

## **Interview: Dialogue With Sheikh Abu Mesab Al-Zarqawi, Part Five**

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

Here is Part Five, the final segment, of the interview titled "Dialogue With Sheikh Abu Musab Al-Zarqawi", a never before published document released by Al-Fur-clan Foundation for Media Production that is an lengthy discussion with Sheikh Zarqawi, may Allah have mercy on him.

This in-depth interview, some 33 pages in Arabic, was conducted over a year ago by Abu Al-Baghdadi on behalf of the media committee for AI-Qaeda in Iraq and covers Zarqawi's journey to Tawheed, his experience in Afghanistan at the time of the Soviet withdrawal and the situation in Iraq at the time.

Alhamdulillah, we are pleased to present this final segment with thanks to the diligence of the JUS translation team. In this segment, Zarqawi continues to clarify his reasoning for fighting the army and police, discusses the effectiveness of martyrdom operations and details the battle of Fallujah. InshaAllah we will now compile a completed document for a historical archive of this insightful document and make it available shortly.

We remind our viewers that the opinions and points of view expressed in this statement are those of the author and shall not be deemed to mean that they are necessarily those of JUS, the publisher, editor, writers, contributors or staff

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DIALOGUE WITH SHEIKH ABU MUSAB AL-ZARQAWI - PART FIVE

Zarqawi: It was a must for us from the very beginning to understand the legal ruling.

Baghdadi: Why are you fighting the army and the police?

Zarqawi: The army and the police are the eyes of the cross worshipers and their protectors from the attacks of the Mujahideen and it is they who execute their plans. Some may say that the Shariah ruling for these people is the same as the ruling of the Americans but in fact they are greater criminals and disbelievers than the Americans. Others may say that these people fight only for the money so why should they be killed? And we say, that these people are from the most disbelieving creations of Allah, and we do not find any excuse for them at all. There may exist for such people doubt in other countries, and in spite (of that) we do not excuse them, but there is no doubt when it comes to the Iraqi army.

Baghdadi: How?

Zarqawi: The country has fallen into the hands of the Jews and the cross worshippers and the enemy here is foreign and outspoken. This is a crusade and he has come to us to provide protection to Israel, and has from the very first moment been involved in torturing the Ahl as Sunnah.

They have shown their hostility towards the religion and has left behind a massive scale of destruction of the country, far and wide, from the very beginning days when they entered. They tortured the Muslims,

killing their men and destroying their houses and harassing their women, and everyone knows what America did, disrespecting the Masjids and humiliating the Quran and many other things. Following all of this, these people come, after all these crimes, and obey these criminals and fight alongside them (against) the servants of Allah, the believers in His oneness. They protect our enemies, the cross worshipers and Jews, so does it make sense after all this that we call such people Muslims?

The flag of jihad is clear and the rows of Muslims are well defined. How sensible is it for a man who carries even a particle of faith or a little shame to leave the flag of the visible jihad rather than siding with his Ummah? Instead he fights alongside its enemies from the cross worshipers and the Jews, so what Islam does this (person) carry and what excuse will he provide when he is overwhelmed by money and was tired of poverty? For us, this man has two fissures in his belief;

1. The satisfaction in siding with the unbelievers against Islam
2. He has a shortcoming in the understanding of the Lordship of Allah, whereof he forgot that the provider is Allah and not the Americans.

So how can this person who fights the Muslims for provisions. No one enters this path of disbelievers (murtadeen) except those who have lost their religion or their shame and self respect. They have falling down to such an extent that they are lower of the lowest. Who sees his Muslim sisters in Abu Ghraib and what is being done to them and then supports those that are committing these crimes? How do we accept an excuse from such a person? By Allah there is no excuse for him and by Allah he is among the most hostile enemies of the Ummah. Killing him is better and more deserving and more rewarding than the killing the Americans.

Baghdadi: What are the difficulties facing the jihad in Iraq?

Zarqawi: We in Iraq are fighting a very disproportionate battle and there is no scale for comparison between us and the enemy.

