

Dr. Ayman Al-Zawahiri On The Second Anniversary of 911

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Here is the complete text, uncut and uncensored, of remarks by Sheikh Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri, Al-Qaida's number two man, on the occasion of the second anniversary of the attacks on New York and Washington made via audio tape sent to Arab television channel Al Jazeera and broadcast in part Wednesday September 10th, 2003.

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On The Occasion Of The Second Anniversary Of The Attacks On New York And Washington
In The Name Of God, The Merciful, The Mercy-Giving
In The Name Of God. Praise Be To God

And peace and blessings on the messenger of God and his family and companions and supporters.

The second anniversary of the attacks on New York and Washington is now upon us. It reminds us of the sacrifice of our heroic nineteen brothers, who with their blood recorded a page of American history, a rejection by the Muslims of America's arrogance and tyranny, an expression of their pride in their religion, their belief, and their dignity, and their determination to avenge the Muslims and oppressed of humankind.

The second anniversary of the attacks on New York and Washington comes as a challenge to America and its crusader campaign as it reels from the wounds it has sustained in Afghanistan and Iraq. It exposes its deception as it conceals the extent of its losses in those two lands. On this anniversary we wish to address the peoples of the crusader campaign states, in order to tell them this:

We are not advocates of killing and destruction. But with the help of God we will cut off any hand that reaches out to us in aggression. We are telling you: Enough deviance in belief! Enough degeneration in behavior! Cease your attacks upon the people and property of the oppressed! Enough of this trading in slogans about "freedom and justice," and "human rights"! We call you to Islam, the religion of the oneness of God; of justice, temperance, purity, and might. If you reject Islam, at least put a halt to your aggression against our Islamic world community. For decades you have been killing our women and children, stealing our wealth, and supporting tyrants who brutally dominate our community.

If you refuse to do anything but continue your aggression, then expect us to respond to you with every means that you have used against the Muslims and against all the oppressed of the children of humanity. If you refuse to do anything but continue your aggression, then we say: "come on, go ahead" for you will be heading for the abyss. Know that a community exists that prefers death in God's cause over life in humiliation and is a community that with God's grace can never be defeated.

Two years have now passed since the attacks on New York and Washington, and since the start of your crusader campaign. What have you harvested from this period? Which one of us was the more truthful in his statements? Us or your greatest criminals, Bush and Blair?

Your greatest criminals promised you that terrorism would be crushed. They seduced you with the oil of Iraq and the promise that you could dominate it. Do you find that they have fulfilled their promises? Have you seen us bowing, begging, and surrendering? Or do we ask God's help and attack, become martyrs, and pursue you everywhere?

Your greatest criminals promised you that they would crush Al-Qaida in order to make your lives secure. Has Al-Qaida met its end, despite all the ferocious dirty wars that have been waged against it? Or has it spread, expanded, and increased the number of its supporters, by the grace and power of God? Are your lives now secure? Or do you move from one fear to another, from one alarm to another?

Do you remember the pledge made by the mujahid, Sheikh Osama bin Laden, may God preserve him, that America will never enjoy security until we live in real security in Palestine and in all the lands of Islam? Has he been true to his word to you? Or have Bush and Blair told you the truth about their crusader campaign?

Do you know what Al-Qaida is? It is the product of a Muslim world community that has decided to fight you to the death, refusing to surrender to your crimes and excesses! Can you crush the whole Muslim world community?!

We wish to inform you and to tell you that what you have seen so far is nothing but the first skirmishes, just the beginning of the battle. The real epic has not yet begun. So prepare yourselves for retaliation for your crimes.

We call on you to stop and make a true accounting of yourselves in which you review your crimes against the Muslims. Then ask the greatest of your criminals about the real extent of your losses in Iraq and Afghanistan. We challenge them to have the courage to tell you frankly. But they are too cowardly for that. We advise the mothers of the crusader soldiers: if you hope to see your children, hurry to demand that their governments send them home before they return in coffins.

On this anniversary, we address our Muslim brothers in Palestine:

We can affirm to you that the wound of Palestine bleeds in the heart of every Muslim, and that, with the help and power of God, we will not let America dream of security until we live in real security in Palestine and all the lands of Islam.

We call on the Palestinians to be firm on the path of jihad and not to be taken in by the deception of America and its agents who put their blessings on the Road Map to hell. Palestine will not be liberated except by jihad.

Beware! Beware! Beware of laying down your weapons! You must hold fast to the principle of supporting the Believers and opposing the infidels, for unity cannot be attained any other way. Beware of forming alliances with those who recognize the legitimacy of Israel and are happy to receive its crumbs.

As to our brothers the Mujahideen in Iraq:

We salute you and shake your hands and ask God to bless your sacrifices and heroism in fighting the crusaders. We say to the Iraqis: God is with you and the whole Muslim world community supports you. So rely on God and devour the Americans as lions devour their prey. Bury them in the graveyard of Iraq, for victory is only a matter of one hour of patient perseverance.

