

Al-Libi's Id Sermon Criticizes Pakistani Army, Urges Palestinian Salafis To Unite

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

On 27 October, a forum participant posted to a jihadist website several links to a 45-minute 36-second video message by Al-Qa'ida key figure Abu-Yahya al-Libi entitled "Id Al-Fitr Sermon, Shawwal 1430 (corresponding to September/October 2009)." In this video, Al-Libi criticizes President Obama's Cairo speech and policies that kill "dozens in Afghanistan every day." He lashes Pakistani Army for fighting the Muslims, refuses coexistence with other sects. He urges the Islamic state of Iraq and the Ansar al-Islam groups to unite, and he asks Salafi groups in Palestine to shun division. At the end of the video, blurry footage shows the congregation shaking hands and one of them looks like he could be Usama Bin Laden. The video was produced by the Al-Sahab Establishment for Media Production and disseminated by the Al-Fajr Media Center.

A translation of the video message follows:

"Praise be to God. We thank Him, seek His help, and ask His forgiveness. We seek refuge in God from the evil within ourselves and our ill deeds. Whoever God guides cannot be led astray and whomever He leads astray, for him there is no guide. I testify that there is no god but God. He is alone and has no partner. He supported His servant, dignified His soldiers, and defeated the confederates alone.

"I testify that Muhammad is His servant and messenger; His chosen one and friend. God sent him with guidance and the true religion to support him over all religions against the will of the infidels. God's prayers be upon him, his household, his chosen, pious, and righteous companions, and upon whoever followed his steps and his tradition day and night.

"O beloved believing brothers,

"'Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam' (Partial Koranic verse, Al Imran, 3:102). 'Reverence Allah, through whom ye demand your mutual (rights), and (reverence) the wombs (That bore you): for Allah ever watches over you' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Nia, 4:1).

"Fear God for it is the beginning, middle, and end of the whole matter. By this fear, the winners achieved their victory. 'It is such as obey Allah and His Messenger, and fear Allah and do right, that will win (in the end)' (Koranic verse, Al-Nur, 24:52). 'Take a provision (With you) for the journey, but the best of provisions is right conduct. So fear Me, o ye that are wise' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Baqarah, 2:197).

"By this fear, the peaceful has gained their security. 'Behold! verily on the friends of Allah there is no fear, nor shall they grieve. Those who believe and (constantly) guard against evil' (Koranic verses, Yunus, 10:62-63).

"The fear of God, Exalted and Sublime be He, is the supply of the believer in this long journey until he meets God, Exalted and Sublime be He. The fear of Almighty God is the door to relief and conquest. It is the door to the livelihood and blessings of God. 'And for those who fear Allah, He (ever) prepares a way out. And He provides for him from (sources) he never could imagine.

And if any one puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is ((Allah)) for him. For Allah will surely accomplish his purpose: verily, for all things has Allah appointed a due proportion' (Partial Koranic verses, Al-Talaq, 65:2-3).

"We ask God, Exalted and Sublime be He, to make us and you among the God-fearing, who fear Him covertly and overtly.

"O beloved brothers,

"God is Great. God is Great. God is Great. God is Great and praise be to Him. God is Great. God is Great. He is Great whenever the fasting people fast. He is Great whenever they break their fasting. God is Great whenever the hailers hail for Him and the worshipers say 'God is Great.' God is Great whenever the people compete in pleasing God.

"The month of Ramadan is over. Its days and nights have gone. Its fasting and prayers have ended. Blessed be those who were guided by God, Exalted and Sublime be He, to fast its days as fasting should be and pray in its nights as prayers should be. 'That is the supreme felicity' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Tawbah, 9:72).

"Ramadhan is the (month) in which was sent down the Qur'an, as a guide to mankind' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Baqarah, 2:185). 'Fasting is prescribed to you as it was prescribed to those before you, that ye may (learn) self-restraint' (Koranic verse, Al-Baqarah, 2:183).

"Blessed be those who spent its nights in prayer, poured out their sins, and covertly worshipped their God. O God, there is no god but You. Praise be upon You, for I was among the transgressors.

"O beloved brothers,

"Today is a feast. Yes, it is a feast and festival because one of the most glorious worships is over. During this worship, the person curbs his lusts, food, and beverage in order to please God, Exalted and Sublime be He.