Examining the numbers, there are the hundreds of brothers fighting against hundreds of thousands of the enemies and from the point of view of technology, it is not hidden from anyone that the enemy has a great military capability in the air, on the ground or on the water that is not comparable with what the Mujahideen brothers have. The brothers have single weapons and some Havin rockets, a few bombs against the RPG, the tankers, the shields, and the planes

The land of Jihad in Iraq is different from its sisters in Afghanistan and Chechnya. The brothers in these two lands have resources that do not exist in Iraq. There are the forests and huge mountains there that they can hide from the enemy and where the enemy may not be able to reach them. But the land of Iraq is like the palm of the hand; no mountains or valleys or forests exist.

The brothers walk on fields of land mines and they never know when they will explode on them, this mine or that. The brothers are fighting a fierce battle and many of them don't even have the proper living; there is no strategic place where there is no battle. The enemy is in front of them and behind them; to their right and to their left and above them. Around them are spies and in every area there are guards, police and the Americans.

But in spite of that, we fight them the ground that they stand on by the grace of Almighty.

There are the Americans with their bags and luggage and their blades and steels and their numbers, and there is the army and the Rafidah with their spies and armed militias. We ask Allah for safety. This is a fierce media-military war and the conditions of war in Iraq have difficulties that only Allah knows best

about, and in spite of that the brothers are reaching the enemies and fighting them and countering their strikes with our strikes.

Baghdadi: Which weapons are the most terrifying for the enemy?

Zarqawi: The most effective weapons in the hands of the brothers, after trust in Allah, are the martyrdom operations that terrify the enemy. It is the weapon of the brothers that can not be returned and the enemy cannot find any way to deal with it or stop it. The enemy like we said before lives among the people and between the citizens and places it uses as bases are houses. This shows their cunning behavior. This is what stands between them and the Mujahideen and these martyrdom operations by the grace of Almighty have had a great role in weakening the enemy to the point that they are depressed and fatigued, in low spirits and with and psychological break downs. This is something their commanders have admitted and is visible from the facts, by the grace of Almighty,

The breaking down of the enemy hasn't occurred with just a grenade bomb or two. The bomb that is placed on the roads or the bombs that we have fired etc have caused the enemy some fear but these are not weapons that will produce a decisive turn to the battle. The martyrdom operations are the ones that had the greatest role in terrifying the enemy and destroying its arrogance, dusting their noses with mud and causing them to think about withdrawing. It is those from the ranks of martyrdom brigades who left their homes and migrated, along with the local fighters (the Muhajireen and Ansar) who have sacrificed themselves for this religion. There have been nearly 800 martyrdom operators from both the Muhajireen and Ansar who have performed operations on the American artilleries, stationary military camps and areas occupied by guards and others. If you measure it with pen and paper, you understand the amount of losses that has befallen the Americans, by the grace of Almighty. This has forced the Americans to consider withdrawal and showed their defeat in front of the Mujahideen. The brothers also used the raiding operations, attacking their fortified bases using hit and run techniques.

Many of the types of operations, like the operations of raiding and attacking the hideouts that they think are safe, were the decisive sword, strong and cutting in this battle and are the tough medicine in this clash. And then by the grace of Allah, the brothers from Muhajireen and Ansar came to aid this religion of Allah, and terrified the enemy by presenting their lives cheaply in the way of Allah. This created a great panic throughout the ranks of the Americans and divided their groups. It is for this reason that you now see a cautious enemy. Its panic, that spreads east and west, was not the result of a speech or a protest, but was due to the blood, patience, sweat, work, trials, tests, imprisonment, sadness, hunger and fear- for we, by the grace of Almighty, are determined to keep moving ahead. We will not spare any effort in order to terrify this enemy and break its supremacy until Allah the Almighty permits the clear victory and elevates the flag of the religion.

We are proceeding on this basis; we are moving forward contrary to the enemies claims and what it portrays in its media sources. This shows its defeat; it has been unable to hold ground and no longer grips the reins of matters on the battleground. That is why it has started using cheap ways like spreading rumors and spinning lies. All this psychological warfare is designed to pressure the Mujahideen, and to portray to the Ahl as Sunnah in the land of the Rafideen, the land of the Muslims, that the Mujahideen have are becoming weak. The latest of these tricks is the claim that the Mujahideen will transfer the war outside Iraq because of the growing pressure on them. We give them glad tidings that we will not come out of Iraq by the will of Allah until Allah permits victory or we are destroyed without it.

