jihad.

There have been voices in Iraq, as there were in Palestine, Egypt, Jordan, Yemen, and other countries before, calling for a peaceful, democratic solution in dealing with the apostate governments or the Jewish and crusader invaders instead of fighting for the cause of God.
It was thus imperative to draw attention in brief to the seriousness of this wrong, misleading approach, which is against God's law and which inhibits fighting for His sake.

Innocent

For how can you obey, when jihad becomes a duty, those who never fought for the sake of God? Will you not learn a lesson? It was those who obstructed the efforts of the honest men of the nation.

They relied on the whims of people and on democracy - the religion of the pre-Islam era - to join legislative councils. They have gone far astray and misled many people.

Why do they join the council of polytheism - the legislative council of representatives, which Islam destroyed - thus destroying the pillars of religion? What was left for them?

They claim that they are on the right path, but they are doing a great wrong. God knows that Islam is innocent of their deeds, for Islam is the religion of God. The legislative councils of representatives are the religion of the pre-Islam era.

He who obeys the leaders or scholars in permitting what God banned, such as joining the legislative councils, or banning what He permitted, such as jihad for His sake, would be associating other gods with Him. God is our sole source of strength.

The recording also included a message to the American people and US soldiers fighting in Iraq.

Praise be to God. There is to be no transgression except on the ones that do injustice to others.

From Osama Bin Mohammed Bin Laden to the American people regarding your aggression on Iraq.

I greet those that follow the guidance of God. O American people, some people pictured you as a great people. It turned out that most of you are riff-raff who do not have any share in great ethics. You elect the evildoers from among you who tell many lies and are impolite.

You are being enslaved by those who have the most money, the most influential ones, and those who have the strongest news media, particularly the Jews, who are dragging you behind them under the trick of democracy in order to support the Israelis and their schemes and hostility to our religion and at the expense of our blood and land, as well as at the expense of your blood and economy.

Events have proven this. The fact that you were driven to the Iraqi war, in which you have no interest whatsoever, is evidence of this. Bush came with his hard-booted, hard-hearted gang.

This gang is a huge evil on all humanity, its blood, money, environment, and morality. They came to deal strong and consecutive blows to honesty that is the basis of morality, each from the position he holds, until they professionally rendered it dead before the world.

With this behaviour of theirs, they encouraged hypocrisy, corrupted people, and spread political bribery at the level of heads of state with no shame.
Morality

This gang and their leader do not find anything wrong with lying, war, theft, and robbery if it would serve their personal greed. Their fangs drip blood from the corpses of the children of Vietnam and Somalia and the children of Afghanistan and Iraq.

They did not care about you, went behind your backs, invaded Iraq once again, and lied to you and the whole world. It has been said: a nation's strength is in its morality; if the morality of the people of any nation was to deteriorate they would cease to exist.

Bush has pushed your children into the mouth of the lion so that they will slaughter others and get slaughtered, claiming that this is in defence of international peace and America. In so doing, he hides the true motive.

On the one hand, he implements the demands of the Zionist lobby, which helped him enter the White House, to destroy the military power of Iraq, which neighbours the Jews in occupied Palestine. In so doing, he shows absolute indifference to the repercussions on your blood and economy.

On the other hand, he conceals his own greed and the ambitions of this lobby in Iraq and its oil. He is still thinking in the mentality of his ancestors who used to kill the red Indians to seize their lands and loot their wealth.

He thought that the matter would be easy spoils and a short trip that would not end in failure. However, God had those lions waiting for him in Baghdad, the home of the Islamic caliphate, the lions of the desert who believe that the taste of death in their mouths is better than honey.

Shattered pride

They, praise be God, turned his gains into losses and his joy into sorrow. Bush is now like the one who would be pleased to relinquish the spoils if he comes back safe. Praise be to God who uncovered his lies and exposed his motives and brought more calamities to you under his rule.

I tell Bush that appealing for help from the world around you and begging for mercenary soldiers from everywhere, even from the small countries, has shattered your pride, insulted your prestige, and exposed your powerlessness after you used to defend the world in its entirety. You are now like the one who used to defend people with his own sword, but now he looks for others to defend him.

Let the unjust ones know that we maintain our right to reply, at the appropriate time and place, to all the states that are taking part in this unjust war, particularly Britain, Spain, Australia, Poland, Japan, and Italy. The Islamic world's states that are taking part in this war, particularly the Gulf states, mainly Kuwait, the land base for the Crusader forces, will not be excluded from this.

I also tell the US soldiers in Iraq: After the daylight emerged and the biggest liar and his true nature were exposed, your continued presence in Iraq is compound injustice and a great folly. You are selling your life for the sake of others.
So, your blood is being shed in order to increase the assets of the White House's gang and their partners of the arms dealers and owners of the conniving big companies. The most stupid person is the one who sells his life for the sake of others.

Injustice

Concluding, I tell the American people: God willing, we will continue to fight you. We will continue the martyrdom operations inside and outside the United States until you end your injustice, abandon your stupidity, and curb your insolent fellows.

You should know that we count our killed ones, may God have mercy on their souls, particularly those killed in Palestine at the hands of your allies, the Jews. So, we will punish you for them, God willing, just like what happened on the New York day. Just remember what I told you at the time about our security and your security.

As for Baghdad, the Caliphate house, God willing, you will never take it. We will fight you as long as we have weapons in our hands, and if these weapons fall, our sons will pick them up. Let our mothers be bereaved if we leave any trace of you on our land.

How can a person sleep when his main concern is to remove injustice? You will never be able to take Baghdad as long as there is a sword in our hand.

We fight those who fight us and chop off their heads with our swords. There will be no peace until infidelity is defeated. God suffices us, and He is our supporter, and you do not have any supporter.