"Speaking the words of his Lord, the Prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him, said: 'Every good deed of the son of Adam will be multiplied, but fasting is exceptional, for it is done for Me and I will give reward for it.'

"Whoever fasts the month of Ramadan, out of faith and in anticipation of God's reward, his past sins and those to follow forgiven for him. Whoever prays at night in Ramadan, out of faith and in anticipation of God's reward, his sins to follow will all be forgiven. There is a specific night (Laylat al-Qadr) that is the greatest of all nights. It is better than a thousand months.

"Blessed be those who were enabled to pray on this night. Yet, alas and woe to those who wasted the month of Ramadan in diversion, frivolity, and triviality. Alas to those who wasted the month of Ramadan sitting in front of television screens and satellite channels, laughing and playing! By God, this is a great loss.

"Gifts from Almighty God and blessings and rewards from the Lord of heaven and earth, Exalted and Sublime be He, as mercy to His servants and compassion to the ummah of His Prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him.

"Today is a feast. However, O brothers, a feast for whom? Is it a feast for the persecuted and displaced who were victims of the criminal infidels in the east and west of the earth; in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Swat, Waziristan, Somalia, and other places?

"A feast for whom? Is it a feast for the prisoners, the chained and suppressed, who complain to Almighty God of the injustice, oppression, and arrogance of the tyrants? A feast for whom? Is it a feast for the helpless, to whom the earth seemed constrained, who can not find any support or guidance? A feast for whom? Is it a feast for the widows, orphans, poor, weakened, and disabled men, women, and children who are besieged and smothered in Palestine?

"Yes, it is a feast for all of those. It is the feast of the ummah of Islam. O brothers, Id al-Fitr was made as a joy for Muslims as the Prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him, said: 'Every people have their feast and this is our feast.'

"We wish to rejoice in Id al-Fitr and in Id al-Adha. However, happiness refused to come to us or fill our hearts while we see the condition of our miserable ummah, which was dominated by the vile and infidels of the grandsons of apes and swine (REFERENCE to Jews) and their lackeys and quislings among the Christians and apostates.

"O brothers,

"The Id al-Fitr was filled with lessons and warnings. Thus, we have some topics about it. The first of these topics is that Id al-Fitr was made as a ceremony after the end of the month of Ramadan as the Prophet, God's prayers and peace be upon him, said: 'He who fasts has two joys: a joy when he breaks his fast and a joy when he meets his Lord.'

"However, O brothers, our Id (holiday) is not like other people's holidays. Our Id is worship to God, the Great and Almighty. It is opened with praising God, interposed with sadaqat al-fitr (obligatory alms given at the end of Ramadan), and ended with prayers. Indeed, it is an Id about which the lawgiver granted liberty for Muslims. They can rejoice and entertain themselves with anything that is not prohibited by Almighty God. Nevertheless, for us, Id is an act of obedience and worship to God, the Great and Almighty. It is no way similar to the holidays of the people of worldly inclinations which are filled with frivolity, impudence, vices, and deviations. Our Id is an act of worship to God, the Great and Almighty. This is the difference between us and the people of worldly inclinations in all matters. We are mere servants to God, the Great and Almighty, and our battle with the people of disbelief is nothing but a battle of being true servants to God.

"We want to be servants to God. We want all people to be servants to God, the Great and Almighty, either willingly or forcefully. As for the enemies of God, especially the tyrants among them whose adage is 'Pharaoh said: "O Chiefs! no god do I know for you but myself' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Qasas, 28:38), everyone of them is promoting servitude to himself. People have been humiliated in order to worship those tyrants. Indeed, our battle, brothers, between us and those infidels, is nothing but a battle to achieve servitude to God, the Great and Almighty. It is the servitude which all the prophets and apostles were sent to promote. Almighty God said: 'Not an apostle did We send before thee without this inspiration sent by Us to him: that there is no god but I; therefore worship and serve Me' (Koranic verse, Al-Anbiya, 21:25).

"Almighty God further said: 'For We assuredly sent amongst every People an apostle, (with the Command), "Serve Allah, and eschew Evil' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Nahl, 16:36).

"O brothers, we must be aware of this matter. We are servants to God in all our moves. 'Truly, my prayer and my service of sacrifice, my life and my death, are (all) for Allah, the Cherisher of the Worlds: No partner hath He: this am I commanded, and I am the first of those who bow to His will.' (Koranic verses, Al-An'am, 6:162-163).