And we tell them that our battle is grounded on a rule, either us or you. You will not find from us anything except that which hurts you. This jihad has a Lord who defends it and who protects it and who has launched it and who kept it alive for the past two and a half years and who is

able to protect it and use us in His obedience until we can collect its fruit and fulfill its goal. So hail distress O enemies of Allah for we will never shake from this aim and you will see by the grace of Allah a bitter lesson as you dared to attack the Muslims. And to the sons of our precious Ummah we say, we call you to help the Mujahideen and to stand with them taking a strong and decisive stand because this jihad is nearing its final phases and the phase of bone breaking is drawing to a close. So it is a must for the Ummah to stand a true stand and not leave its sons at this crucial time and abandon them.

For these people did not leave their homes and sacrifice their blood and their persons and abandon their lands except to uplift the Ummah and save it from the transgression of these unbelievers, and release it from these ties of imprisonment that has existed for so long. That is why we call the Ummah to take a sincere position and not think ill of these Mujahideen, its sons, its dear ones, the callers (for jihad), nor those that provide money, for these battles, by the grace of Allah, we expect all good. Of course the battle that we are fighting in Iraq is a very fierce battle and we face the toughest army in the world. The fighting of this enemy cannot be repelled except with patience. And it cannot be defeated except with blood and body. We have every day someone or another brought down; every day we lose loved ones. Every now and then, some brothers are captured, so the trials and wounds are many and continue for this is the nature of the battle.

And after all that we aren't a disciplined army. There are brothers who left for battle in the way of Allah with the least of the provisions and they know that they are facing the most powerful army in the world. More importantly they know that the essential thing in our religion is to go out for jihad, and that is why they do not worry about the power of the disbelievers or its ability. Allah has enabled for them against their enemy and aided them to continue fighting against them. The enemy damages in us and we damage in them, they kill us and we kill them and this is the nature of the battle. They attack us and we attack them by the grace of Allah, they hit us in one place and we hit them back.

Our leaders and the senior brothers are at the front of the ranks. The one who comes into the Al-Qaida organization, Allah knows that if he descends into a disciplined army then that army would be finished. How do you expect us to break the Americans, the greatest army in the world and not make sacrifices? Sacrificing is something that is very necessary and it is impossible for there to be jihad without pains and wounds. The jihad with the roadside bombs alone cannot write a complete victory and cannot decide the outcome of the battle. And as the enemy has entered our houses so the real battle is that you face the enemy and he faces you, and you gain from him and he gains from you.

A very sad truth that the jihad in Iraq faces is that the Ummah regrettably has forsaken this battle. The Ulema (scholars) did not come, and the leaders did not come and the experienced did not come to lead this jihad and aid it and protect it and the groups did not come to us and the sons of the Islamic movements did not come to us or the others who grew up in abundance. When these people did not come, the youth who had affection for their religion stood up, some of them not even with the necessary religious knowledge that is sufficient. These young men who left to bring victory to their religion were pained with the condition of their Ummah and they saw their sisters honor being snatched away and they saw the houses were exposed and how the blood was being spilled. They had nothing except the will to rush forward to provide for this religion.

And during these reflections, we saw the flags of nationhood and the imaginary flags that used to cheat the Ummah by Islamic slogans, having left the Ummah, and left the grounds,

and no one was left except the Mujahideen. The truthful, the people of the clear manhaj who are fighting for "There is no god but Allah", these are the people who at this time are standing in the face of the enemy, and the blessing that we are seeing is in their fighting, otherwise they are very few, in fact fewer than the few.

Baghdadi: Don't you see that the fulfillment of your aim is very difficult with the presence of all these obstacles?

Zarqawi: Yes. Some people might say you are living in the world of dreams and hoping for the establishment of an Islamic nation or you wish to scare the enemy and return the Caliphate in strong-based high castles. You are clashing with the present and are living in mere hallucinations.

We reply to these people: Allah (SWT) has in His hands the keys of everything and has in His hands the kingdom of the heavens and the earth and the decree is His decree and we are His slaves and our forelock and the forelock of our enemies are in His hands. So if we come looking at it through the eyes of this world, calculating with pen and paper and with material thinking; then there is no doubt that many Muslims will get disheartened. But we hold onto Allah, as the Victory granter and as the Protector, and He is the one who backs His soldiers and He is the one who grants victory to His slaves.

