

An Eid al-Adha Speech

January 22, 2008

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

Praise be to God, we praise Him, ask for His assistance and His forgiveness, and we seek refuge to God from the evil of our desires and from our sins. Of those who are guided by God none can be led astray, and to those such as God rejects from His guidance, there can be no guidance. I witness that there is no god but God, the only, with no partners, and I witness that Mohammed is His worshiper and messenger and His chosen among His creation and His beloved. God sent him with the guidance and the religion of righteousness to prevail over all other religions, even if the non-believers disliked that. Prayers and peace of God be upon him and upon his entire family and companions and upon those who are following his guidance and method until Judgment Day.

Thereafter,

Lord, to you we offer great praise and gratitude that will satisfy you and please you. O God all the praise is for You, and all the thanks are for You, and all matters are returned to You. Praise to You, O God for guiding us. O God, praise to You, for making us the followers of the master of all people, O God praise to You, for the right religion He set as a law for us and the right path. O Brothers of faith, this day is the day of al-Adha, it is the day of slaughter, it is the day of the great pilgrimage. This day is the day of one of Islam's great rituals in which the prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, introduced the methods, and set through it the laws that remained after him for his nation to follow and to adhere to. This day is the day on which our God saved Ishma'il, peace be upon him, from being slaughtered. This day is the day when loyalty to God prevailed over paternal emotions. So, praise be to God who made us the followers of Mohammed, prayers and peace be upon him, we commemorate his methods and hold on to his laws and we move along his guidance and follow in his footsteps.

O Brothers in Islam, on this day, I want to pause with a great Hadith from our prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, a Hadith that shows us the condition of the Islamic nation and how it should be at all times, from the day jihad was legislated until God inherits the earth and whomever is upon it. Narrated by Salamah Ibn-Nufayl al-Kindi, may God be pleased by him, he said: "I was sitting with the Messenger of Allah, prayers and peace upon him, when a man said: 'O Messenger of Allah! The people have held on to the horses and laid down their weapons and said: "there is no jihad for the war has laid down its burdens." So the Messenger of Allah, prayers and peace upon him, turned his face away and said: "They have lied. Now the time for fighting has come. There will never cease to be a group from my Ummah that fights upon the truth. Allah will deviate the hearts of some by way of them, and provide for them from them until the establishment of the hour and until the promise of Allah comes. Good shall remain in the manes of horses until the Day of Judgment' [Hadith].

Yes, we talked a lot about jihad, they will say. Yes, we never stood at any time without talking about jihad, fighting, preparation and immigration. Such will be their words. Yes, the jihad is life for the Islamic nation, jihad is a continuing law that God, the Exalted He be, has legislated it and ordered for it in His book [Koran] and promoted it and praised the ones who performed it and cautioned from abandoning it. Yes, by jihad the religion will be straight, the laws will be preserved and the religion of the Almighty will be empowered. Our prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, when this matter was presented to him, "people held on to the horses"; meaning,

they have humiliated the horses, in an account they let them go and abandoned them, they removed the weapons from it. When did this happen, O brothers? When did this matter happen? This happened when the Islamic state was at the glory of its establishment. This happened when the Islamic armies were striking east and west. And in the account that this Hadith was said after a conquest, which God had facilitated for His prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, the companions thought that after this conquest, this empowerment and this victory, there would be no need for jihad. The companion said: "O Messenger of Allah! The people have held on to the horses". And today there are so many horses that have been humiliated by the people and they have let them go. They abandoned and humiliated them. In fact, they renounced the entire Sharia of jihad, and not only the horses. "People have held on to the horses."

People have untied their horses and put down their weapons; they left their weapons; they stored their weapons; they filled the storerooms with weapons; and said no to jihad. Why? Because God has made us prosperous and has given us victory over our enemies. We have gained booty from them and we have broken their backs.

So what about today, then? If these words were uttered back in that day and age, when the Islamic state was at the heyday of its empowerment, when it was at the peak of its strength, when its leader and commander was our prophet, prayers and peace be upon him. This companion says: "People have untied their horses and put down their weapons, and said no to jihad."

How often do we hear this phrase: "No jihad"? There are those who say it openly, and there are those who may say it in passing, and there are those who may say it through their actions, and there are those who may say it by spreading doubts and discouragement and other means of which we hear and see. There are many ways to do so. It has been said by the friend, and it has been said by the enemy, and it has also been said by the neutral person. [They say:] No jihad. Why do you exhaust yourselves? Why do you tire yourselves? Why do you ensnare the Islamic nation into tunnels, of which there are no ends? How many youths have you ensnared in the holocaust of Iraq? How many youths have been entangled in the holocaust of Afghanistan? How many mothers have lost their sons? How many wives have lost their husbands? So then, what business is it of yours to conduct jihad? What business is it of yours to conduct jihad? What business is it of yours to get involved in this toil, in this stubbornness, in this strain? Why do you want to spend money? Why do you want to spill blood? Why do you want to face an enemy for whom you are no match? Do you know who [this enemy is]? It is America, who humiliated kings. It is America, who the nations of the East and the West have bowed down to.