"There is no such thing as rendering to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and leave to God what belongs to God. The whole creation belongs to Almighty God. 'Do they seek for other than the Religion of Allah.-while all creatures in the heavens and on earth have, willing or unwilling, bowed to His Will (Accepted Islam), and to Him shall they all be brought back' (Koranic verse, Al-Imran, 3:83).

"Therefore, o brothers, our battle is all about establishing servitude to God. Any Islamic group, either a preaching group or a jihadist one, that does not dedicate all its efforts to making all people servants to God is a deviated group no matter how big it is or how famous it is. 'For the scum disappears like froth cast out; while that which is for the good of mankind remains on the earth' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Ra'd, 13:17).

"Therefore, o brothers, it is imperative that our banner, call, jihad, sacrifices, and efforts be for the sake of establishing servitude to God, the Great and Almighty. We do not accept the situation where part of the whole affair belongs to God and the other part belongs to other than God, or part belongs to Obama and the other part belongs to God, or part belongs to Qaddafi and the other part belongs to God, part to Abdallah -- how many Abdallah's do we have? Many, right... and the other part to God. No, the whole affair belongs to God, the Great and Almighty. The Prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, said: 'I was sent with the sword before the Day of Judgment, until Allah is worshipped alone.'

"Therefore, we are not a group that is concerned with finding economic solutions. We are not a group that is concerned with building skyscrapers. We are not a group that is concerned with finding solutions to social problems. All these problems were a result of people's deviations, and occurred after the people accepted to be servants to other than God, the Great and Almighty.

"Therefore, our Id is a token of our servitude to God, the Great and Almighty. This is our first point of discussion.

"Our second point of discussion is to say that this Id represents a declaration of distinction between Islam and Jahiliyah (pre-Islamic era.) Anas, may God be pleased with him, said: 'When the Prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, came to Medina when its citizens had two days of festivities (the Arabs had two days of festivities in pre-Islamic time), the Prophet said: "What are those two days?" They said: "We used to celebrate them in pre-Islamic time." He said: "Allah has offered you two better alternative days; Day of Al-Adha and Day of Al-Fitr."

"Therefore, there is no meeting point between Islam and Jahiliyah. One replaces the other. 'Allah has offered you two better alternative days,' which means that Muslims should discard the festivities of Jahiliyah and hold fast to the festivities of Islam. Muslims have two Ids, Id al-Fitr, and Id al-Adha.

"As for today, the festivities of Jahiliyah are innumerable. There is Mother's Day, there is Valentine's Day, there is Olive Day, there is Woman's Day, there is Children's Day, there is National Day, there is Liberation Day, there is Independence Day, and the list goes on.

"Therefore, Islam came to establish a distinction between it and between Jahiliyah. This is why Muslims were asked to emigrate from Mecca. The Prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, remained preaching for God and for worshiping God alone, without partner, for 13 years in Mecca. When it became too difficult for him to carry on and when his companions got hurt, he was ordered to migrate. The Prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, for the sake of Islam, for the sake of monotheism, and for the sake of establishing servitude to God alone, with no partners, for the sake of all this he left the place which was the dearest to him and to Almighty God. He left his people, home, property, family, and children and migrated to another place where he would be a stranger among its people, just to please God, the Great and Almighty.

"Therefore, O brothers, the hijrah (migration) was ordained. Accordingly, if it happens that there is a land in which a force for Muslims and a force for infidels exists, there is no way that the two forces will co-exist.

"There is no means for co-existence, which some contemporary insane and defeated people are calling for. What kind of co-existence are you calling for? Is there a means of co-existence? Why? Because a long time ago, the infidels raised a slogan among themselves, which has been passed down. What is this slogan? The slogan is as follows: 'And the Unbelievers said to their apostles: "Be sure we shall drive you out of our land, or ye shall return to our religion" (Partial Koranic verse, Ibrahim, 14:13).

"There are no options. You have to join our religion, the religion of infidelity. If you become democratic, modern, or Western, the people will be content with you and praise and recognize you as a moderate and balanced Muslim. The only reason for this is that the pre-Islamic people become content with you.