The Prophet (peace be upon him), on the Day of the allies (Ahzab), when the different sides had allied against him from all angles and corners and had surrounded him like the surrounding of the stars, the moon, or a protective fence, the Sahabah were shaken and fear overcame them.

The Quran has described them the best description;

"O ye who believe, remember the favour of Allah to you when there came against you hosts, and WE sent against them a wind and hosts that you saw not. And Allah sees what you do." Quran 33:10

Sheikh Abu Azzam said (may Allah have mercy on him and accept him as a martyr) in the second battle of Fallujah, that from the extent of fear and trial that befell the Mujahideen, that his pulse raced and showing with his hand to his throat said: "By Allah, I felt as though my heart had risen to my throat and this is just what Allah has said, "and the hearts reached the throats"; we saw the verse on its reality."

What the Prophet (peace be upon him) faced was very difficult as the Jews broke their pact and the tribes allied with the disbelievers of the Quraish and decided to wipe the Muslims out, so the Prophet (peace be upon him) sent the children and women to the heights (palaces at the high places) of Medinah. There was extreme fear, so much that when the Prophet (peace be upon him) said to the Companions, "who brings me the news of the people, Allah will make him my companion in the hereafter", no one got up, and he repeated it a second time and no one replied and he repeated it a third time and no one replied so he said to Huzaifa. "Stand O Huzaifa", knowing that the Prophet (peace be upon him) said that day, "Who comes to me with the news of the people, Allah made him, and he is my companion in Paradise and I assure his return". Praise be to Allah, imagine with me, the Prophet (peace be upon him) the truthful and the believed, the one who was revealed said, "I assure his return", and even after this; none of the Companions stood up. When the Companions did whatever they could in the obedience of their Lord and remained steadfast in the fighting

and increased in prayers and Allah knew when they had reached their limit of obedience in their Lord, He sent a soldier from amongst His soldiers and it was the wind. It changed the fate of the battle, removed the tents and by the grace of Almighty separated the tribes and then all moved away and returned disappointed. Allah repelled the enemy with their hatred; they did not achieve any good and Allah sufficed the Muslims in fighting!

Notice that before this what was the condition of the Companions? Fear and strong wind, an allied enemy, then after a short while Allah sends His soldiers and disperses the unity of the enemy and returns them disgraced and then the Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "Now we will raid them and they won't raid us".

Praise be to Allah, in a minute the Companions were wishing if the group would draw away from them for the least, but because of their patience and steadfastness Allah granted them the glad tiding of the Prophet (peace be upon him) after that, "Now we will raid them and they won't raid us". So it was by the grace of the Almighty, they conquered with a clear victory.

And in those tough conditions the Prophet (peace be upon him) was promising the Companions treasures of Caesar and Kisra (then, the title of king of Persia) and here hypocrisy showed up and raised its head and said, "Muhammad promises us the treasures of Caesar and Kisra, and one of us cannot go to answer the call of the nature"

As for the people elevated in faith, the steadfast on this Manhaj they believed with certainty that Allah will fulfill His promise to the Muslims but those who had deviated and the hypocrites knew not. The hypocrites, like their predecessors did at the time of the Ahzab, were overtaken by the number of the disbelievers and doubted the power of God Almighty, in whose hands are the keys of everything and He is all powerful over every thing. Allah Almighty will never forsake His Mujahideen slaves, and He has promised them victory, and who is better than Allah in speech, and who is truer in his saying than Allah?

And Allah when He assured His Mujahideen slaves of victory, He did not ask anything of them except steadfastness to truth and to hold fast to the Quran and the Sunnah. The Almighty says, and He is the truest of speakers, "If Allah grants you victory then there is no (ghalib) defeater of you". The word "ghalib" came to emphasize steadfastness, and the meaning is that if the people of the earth would come against you then they won't defeat you if Allah the Almighty wants to grant you victory.