No jihad. Do we not hear this phrase time and time again every day? And from whom? We hear it from scholars who should have been the heirs of our prophet, prayers and peace be upon him. They should have said to every person who spreads fear or discouragement: "They have lied. Now, now has come the time for battle." But unfortunately, at the head of the list of all the discouragers, and at the head of the list of the discouragers are those who are affiliated with knowledge. There is no power or strength except through God.

"People have untied their horses and put down their weapons, and said no to jihad." The war has relinquished its heavy load, meaning, the battles between us and our enemies have ended. So then, what need do we have for jihad? How can it be for us today, when our enemy is in our own house, when he has assaulted our pride, when he has stolen our money, defiled our sanctuaries, killed our children, imprisoned our elderly and our women, and in spite of all this we say: "No jihad, the war has ended."

Which war is this that has ended? Which war is this that the enemy has abandoned, while they are in the hearts of our lands? There you have Palestine, how many years has it been that the enemies of God; those who are the most humiliated and the most inferior of all of God Almighty's creations; how long have they been defiling her? There you have Iraq, how many years has it been since the enemies of God Almighty have been stealing her bounty, defiled all that is within her and assaulted the pride of the free within her? There you have Afghanistan, and what a situation there is in Afghanistan: enemy after enemy and conquest after conquest.

But in spite of all this we say: "No jihad, the war has ended." Then when will the war break out between us and our enemies? When will the war break out between us and our enemies? If we are not protective of our pride, then of what are we to be protective? If we do not leap for our faith, why then do we affiliate ourselves with the religion of God Almighty? Is it not the religion of God Almighty that tells us: "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?" [Koranic verse; al-Tawbah, 9:38] You are weighed down with this earth, you cling to her flowers and you bite down with your teeth and your molars on her riches.

Yes, and this is why all those have perished. The worshippers of the world will perish, as they were cursed by the prophet of God, prayers and peace be upon him. Abu-Hurayrah, in whom God is pleased, narrated that the prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, said: "Perish the slave of the dinar, dirham, qatifah [thick soft cloth], and khamisah [a garment], for if he is given, he is pleased; otherwise he is dissatisfied. Let such a person perish and relapse, and if he is pierced with a thorn, let him not find anyone to take it out for him". [Hadith]

Yes, and who is able to face all this? Who is able to face the worshipper of the world? Who is able to face the worshipper of the dinar, the dollar, glory, supreme power and the command of the unjust? He [the worshipper] will be faced by him about whom the prophet of God, prayers and peace be upon him, said: "Paradise is for him who holds the reins of his horse to strive in Allah's cause, with his hair unkempt and feet covered with dust: if he is appointed in the vanguard, he is perfectly satisfied with his post of guarding, and if he is appointed in the rearward he accepts his post with satisfaction". [Hadith] Yes, this person is not concerned with appearances, and is not concerned with his garments, and is not a person of high rank or a famous person. He is an unknown pious person who is not known by the media, and is not received by the satellite channels. As the prophet, prayers and peace upon him, had said: "If he asks for permission he is not permitted, and if he intercedes, his intercession is not accepted," [Hadith] as narrated by al-Bukhari.

This is the state of him who worships the world, and this is the state of him who has divorced [the world] and repulsed [the world] for the sake of God Almighty. So, paradise is yours, oh youth of Islam.

Rejoice for all the blessing and rewards bestowed by God Almighty. You are the poor emigrants [muhajirin]. The prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, said: "Some of you will die still having a need in their soul that is not fulfilled" [Hadith], as the prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, had said. There are many strong, fine and pious young men, who stand day and night to defend God's Muslim honor and sanctities, and yet no one hears or knows about them. They pass away with a need in their soul that is not fulfilled.

Abdallah Ibn-Umar Ibn al-Asy, may God be pleased with him, said that the prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, said: "The first group among my followers to enter paradise is the poor emigrants" [Hadith]. They are those who protect us against harm and when commanded they

obey. They are those, who when commanded, they obey. This is their attitude and characteristic. Yes, they are the ones who obey when they are commanded.