"If they did not meet success in this selection, then the following verse applies: "Be sure we shall drive you out of our land, or ye shall return to our religion" (Partial Koranic verse, Ibrahim, 14:13). Thus, you are living in estrangement. This is because the pre-Islamic people were unable to coexist with you. You are displaced and wanted people and the whole world rejected your stay. This has no negative impact on us. This has no negative impact on us as long as the Lord of the skies and lands is content with us.

"For this reason, the immigration was legitimized. If there was no immigration, war would be inevitable. 'I was sent with the sword until only God is worshiped' (a saying by the Prophet Muhammad). Therefore, the Prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, has ordered the companions of the Prophet to abandon the idols that were worshipped in the pre-Islamic era. This is one of the simplest matters in the religion of Islam. How will we view the ideology of those who call for coexisting with them in their creeds, policies, laws, regulation, rulings, etc.?

"What kind of call is this? Are we really calling for the religion of God, Exalted be He, or calling for the things that we are interested in and will make those infidels content? We have to be frank with ourselves. What is this coexistence, which the Prophet Muhammad, prayers and peace be upon him, was unable to establish among his people and in his house and homeland, but which we have discovered in the 21st century? Based on this discovery, we started to call for coexistence and to mix with these people.

"This is a defeated, overwhelmed, and retracted call and its caller is insane. O brothers, one of the calls of Islam is separation. That does not mean that people should escape to the mountain peaks and rush to the valleys or the fields. This is not what I mean. However, the Muslim person should live with his real Islam. Yes, we know that the man who socializes with people and

tolerates their harmful acts is better than the one who does not socialize with the people and does not tolerate their harmful acts.

"However, this socializing does not mean mixing with infidels and becoming a part of them until you can not differentiate between the Muslim and the infidel in their behaviors and appearances. Then you come and say that you preach for Almighty God. What kind of call is this?

"O brothers, the Islamic religion has an obvious and clear path that can not be mistaken. 'Say thou: 'This is my way: I do invite unto Allah, - on evidence clear as the seeing with one's eyes, - I and whoever follows me' (Partial Koranic verse, Yusuf, 12:108). 'Therefore stand firm (in the straight Path)' (Partial Koranic verse, Hud, 11:112). Say that I trust God's path. You should call upon this as you were ordered by God and not follow their interests. 'Then We put thee on the (right) Way of Religion: so follow thou that (Way), and follow not the desires of those who know not' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Jathiya, 45:18).

"Then, there is the Shari'ah from Almighty God, which we were ordered to follow and not ever run after the interests of those who know nothing. Who are those people who know nothing? They are Bush, Obama, and George, and all these people. What do these people know? What is the religion they know, which makes us search for what makes them content? Is it possible for a human to make Obama content while maintaining the contentment of Almighty God? Thus, when this black crow came and delivered his speech in Egypt, people clapped for him as if the one delivering the speech is Umar Bin-Abd-al-Aziz, may God be pleased with him.

"We reached the point where some riffraff who are affiliated with knowledge praised, commended, and extolled him in the newspapers and magazines in a way that was never done by the intimate companions of these infidels. What kind of call is this? Do those people not fear God? Do they not fear the day when they will meet Almighty God and get asked about every single word they have written?

"Glory be to God, Obama has become the holder of the slogan of change and the owner of the slogan of openness. Through this openness, scores of people are being killed in Afghanistan on a daily basis and nobody hears of them. If these people were killed in Riyadh, Kuwait, or United Arab Emirates, the world would stand up and protest. However, these people are needy, weak, and poor. They live in the tents, valleys, around the mountains, and under the trees. Thus, nobody hears of them. Accordingly, this criminal deserves to be praised and commended!

"O brothers, we need to make our call to the religion of God, Exalted be He, clear and unmistakable. We call upon people to make the entire religion for God and become worshipers of Him. We call upon people to make the ruling for God, a ruling which is not subjugated to the East or the West. We got bored of these houses which are sometimes called the red house and other times called the White House. Let us rule according to Almighty God's will for once. Then, this is the second point of the blessed Id al-Fitr. I say these words and I supplicate God to forgive me and you. Prayers and peace be upon the Prophet Muhammad.

"Praise be to God, whom we ask for His support and forgiveness. We seek his shelter from the evil of ourselves and the sins of our actions. He who is guided by God cannot be led astray, and he who is led astray cannot be guided. I testify that there is no God but God and that He has no partner. I testify that the Prophet Muhammad is His worshiper and messenger, prayers and peace be upon him, his household, and his entire companions.