Allah's victory for you stands upon holding fast to the truth and taking the sources of strength, not the numbers, after putting trust in Allah and leaving your bad deeds. Reliance on the reasons is only up to the possible extent. Allah has not entitled us to fulfill all the requirements of jihad, for the requirements and numbers did not even complete for the Prophet (peace be upon him) for his companions (may Allah be pleased with them). So we believe that Allah the Almighty will grant victory to His soldiers by the will of Allah, and by Allah it does not matter to us that the number of enemy should increase or increase its weapons. What matters to us is just one thing; that the requirements of victory be brought forth. It doesn't matter if there are large numbers of the enemy and even if the enemy multiplies and the Americans multiply and the Rawafid multiply. It doesn't matter even if our numbers become less. What we aim for and what we hope is that we bring about from the requirements by which the victory descends. We are searching for the requirements by which victory comes about, by good expectation from Allah and seeking refuge with Allah and giving the matter in the hands of Allah and forsaking sins. So if we bring the requirements of victory by Allah if they multiply even many times then they will not cause us any harm. We do not see the enemy by its numbers because we do not fear the

enemy but fear our own selves.

The Ummah today is required to take a strong stand because the Ummah in reality has betrayed the jihad in Iraq for these few years so it is required to revise itself and recover what it has lost in the past days, turning a true escape to protect itself from the enmity of these cross worshippers. Otherwise, every human is accountable and this market will close down and in the end who profits, profits and the one who loses, loses and happy is the one who learns from the mistakes of others.

Baghdadi: What is your description of the battle of Fallujah?

Zarqawi: The first Fallujah battle was a sign among the great signs of Allah, and was a lesson for all Muslims, and an excuse against the Qaeedeen (those who stay back from jihad). The brothers hadn't planned for that battle and they did not expect it at all.

Some might see that undertaking it was a fluke of craziness and a sort of hastiness, for the brothers were in 10's and their ammunition was sparse and they were residing in a small city visible to the eye let alone the complicated machinery of the enemy.

Baghdadi: How was the battle controlled?

Zarqawi: We decided with the brothers that there should be ammunition that must be distributed all along the line of fighting through out the day and at night, traps would be set up to fish what could from their army through hand bombs or direct fighting under the cover of darkness, hitting the enemy where it least expected it.

It is widely known that the reason for the Crusade attack on Fallujah was the death of the 4 (military) reporters, and they in reality weren't mere reporters, but they were senior information officers and the brothers found with these officers some maps that explained the plan of breaking-into the city. These officers were roaming in the residence areas of Fallujah, to survey the area and put the last touches to the plan of attacking it when the brothers were able to kill them. America took that attack as an excuse to attack the city. However the threats were continuing even before that and were planned a long time before this occurred. The cross worshipers wanted to break the uprising of the Mujahideen by oppressing this city that was rebelling against their arrogance.

The cross worshipers surrounded the city of Fallujah for twenty nine nights, the same number of nights of the battle of the Allies (Ghazwah al Ahzaab), and after passing those difficult nights with the brothers under siege, Allah broke the thorn of the enemy and dropped their superciliousness at the hands of a small group, that had nothing more than light personal weapons, and did not have any refuge to protects them from the heavy bombardment that the enemy fighter planes undertook; they had only the protection of Allah the Almighty.

Allah the Almighty performed many wonders at the hands of these patient boys who chose jihad a way, and glory as a reason, and to raise the flag of the religion as a goal. The greatest of the wonders that we saw that the brothers fighting for the protection of the city were in 10's and were not in 100s, and at the end of the battle, the ammunition store was depleted. Some of the brothers would leave the regiment, and come to the brothers inside the city and take a bullet from this one and from that one and then return to the regiment at the corners of the city. This is the way the brothers faced the machines of the Americans and their

numbers. But then Allah knew, Allah permitted, there after, that the brothers had used all they could and had excelled to please their Lord, the Almighty, to release them from the hardship and placed terror in the hearts of the Americans, he took their forelock away from the sides of the city, and returned the gigantic army humiliated and disappointed to ask for a sojourn only to face refusal. And some of the hypocrite ask for safety for their unit at the time of their pull out. The army of the cross worshipers pulled out disappointed, expelled with the units of the brothers attacking them, killing them, injuring them and taking prisoners and booty.