Muslims around Iraq! People of Syria, the land of the fastnesses, men of the victorious community! People of Turkey, descendants of Muhammad the Conqueror, may God bless him! People of the Arabian Peninsula, descendants of the Prophet's Companions, may God be pleased with them, vanguards of the jihad in Afghanistan, Bosnia, and Chechnya!

The Americans have come to you on their way to Iraq. So rise to teach them a lesson. Give them a taste of the death from which they flee.

To our brother Muslims in Pakistan we say:

How long will you be patient with Musharraf, the traitor who sold out the blood of the Muslims in Afghanistan and handed over the Arab emigrant Mujahideen, the descendants of the Companions of the Prophet, to crusader America? If it had not been for his treason, the lackey government in Kabul would not have been set up - the government that has brought the Indians to the western borders of Pakistan.

He did not stop there but subjugated Pakistan's nuclear facilities to American inspection. He strangled the jihad in Kashmir and is striving to sell it out and then to recognize Israel, and all this for a handful of dollars that America stuffs in his pocket. A person who sells out his religion will never sacrifice for anybody else. Therefore, let Pakistani officers and their men know that Musharraf will hand them over to the Indians as prisoners just as Yahya Khan handed Dakka to them and then fled abroad to enjoy his secret accounts. The Muslims in Pakistan today must stand together in one rank to protect Pakistan from the crusader campaign that is forging an alliance with the Hindus against the Muslims.

Let those who have weak souls know that America does not return good to anyone and recognizes only its own interests. Let them know that America is forging an alliance with India against the Muslims in the Subcontinent. Move, Muslims in Pakistan, before you awaken from slumber to find Hindu soldiers bursting into your homes with the connivance of America.

To our Muslim brothers in Afghanistan:

We bring you good news that victory is near, by the grace of God. The Americans are now retreating before your blows. So do not allow them to flee. Bury them in Afghanistan together with their English allies.

As for those who threw themselves at the feet of the crusaders in Kabul, those who formerly were associated with the jihad, we say to them that the Americans will get rid of you after they have got all they need from you and you will have gained disgrace in this world and will have lost the hereafter. So pay attention to what the Qur'an has ruled regarding you, where God says:

"And you see those in whose heart is a disease racing toward them saying, 'We fear lest a change of fortune befall us.' And it may happen that God will grant you victory or a commandment from Himself. Then some morning they will awaken regretful about what they have concealed within

themselves." Qur'an 5:52

To our Muslim world community in all the lands of Islam we say:

The lesson that we have learned from the past two years is that victory comes with patient perseverance, and that our enemy is extremely weak. So be firm, Muslims, in the field of jihad.

Political solutions are good for nothing. Demonstrations will not defeat an enemy. Take up your weapons and defend your creed and your dignity. The interests of your enemies are spread out everywhere. So deny them security anywhere and in any place, even on their own ground.

We praise God to you that He has gladdened us by embroiling the Americans in Iraq after Afghanistan. The Americans in both countries are now between two fires; if they withdraw they lose everything. But if they stay, they will bleed to death.

Know Muslims, the crusaders and the Jews cannot take our countries except by the treason of lackey leaders and their supporters among the rulers' Ulema who have sold out the lands of Islam to its enemies. So hasten with all that you possess - the weapon of knowledge - so that the call may reach every group in the Muslim world community.

To those lions being held in chains, the Muslim prisoners everywhere, we say:

"Truly with hardship must come ease, truly with hardship must come ease" Qur'an 94:5-6

"So patiently persevere, for God's help is near" Qur'an 2:214

And know that your relief is a debt owed by every Muslim. We pledge to God that we will spare nothing to break your fetters with the help and power of God.

As to those who make bargains in order to turn in Muslim prisoners to their crusader enemies, we inform them that the crusaders will sweep down upon them even though they sell them their own wives and children. We tell them that theirs will be an evil legacy in the history of Islam together with the traitors, lackeys, and those who sold out their religion, and then will come God's punishment in the hereafter.

"And how wretched is what they buy!" Qur'an 3:187

Let them know that handing over Muslim prisoners to their enemies is a crime that must be punished. It is a matter with grave consequences.

The Muslim world community today is uniting by the grace of God around the banner of jihad against its crusader and Jewish enemies. A new dawn of might and dignity is breaking over the lands of Islam. The Muslim community has learned the path of victory, martyrdom, and sacrifice in God's cause.

Muslim world community! This age of jihad has begun after governments and parties have crumbled. So have faith in the help of God. Storm the fields of jihad. God the Exalted told his Prophet, may peace and blessings be upon him,

"So fight in the way of God, since you are only held responsible for yourself. Encourage believers; perhaps God will fend off the violence of those who disbelieve. God is Strongest when

things come to violence, and Sternest in punishment." Qur'an 4:84

Our last prayer is for praise to God, the Lord of the Universe, And may the blessings of God and peace be upon our master Muhammad, his family and companions.

Ayman Al-Zawahiri
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