"As for the third point, brothers, this Id proves that the Muslim should be surrendered, directed, and succumbed to the rulings of Almighty God, glory be to Him. Almighty God is never asked about his deeds but the worshipers are asked about theirs. Yesterday, the Iftar was prohibited by God, however today fasting became prohibited. Yesterday, fasting was a duty, however today the fasting became prohibited and tomorrow it will be desirable. These are the rulings of God. God legitimizes them according to His will for a reason that He exclusively knows. Thus, the Muslim should always be used to subjugation and following God's rulings without having any objections regarding his thinking, traditions, habits, laws, policies or otherwise.

"The answer of the believers when summoned to Allah and His Messenger, in order that He may judge between them, is no other than this: "We hear and we obey": it is such as these that will attain felicity' (Koranic verse, Al-Nur, 24:51). 'Thou wilt not find any people who believe in Allah and the Last Day, loving those who resist Allah and His Messenger' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Mujadilah, 58:22).

"Almighty God said: 'But no, by the Lord, they can have no (real) Faith, until they make thee judge in all disputes between them, and find in their souls no resistance against Thy decisions, but accept them with the fullest conviction' (Koranic verse, Al-Nisa, 4:65).

"Some of the scholars who explained the Koran said that this verse was revealed based on the story of two men who fought against each other. The story says that two men fought against each other and went to the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, in order to arbitrate between them. So the Prophet arbitrated in favor of one man against the other. The convicted man did not accept the judgment and demanded to go to Abu Bakr, may God be pleased with him, in order to arbitrate between them. They went to Abu Bakr and told him their story. He told them that they should accept the judgment of the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him. Once again, the convicted did not accept and demanded to go to Umar, may God be pleased with him, in order to arbitrate between them. They went to Umar and told him the story. When Umar knew that this man did not accept the judgment of the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, he asked the other man if the story was true, and the man said yes. Umar asked them to wait and he will arbitrate between them. He went inside his house, brought his sword, and cut off the head of the man who did not accept the judgment of the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, while the other man ran away.

"The Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, said that he never thought that Umar would kill a believer, therefore the Almighty God revealed this verse: 'But no, by the Lord, they can have no (real) Faith, until they make thee judge in all disputes between them, and find in their souls no resistance against Thy decisions, but accept them with the fullest conviction' (Koranic verse, Al-Nisa, 4:65).

"Do you see my brother believer? One issue where two men fought and went to Abu Bakr, who is the most righteous man on earth after the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, and then went to Umar, who is the most righteous man on earth after Abu Baker, may God be pleased with him, and Almighty God has revealed this verse. Then, what is the ruling of those who reject the entire Shari'ah of Almighty God? What is the ruling of those who disobey the rulings of Almighty God? What is the ruling of those who openly and explicitly claim that God's Shari'ah can not be implemented in this era?

"Nevertheless, we can still find people who defend such! Do they not deserve the sword of Umar, or even a thousand swords? By God they do my brothers.

"In the era of the companions, may God be pleased with them, a group of people refused to pay the alms. It was in the era of Abu Bakr, after the death of the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, when this group stopped paying the alms and justified their actions by interpreting verses from the Koran. This group said that they used to pay the alms to the one who used to pray and grant them security, but as the Prophet was dead they would not pay alms to anyone. They took their justification from the book of Almighty God by saying: 'Of their goods, take alms, that so thou mightest purify and sanctify them; and pray on their behalf. Verily thy prayers are a source of security for them' (Koranic verse, Al-Tawbah, 9:103).

"Even though they took their justification from the Koran, Abu Bakr, may God be pleased with him, who protected the Shari'ah by the orders of God several times, said: 'If they refuse to pay me a she-kid - in another narration they say a nose-rope of a camel - which they used to pay at the time of messenger of God, peace and prayers be upon him, I will fight them over it.' Umar then said: 'As soon as I saw that God had inspired Abu Bakr to fight them, I knew that he was righteous.'