There was a great lesson in this battle concerning the power of their numbers and their aircraft and tanks and artillery machines, and all the weapons and 30000 soldiers were not able to raid the city. This showed that victory is from Allah and was a great lesson for the Ummah that this small city that is not more than 5 km square could terrify the enemy, by the grace of Almighty Allah. This is an example for the Ummah that it can do what these people did, that is, Allah (SWT) wanted to inform the Muslims that "O Ummah of Muhammad these are a handful of strays in 10's, who have nothing and have stood against the greatest of regiments in the world and have sent it back by the bounty of Allah when they obeyed the command of Allah and took from the means what they could, Allah protected them." So the Ummah can, by the will of Allah, get up again and reply by fighting the cross worshipers and blow the dust of humiliation and retrieve its glory by the will of Allah but only when it walks on the way of Allah and spends the souls of its sons cheaply in the way of Allah. And this is an easy thing. On the contrary man spends on humiliation what he does not spend on glory and will, and this is an experimented thing. Yes, so this battle by the grace of Allah was from the eternal battles, by Allah, in the history of Islam and Muslims, and every Muslim will be proud of it.

Baghdadi: It is said that there is a conspiracy being woven against the jihad. What does it look like and how do you respond to it?

Zarqawi: We, it doesn't harm us the increase in the enemy or the conspiracies of the enemy and "they" now fear the Mujahideen and this is what has called them to draw out of fear to the Arab nations to help them out of their problem. And we, in our turn warn these evil organizations and tell them: don't send forces to Iraq for they will be targeted by the Mujahideen and their ruling is the same as the ruling against the cross worshipers and those who are helping them. And we turn to advice the Ummah to stop their sons from coming to Iraq to interfere in making their sons shields for the rebels and victims of the battle of the unbelievers with the Mujahideen. The sides in this battle are clear and the flag of each one of them is known. That is why the Ummah should abstain from protecting the American master and their servants the Rafidah and their followers from these useless organizations.

O Ummah of Islam do you accept for yourself making your sons shields and protection that would safe guard the cross worshipers from the attacks of the Mujahideen and remember that the Americans have indeed come to these organizations to get rid of the Mujahideen and not to the Shiites or the Rawafids. And we inform you that if you accept that and you agree to send your sons to our fields then we will treat them like we treat the Americans and that we will target them before we target those who have come for their protection because there is no difference for us between a foreign disbeliever and an Arab disbeliever.

The matter for us is the religion and based on its logic, we must turn towards the Ummah and not towards the enemy to assist it to complete its plans and reach its aim after its failure to achieve it. At the same time we warn the organizations from sending their ambassadors to Iraq because this is a way to improve the evil image of the government and amounts to accepting the

Jews and cross worshipers as masters in this Islamic land.

The conspiracy has another face as well, that shows the acceptance of a few groups carrying out "national fighting" with the aim of entering the political game and then putting down its weapons to stand with the government in fighting the Mujahideen. These also won't harm any one except themselves. It is indeed pleasing that their followers are moving away from them after they have learnt the reality of these "nationals". The Muslims are no longer being deceived by the calls of the "nationals" and I expect no one to remain with them except those weak of mind and the misguided. The likes of these staying back is a mercy and inviting them for jihad is a trial so it was necessary that the split occur and position become clear who are righteous in their mission.

As for our journey, we know it is a very long and tiresome way and we will prepare for it and face the worst calamities for it and in it are the coming of hardships and pain, and the enemy in numbers, and we won't say anything except what the Prophet (peace be upon him) said;

"Oh you who believe! Endure and be more patient (than you enemy) and guard your territory by stationing army units permanently at the places from where the enemy can attack you and fear Allah that you may be successful." Quran 3:200

Baghdadi: Is there a word you would like to direct to those who have stayed back from this work?

Zarqawi: I would say to these people, fear Allah in your selves, fear Allah in the contract that Allah has burdened you with. Allah the Almighty says,

"And remember Allah took a covenant from those that were given the scripture (the Jews and the Christians) to make it known and clear to mankind, and not to hide it; but they threw it away behind their backs, and purchased with it some miserable gain! And vile was the bargain they made!" Quran 3:187

I say to them, fear Allah in this Ummah, you are, by Allah, going to stand before Him and He is going to give you a great accounting on your disappointment from staying back from jihad and your standing against His way. The Ummah today needs working lighthouses and needs those who can make the way easy for it. It does not need disappointers, nor does it need people sitting inside media studios for long hours gazing at the Ummah, considering how it is being torn and even then they do nothing but talk, mocking the men of honor and yet not objecting to the disbelievers by saying even one word.

And peace and blessings of Allah be on the Prophet Muhammad, his family and his righteous followers.