

Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri: "And Be Neither Weakened Nor Saddened"

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

On August 15, 2011, Al-Qaida's As-Sahab Media Foundation released a message from Dr. Ayman al-Zawahiri titled, "And Be Neither Weakened Nor Saddened." In the message, Al-Zawahiri highlighted the purported successes of the jihadist movement in recent years: "My Muslim brothers and beloved Mujahideen: the Islamic movements in general and the jihadist ones in particular faced huge calamities and faced austere attacks in the last decades, but in return they caused the anti-Islamic alliance great, austere disasters; as America, the leader of the Western Crusade anti-Islamic alliance was attacked in her homeland—which she had considered a protected fortress, occupying a continent, surrounded by two great oceans—and the attack arrived on its symbol of economic power and the center of its military leadership. And then it was defeated in Iraq and thus withdrew, and today it is being defeated in Afghanistan and thus will withdraw..." He added: "America today is declining because you have shown her in this decade what she has not seen in her history, so do not weaken...Seek to attack America that has killed the Imam of the Mujahideen and threw his corpse in the sea and then imprisoned his women and children. Seek to attack her so history can say that a criminal state had spread corruption on earth and Allah sent her his servants who made her a lesson [for others] and left her as a memory."

"In the name of Allah, and praise Allah, and prayer and peace upon the messenger of Allah and upon his family, companions and allies."

"Muslim brothers everywhere: peace be upon you and Allah's mercy and blessings, and thereafter:"

[Verse]

"The blessed verses show that this faith's victory or solidification aren't connected with the permanence of a person or his survival, even if he was the gracious, venerable prophet, prayer and peace upon him, because it is the religion of Allah, protected with His protection, victorious with His victory, supported with His support."

"Then, the verses go over the continuous will of Allah that Jihad is accompanied with tests, scrutiny and discernment, and followed by victory for those who do not weaken, neither wane nor calm, [but] are patient, seek forgiveness and steadfastness."

[Verse]

"My Muslim brothers and beloved Mujahideen: this is the path. The path of prophets and messengers and their followers, and those who follow them righteously until the Day of Judgment; tests and calamities, and steadfastness without weakness, and seeking

forgiveness and prayer, and then [followed by] glory in life and rewards of the afterlife, with the grace and dignity of Allah. [It is] an extended call and an ongoing Jihad since Allah created Earth until He inherits it and those on it. It doesn't stop with the death of a commander or the loss of a leader, and it won't decline with an attack and a calamity. And it doesn't demur due to shortage or defeat, but it passes all of that and leaves its calamity with higher motivation and stronger determination and long-lasting challenge, like the situation of our prophet's companions, prayer and peace upon him, on the day of Hamra' al-Asad."

[Verse]

[Hadith]

"My Muslim brothers and beloved Mujahideen: the Islamic movements in general and the jihadist ones in particular faced huge calamities and faced austere attacks in the last decades, but in return they caused the anti-Islamic alliance great, austere disasters; as America, the leader of the Western Crusade anti-Islamic alliance was attacked in her homeland—which she had considered a protected fortress, occupying a continent, surrounded by two great oceans—and the attack arrived on its symbol of economic power and the center of its military leadership."

"And then it was defeated in Iraq and thus withdrew, and today it is being defeated in Afghanistan and thus will withdraw, and all of that is grace from Allah on the hands of the Mujahideen who are weak in their equipment, but strong in their faith and endearment toward their faith. Thus, the reputation of America and the Crusade alliance have fallen, and this is one of the most important gains from the blessed battles of September the Eleventh."

"The results were...great, and also the sacrifices were immensely great, and this is how Islam gains victory."

[Verse]

"My Muslim brothers and beloved Mujahideen: we have crossed strides on the road, but we still have other strides before us until victory is achieved, and we still have Jihad with the hand and the tongue before us until we purify all of the Muslim homelands from the occupiers, and until we remove from them the corrupt rulers. And until we establish a Sharia-based...rule that spreads justice and removes corruption."