"This group of people only refused to pay the alms and had their justification, although it was not convenient, but still they justified their actions and took the book of the Almighty God as their reference. What is the ruling of those criminal groups that are fighting explicitly without any justification, reason, reference from the Koran or the Sunnah, or a fatwah? Those groups fight anyone calling for the establishment of the Shari'ah of the Almighty God. What do we say about the criminal Pakistani Army that destroyed Swat, killed the children and the women, and smashed the houses over the heads of the people? For what reason? What is the fault of those people? What is the fault of the Muslims in Swat? Are the people in Swat saying anything except their calls for either a Shari'ah to rule them or martyrdom? Then why is the army fighting them? Are they not fighting against the Shari'ah of the Almighty God? However, we can still find those who defend the army with all the excuses they can find.

"O brothers, nothing will work in this era except the two swords: the sword of Umar that killed the man who rejected God's ruling and the sword of Abu Bakr by which he lead his companions to the battlefield in order to fight those who stopped paying the alms. Nothing will work with those groups that reject applying the ruling of Almighty God, neither begging, humiliation, nor flexibility. The only thing that will work is fighting, patience, and perseverance until God judges between us, for God is the best to judge.

"This is what we have to pass through brothers! At the end of this speech, I have some advice for my brothers, the mujahidin, for I might not see you next year. The first thing I advise you of is loyalty to Almighty God, for by God, loyalty is the key to victory, empowerment, glory, and triumph. Almighty God said: Allah's Good Pleasure was on the Believers when they swore Fealty to thee under the Tree: He knew what was in their hearts, and He sent down Tranquillity to them; and He rewarded them with a speedy Victory, and many gains will they acquire (besides): and Allah is Exalted in Power, Full of Wisdom' (Koranic verse, Al-Fath, 48:18, 19).

"God has promised you many gains, quickened your victory, and kept the hands of harm away from you in order to make you an example to the people, like all the other verses and examples.

"When the companions pledged their loyalty to the Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him, under a tree, God knew the determination, honesty, and loyalty that was in their hearts toward him and granted them speedy victory.

"O mujahidin, you have to set your jihad and fighting intentions for the sake of Almighty God. You should not fight for ignorance, pathetic patriotic reasons, a malicious social party, or in support of any group, individual, amir, or opinion. You should only fight in support of the religion of the Almighty God, for only He can grant you victory. God said: 'If ye will aid (the cause of) Allah, He will aid you' (Partial Koranic Verse, Muhammad, 47:7). The greatest victory is granted when you are loyal to Almighty God.

"A man came to the Prophet and asked him which of the following men fights for the sake of God? The man who fights for the sake of his honor, glory and reputation, or to show off? The Prophet, peace and prayers be upon him said: 'Whoever fights to make the word of God exalted is fighting for the sake of God.'

"By God, we do not mind if we were abolished if our fighting was considered to be for the sake of God, like the people of the trench who were all killed. The people of the trench were all killed! Why? God said: 'And they ill-treated them for no other reason than that they believed in Allah, Exalted in Power, Worthy of all Praise' (Koranic verse, Al-Burj, 85:8).

"The biggest loss and regret is when our intentions are not for the sake of Almighty God, for we will be killed and will lose, both in life and in the Hereafter. We seek refuge in God to prevent such loss. So you have to be loyal and advise yourselves and each other to be loyal. You should also remind each other that deeds are judged by the intentions and each person will be responsible for his intentions.

"The second matter, about which I advise my mujahidin brothers all over the world, is to stick to unity and harmony among themselves. They must maintain their agreement to be in one line, in the way that God likes and accepts. Almighty God says: '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). This is the fight and these are the fighters, whom Almighty God, Exalted be He, loves. We must not be divided into parties: 'Those who split up their Religion, and become (mere) Sects,- each party rejoicing in that which is with itself' (Koranic verse, Al-Rum, 30:32). Are we not promoters of monotheism? Are we not following the path of our righteous predecessors? Is monotheism but a unifier of the believers and not a means to divide them? Were our predecessors not united in opinion and consistency of heart? Why should we not follow their path in this matter? Therefore, dear brothers, obey God's command. I do not say: Take God's advice. 'And hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Imran 3:103). Rejoining the hearts is a blessing from God, Exalted be He. Therefore, every group must do their best to remain united with the other groups. Out of our experience and knowledge, I say that there can be no possible agreement unless some groups are willing to concede some of their rights. That is a necessity. If a group holds fast to its right and the other group holds fast to its right, or what it claims to be its right, what kind of agreement or unity can be done after that?