"The Almighty, on Judgment Day, calls upon heaven and it comes with its ornaments and vanity. And, He says to it: Where are my worshippers who fought, strived and killed for my sake? Enter heaven without questioning. Then the angels come and prostrate in front of God, and say: Oh God we worship you night and day; who are they that you have preferred over us? The Almighty God says: They are my worshipers who fought and suffered for my sake. Then the angels come upon them and say: Peace be upon you, because you have persevered! "How excellent, then, this fulfillment in the hereafter!" [Hadith]. I ask God to let us be among them.

O Muslim youth in the east and west, who belong to the creed that is based on the proclamation: "God Himself testifies that He is the only Lord. The angels and the men of knowledge and justice testify that God is the only Lord, the Majestic, and All-wise" [Koranic verse; al-Imran, 3:18].

O Muslim youth in the east and west, who recite the book of God Almighty. "Who have attained to faith! Shall I point out to you a bargain that will save you from grievous suffering in this world and in the life to come?" [Koranic verse; As-Saff, 61:10].

O Muslim youth in the east and west, who listen to God calling you: "Go forth to war, whether it be easy or difficult for you, and strive hard in God's cause with your possessions and your lives" [Koranic verse; al-Tawbah, 9:41]. Is it not time to stand up and defend your religion? O Muslim youth, Islam is your religion and the creed of Islam is your creed. God is commanding you and inviting you to this great bargain [jihad] that is beneficial for you.

"God has bought of the believers their lives and their possessions, promising them paradise in return, and so they fight in God's cause, and slay, and are slain". [Koranic verse; al-Tawbah, 9:111]

Tighten your resolution against these non-believers, who filled the world with corruption. Kill them, and do not leave any of them. Do not listen to those who spread fear in your hearts. Do not listen to a discourager. Do not pay attention to a coward, who is engaged with life and has forgotten about the Hereafter. The prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, said: "They have lied. Now the time for fighting has come" [Hadith]. This is what the prophet of God, prayers and peace be upon him, had said. When did he say it? He said it, as we have said earlier, when the Islamic state was established, the Sharia was the law and the Islamic creed was pure, and God's enemies were scared and defeated. As for today, the Muslims are weak, the mujahideen are scattered and the children of Islam are suffering from humiliation, and have filled the prisons. The whips have torn their backs and their women have become slaves to the most despicable among God's creation.

In the prisons of Palestine you will find chaste women, who stood up to defend God's religion when the men were scared. Yes, this is our situation today, and we say: No jihad! What are we waiting for? Are we waiting for a miracle from heaven that will turn the world upside down so we can then establish an Islamic state, where Sharia is established, where our religion's foundations are erected, where our creed is widely spread? And then we will say: Now it is time for jihad!

Yes. All scholars have agreed that when the enemy invades a Muslim country, jihad becomes a duty of everyone in that country; if they are incapable or unable, then it becomes the duty of those surrounding [neighboring countries] them and able to support them. Where are we in this

ruling? Where are we in this ruling, which we have opposed with our minds and with fabricated boundaries, which there is no truth in, or no value in, in the eyes of the religion of the Almighty, exalted He be. We have opposed it with our wills, with our philosophies, until we made the youth sit, and patted them on their shoulders and told them: "Sit down, rest, be smart," for that is not how things can be achieved. The enemy has overtaken fields and cities and we are still waiting for the victory to come from God Almighty. Victory is coming, God willing. I say these words, and I ask God for forgiveness for myself and for you, ask Him for forgiveness.

[al-Libi breaks for a moment]

Praise be to God, we thank Him and ask Him for support and ask for His forgiveness. We seek refuge with Him from the evils of our souls and from our bad deeds. He whom God has placed on the righteous path, no man will pull astray. And he who goes astray will not find the righteous path. I believe that there is no god but God, to whom there is no equal. I believe that Mohammed is His worshipper and His Prophet. Prayers of God be upon him, upon all his family and companions, and upon he who has followed his path and believed in his teachings until the Day of Judgment.

Thereafter: The prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, had informed us that the battle is upon us. And he had informed us of news that will remain true until the last of this nation battles al-Dajjal.

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It is the continuity of a nation that has been built upon truth, which is not harmed by those who oppose it or those who let it down. The prophet, prayers and peace be upon him, said: "Now is the time for battle and one group from my nation will always battle in truth." Not one individual, and not two individuals, rather an entire nation. Their battle is not in anger, it is not for patriotism, it is not nationalistic, it is not for mutual interests, and it is not for fabricated borders, but their battle is for the truth, and the most truthful truth is the [belief in the] monotheism of God Almighty. Jihad will not be jihad unless it is to raise the word of God Almighty. It is not to grant victory to partisanship, or to blood or the land, or anything else. But it is victory that will make the word of God prevail.

"One group from my nation will always battle in truth" [Hadith]. Therefore, O you worshippers of God, O you brothers of jihad in Palestine, in Iraq, in Afghanistan, conduct your jihad for God Almighty.