"Before us [there is] Jihad through fighting and Jihad through statement. Before us a military fight and an advocacy effort, a political resistance and social reformation...various fronts and various arenas. We have engaged it in the midst of our Ummah and with it and in defense of it, and the Mujahideen, although they are standing at the front line and are fighting the enemies of Islam and who represent the vanguard

of the Ummah, defending Islam and Muslims, they also are an inseparable part of the oppressed, suppressed Muslim Ummah. And they are not alienated from its suffering, and they cooperate over piety and devotion; they advise and get advised, and they cooperate with each Muslim over what they agree upon of truth and guidance. And they advise each other upon what they disagree on."

"The Muslim Ummah in general and the Jihad Movement in particular must engage in the battle of statement just as they engage the battle of teeth, and their need for the battle of statement is higher than the need of the entire Ummah for it, because it [the Muslim Ummah] is more insightful towards the hubs of danger, as it is the one that faces it and confronts it daily. And it [the Jihad movement] has more expertise on the vicious, degraded nature of the enemy. And because it faces more confrontation with disfigurement and fallacy. And because it knows that [an] attack on it is intended to be an attack on Islam and [intended] to uproot its Sharia, and also because it is more open in speaking the truth and spreading it; as it has paid the price of its freedom and honesty and defiance in Hijra and imprisonment, steadfastness and fighting, and alienation from family, homeland and money, and patience over fighting and imprisonment."

"Shaykh Usama bin Laden—may Allah have mercy on him—used to remind [us] that our freedom is not limited by a ceiling except for the Sharia, because [by which] we inhale the pure oxygen of freedom."

[Verse]

"And the battle of statement has opened many arenas with the grace of Allah; as the modern means of communication have allowed big opportunities for production and information, and may Allah reward the knights of the Jihad Media the best of rewards. Those underground soldiers who are unbeknownst by many people, and in spite of which their deeds have reached the furthest places on earth in order to bring the message of truth pure even if the criminals hate it. And they must gather their efforts and gain their energies and master drawing their plans and organize their actions, and sacrifice what they can, as the battle is at its peak, and Allah will not miss the rewards of those who do good."

"And like that, an opportunity for advocacy and statement in Egypt and Tunisia has opened, and Allah only knows until when it will continue, so the people of Islam and Jihad must benefit from it and take advantage of it in speaking the honest truth and gather the Ummah around the primary affairs that are unopposed by any Muslim, most importantly:"

"The Sharia must rule and not be ruled, command not be commanded, lead not be led, above all authorities and rules every reference, and anything that opposes it from the articles of the constitution and the law is false. And that should be stated openly with phrases that do not have manipulation and malleability."

"Also, from the most important affairs is the liberation of our homelands from dependency on the international crusade arrogant forces. Why then isn't normalization with Israel and exchanging ambassadors with her halted, as well as removing sanctions from Gaza, thus allowing the transfer of products and persons from her and to her? It is not rational that tens of thousands of Israeli tourists enter Sinai without a visa in order to practice adultery, while our families in Gaza are not allowed entry into Egypt except through tearing souls apart, while continuing to ban products from entering."

"From the most affairs also the purification of the countries from financial and social corruption."

"These are huge battles that will not be confronted except by the Islamic movement in general and the Jihadist in particular...as it is the one that has released and keeps releasing thousands of Mujahideen and martyrs, detained and arrested, commanding with the good and forbidding the malicious. And it is the one that offered sacrifices in resisting the oppressors and the corruptors."

"The Islamic movement in general and the Jihadist in particular must work in accordance with the talk of the prophet, prayer and peace upon him: 'the best of Jihad is a word of truth before an oppressive ruler,' and the talk of [the prophet] prayer and peace upon him: 'the master of martyrs Hamza bin AbdulMuttaleb and a man who rises before an oppressive ruler, commanded him, forbade him and so killed him.'"

"My Muslim brothers and beloved Mujahideen: America today is declining because you have shown her in this decade what she has not seen in her history, so do not weaken in seeking her [Verse], and seek to attack her...to cut off what remains from her corruption. Seek to attack America that has killed the Imam of the Mujahideen and threw his corpse in the sea and then imprisoned his women and children. Seek to attack her so history can say that a criminal state had spread corruption on earth and Allah sent her his servants who made her a lesson [for others] and left her as a memory."

[Verse]

"And our last prayer is praise Allah Lord of the Worlds, and Allah's prayer and peace upon our master Muhammad and upon his family and companions."

"And peace be upon you and Allah's mercy and blessings."

Dr. Shaykh Ayman al-Zawahiri As-Sahab Media