"When the Prophet, may God's prayer and peace be upon him, sent Mu'adh Bin-Jabal and Abu Musa al-Ash'ari to Yemen, he said to them: 'Obey each other and never disagree.' Obeying one another is a must. We have to make things easier for each other. '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' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Ma'idah, 5:54)." On this occasion, I appeal to our mujahidin brothers in Iraq, particularly those in the Islamic State of Iraq, may the Almighty God, Exalted be He, guide their aims, and our brother in the Ansar al-Islam Group, to unite in one group and one rank, to concede to one another, and to be humble with one another. Your enemies have amassed their forces and mobilized their soldiers to be at

war against all of you. They do not differentiate between any group and the other. We ask God, Exalted be He, to let us witness the day when we rejoice with the good news of your reunion. I also call my honest mujahidin brothers in the Salafi mujahidin groups in Palestine to unite in one word and one rank under one banner and one leadership, to get rid of the causes of division, disagreement, and dispute. There must be some kind of concession to make agreement and unity possible. Concession is necessary for the hearts to rejoin. Otherwise, we will remain in a state of division, disagreement, and dispute, while our enemies are looking at us from a distance. This is my second advice to my mujahidin brothers.

"As for the third advice, I would like to say to our mujahidin brothers: 'You must know that the path of jihad is a long and difficult one. This is not just a phrase that we repeat, but it is a reality experienced by every mujahid who sets his feet on the land of jihad. God, Exalted be He, says: 'Fighting is prescribed for you, and ye dislike it' (Partial Koranic verse, Al-Baqarah, 2:216). Jihad is something you dislike. You dislike it. Whatever the heart dislikes requires patience to withstand. There has to be patience for the length of the path. There has to be patience for the difficulties and hardships along the path. 'O ye who believe! Persevere in patience and constancy; vie in such perseverance; strengthen each other; and fear Allah that ye may prosper' (Koranic verse, Al Imran, 3:200). This is why we frequently find jihad paired with patience in Almighty God's book. 'Did ye think that ye would enter Heaven without Allah testing those of you who fought hard (In His Cause) and remained steadfast?' (Koranic verse, Al Imran, 3:142). 'And We shall try you until We test those among you who strive their utmost and persevere in patience; and We shall try your reported (mettle)' (Koranic verse, Muhammad, 47:31). Therefore, we do not expect victory to happen overnight or in a random battle. We have to train ourselves to be patient and to withstand the hardships and troubles of jihad until we reach our aim or die for it.

"We ask God, Exalted be He, to make us benefit from what we have heard. We ask the Almighty God to support with victory His believing mujahidin servants everywhere. God, guide the aims of Your mujahidin servants. Guide their opinions, hold them fast, fasten their hearts, reunite them, unite their decisions, and support them with victory over their enemy and Yours. God, assign for them the best of them, the most pious of them, and the ones You love most among them, Lord of all creation. God, show us your might with our enemies, and we take refuge in You from their evils. God, tear their domination apart, ruin their states, disintegrate their unity, and turn their children to orphans and their wives to widows. God, make them an example for everyone who would learn and a moral for those who would take the moral, and turn them to a healing for the chests of believers. God, empower Your believing servants in a way that You love and will be pleased to dignify Your loyal servants and degrade Your enemies. Support Your Shari'ah, and make Your Book the rule and judge, Lord of all creation. God, support with victory the mujahidin in Afghanistan, in Pakistan, in Iraq, in Somalia, in Algeria, in Chechnya, in Jerusalem, and everywhere, Lord of all creation. God, relieve our captive brothers, make a relief in every trouble they face and a way out of every distress. Grant them subsistence where they do not expect it. God, let none of them fear without Your comfort, nor be confused without Your guidance, nor be troubled without Your succor, nor be hungry without being fed, nor be naked without being clothed, nor be alienated without being socialized. God, reward them well for their losses in sons and families, Lord of all creation. God, reward every martyr, jihadist and muhajir (emigrant for the sake of God), for their families, Lord of all creation. God, pray upon Muhammad, the household of Muhammad, the way You prayed upon Ibrahim and the household of Ibrahim. You are the Extoller and the Responsive. May God's prayer be upon Muhammad and his household."

(Then Shaykh Abu-Yahya al-Libi shakes hands with the worshippers in congratulations for the Id. At minute 43:30, blurry footage shows one man who looks like he could be Usama Bin Ladin.)