Realize victory for the zeal of the religion of the Almighty. Cast away pre-Islamic prejudice. Cast away pre-Islamic banners. For neither the land nor the blood [kinship], nor nationalism nor patriotism, moves us or motivates us. What really motivates us is "And fight them on until there is no more tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in Allah" [Koranic verse; al-Baqarah, 2:193]. O brothers in Palestine, cast away pre-Islamic prejudice, disown from the disbelief and its people and declare it openly and clearly: "We want to establish the religion of God Almighty; we want to implement the Sharia of the Almighty; we want to glorify the religion of God Almighty."

What is the use of evicting a Jew when after him an apostate takes his place, a secular Palestinian who is more vicious, filthier, and viler than this Jew we are fighting to cast out. The land does not glorify anyone; what glorifies a human being are his deeds. So if our deeds are for God Almighty, and our zeal is to the religion of God, the Exalted, then and only then, victory

from God will descend. "If ye will aid (the cause of) Allah, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly" [Koranic verse; Mohammed, 47:7]. Therefore, victory from God does not come by disobeying Him or by challenging Him, and not by violating His commands. Abu Musa al-Ash'ari narrated: "A man came to the messenger of God and said a man fights for war booty; another fights for fame and a third fights for showing off; which of them fights in Allah's cause? The Prophet said: He who fights that Allah's Word (i.e. Islam) should be superior, fights in Allah's cause" [Hadith].

Man has one soul, and when it comes out, it goes either to an everlasting eternity, or to punishment and hell [fire], so make your soul your dearest possession, make it a price for satisfying Almighty God, but not to satisfy some leadership, or a party or a country or an organization or a person or a friend or a relative or a stranger. It is a soul that you dedicate only for the sake of God and only God. "One group from my nation will always battle in truth" [Hadith].

Our prophet, God's peace and prayers be upon him, told us that the banner of jihad will not stop waving, its caravans will not stop, and its marches will not slow. Rather, it is continuous, since God sent His prophet, God's peace and prayers be upon him, and legislated to him this religion, and until Judgment Day, as mentioned in this Hadith. It is a good tidings from the prophet, God's peace and prayers be upon him, which we should take and be content with, knowing that God is with us, and that a good outcome is for the pious, and that enforcing this religion is either done by us or through us by being the fuel that moves the jihad wheel. The empowerment of the religion is coming, no doubt. Ubay Ibn-Ka'b narrated, and said, the prophet of God, peace and prayers be upon him, said: "To the Ummah, bring good tidings of facilitation, sublimity and glory for the religion, and empowerment and victory in the lands. Whoever carries out the deeds of the Hereafter in this world does not have a reward in the Hereafter" [Hadith]. Our deeds must be purely for the Almighty, exalted He be. We must not direct them at anything but to Almighty God. "There will never cease to be a group from my Ummah that fights upon the truth. Allah will deviate the hearts of some by way of them, and provide for them from them until the establishment of the hour and until the promise of Allah comes. Good shall remain in the manes of horses until the Day of Judgment" [Hadith].

We ask the Almighty God to glorify His religion, enable His Sharia and support his believers. O Lord, help your mujahideen believers to realize utter victory. O Lord, grant them clear success. God grant them victory in Iraq; O God, support them in Afghanistan and Pakistan. O God, support them in Palestine. God destroy Your enemies, who are fighting Your religion and torturing Your followers. God, destroy the Arab and non-Arab tyrants, kill them in numbers, finish them off, and do not spare anyone. God show us what will please our eyes and satisfy our anger towards them. God destroy them. God show us their black day. God defeat the demoralizing hypocrites. God punish the criminal hypocrites. God claim the demoralizing hypocrites. God, harm them for the sake of your believers. To You we come with our weakness, O God, and to You we bring out complaints, so help us. To You we bring our needs. God, you are our Lord and there is no god but You. You are our God, and there is no god but you. O Lord, do not make us depend on anyone but You, even for a moment. God, do not let us depend on ourselves, or anyone else but you, even for the twinkling of an eye. God make this day a day of victory, conquest and empowerment for Your believers. God assist the needy; God assist the needy; God assist the needy.

God release our captured brothers in the prisons of the Jews and the Christians, and the prisons of the apostates and the atheists, and in the prisons of the rejectionists and the Buddhists. God help them in their afflictions, and help them in their hardships. God, give them their daily bread and, return them to their families safe, secure and victorious. God support Your religion and

glorify the religion and the book by them, O Lord of all creation. God pray on the best of Your creation, Mohammed, and all his family and companions. Our last supplications are to praise God, the Lord of all creation."