

Somalia: MYM American Member Responds to President Obama's Muslim World Speech

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

Somalia: MYM American Member Responds to President Obama's Muslim World Speech On 8 July, a forum participant posted numerous links for a 27 minute and 22 seconds audio/video recording issued by the Mujahidin Youth Movement (MYM), entitled "MYM: New Message by Abu Mansoor al-Amriki (The Beginning of the End)." Al-Amriki did not appear in the video, but in his recorded English-language message he rejected President Barack Obama's speech to the Muslim world given in Cairo on 4 June. Al-Amriki stated that Obama's new approach was only a strategy to mislead Muslims and impose "so-called moderate or American Islam." Al-Amriki also stated that the mujahidin would not stop fighting until all foreign troops are pulled out of Muslim lands and until the US stops its support to Israel. The statement is attributed to the Sada Al-Jihad Media Center of the Global Islamic Media Front.

A transcription and description of the audio/video message follows:

"In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Banner reads: 'Harakat Shabaab Al-Mujahideen Media Section Presents"

Banner reads: "The Beginning of the end. Abu Mansoor Al-Amriki. Audio reply. A Response to Barack Obama"

Abu Mansur al-Amriki says in English: "In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. All praises are due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. We praise Him and we seek His help and His guidance. We seek refuge from the evil of ourselves and the evil of our deeds. Whomever Allah guides there is none to misguide him and whomever He leads astray there is none to guide him. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship but Allah alone, without partners, and Muhammad is His slave and Messenger. As for what follows, I would like to reiterate to President Barack Obama the words of the shaykh and mujahid Usama Bin Ladin, may Allah protect and preserve him, when he said that America will not dream of peace, nor will those who live in America, until we are all living the reality of peace in Palestine. Therefore, despite the fact that you have been humbled by the mujahidin and forced to at least pretend to extend your hand in peace to Muslims, we cannot and shall not extend our hands. Rather we shall extend to you our swords until you leave our lands. Let this not come as a surprise to those who are mesmerized by Obama's speech in Cairo.

"Our positions, both the American position and the position of the mujahidin, have not changed in the least. All that has changed is the way in which the position is being presented. The prophet, peace be upon him, has already informed us of the power of speech when he said: 'indeed in speech there is a form of magic' (Hadith). This magic of charisma is what lifted Obama to the global stage and what caused him to become the first African American president. However, this power of conveyance and magical charisma has not changed the reality of the American goals and it has not caused any success for America, economically or militarily. But one very important change must be noted, which is the change in the way America addresses the Muslims.

"The cowboy flavor has melted away and instead we have a new, apologetic and humble approach, which seems to find sympathetic people from within the Muslim world to spread the teachings of democracy by defeat instead of destruction. This change is nearly identical to the change that was forced upon the Crusaders after they had been defeated militarily and chased

from the Muslim lands. They began a new chapter in their war against the Muslims, a war of thoughts, a war of hearts and minds. This war eventually caused the secularization of the Muslims and laid the foundation for the colonization that Obama apologized to us about in his speech. The reality is that he is only changing his strategy, from a short term win to a long term victory. If we study his words carefully, we can know very clearly that this new beginning is still heavily based upon American interests. The only difference is that Obama is now willing to spread the pie a little more to the Muslim world. This is not because he loves the Muslims he lived with in Indonesia as a boy, but rather it is because the only way to defeat the Muslims is by distracting them with this temporary life. This is a recipe for success that has been tried and tested. He wants to build hospitals, roads and schools.

"He wants to build the economy of Pakistan and develop the country and provide services. Why, because he admits that military power alone is not going to win the war in Afghanistan. In other words, he wants to buy the hearts and minds of the Muslim ummah worldwide. Is that in our interests as Muslim or in the interests of America? One major miscalculation that has come from Obama and his tens of speech writers is their assumptions about the goals and aspirations of Muslims. A Muslim doesn't look to peace, security, education, work or the love of any other number of things as his ultimate goals. Instead, a Muslim is always working and striving to please the one true Creator. A Muslim is always holding to his or her principles and not compromising. A Muslim knows that this life is but for a short period and that it must be filled with tests and trials. Allah the Exalted says (Arabic): 'Do men think that they will be left alone on saying, "We believe", and that they will not be tested?' (Koranic verse; Al-Ankabut 29:2). (English translation) 'Does mankind think that they would be left saying "We believe" without being tested?' A Muslim obeys the commands of the one God and has patience with whatever comes with that. So you must know who and what a Muslim is before you address the Muslim people and attempt to distract them from the worship of Allah and true success in the hereafter. "So those millions of dollars that Obama wants to spend in Pakistan and Afghanistan are only in the interests of America and those that will have their pockets lined with gold for selling out their beliefs and their people for a measly gain in this life. In fact, this whole speech of Obama's was only directed to those who either do not understand their beliefs or those who are willing to leave them for what Obama would like to call 'progress' and 'prosperity.' All of this progress must come with a series of other shining words that are nothing more than euphemisms for disbelief and immoral conduct. Human rights, women's rights, minority rights, the right to choose your religion and your lifestyle, the right to a good job, the freedom of speech, the freedom to vote, justice, equality and so forth. All of these words mean the Western form of democracy that cannot be reconciled with Islam.

"Human rights simply mean that the Hudud (Islamic punishments) should not be established. Stoning and cutting of the hands are all against human rights. Women's rights mean that the women do not have to wear a hijab (veil) if they choose not to and the right to tear down the family structure. It means denying the birth about inheritance and bearing witness. Minority rights means treating those who are at war with God in the same manner as Muslims. Freedom of religion means the freedom to become an apostate without having the Islamic ruling being applied. It also means protecting and encouraging missionaries and the like who have tried their best to misguide our families. Freedom of lifestyle means the freedom to be a homosexual. Freedom of speech means the freedom to abuse our beloved prophets, peace be upon them, and even our God. Freedom to vote means that the uneducated and educated must all be given an equal say and it means the law of God is open for change and debate. Justice means only that which is in line with the American Constitution, and equality means that everyone is the same so long as they possess the same amount of money and power. Otherwise, the rich get tax cuts and do as they wish with impunity. This is only scratching the surface.

"We are not fooled by these sparkling words that are dripping with hypocrisy and double standards. We need only look at the American legacy to explain to us what these words mean. Although Obama would have us to believe that America is not a self interest empire, we ask him, what was America built upon? What role did hundreds of years of slavery have? Why were black men not equal to white men in the Constitution? What happened to the Native Americans? Why was treaty after treaty broken by the US Government until the Native Americans were practically wiped out? What type of relationship does America have with the Latin world? What was America doing in Vietnam and why does it have bases everywhere in the world, from the Philippines to Central Asia to the Middle East to the Horn of Africa to the Latin world? Why has America assassinated leaders and overthrown so-called "democratically elected governments" simply because they are against its policies? Why does America have exclusive control of the largest oil producing countries? Why did America enter Iraq? Why is America right, when it goes around the world imposing its way of life on everyone, using force, whereas those who reject America and defend themselves are considered wrong?

"If we are told that we shouldn't be bound by the past and that this is a new president with a new beginning, then we ask, what were President Obama's words when the Palestinians were being bombed indiscriminately in Gaza? Why the silence and the lack of action during the time of need? Should we simply believe empty promises that are backed by scrolls of misdeeds? What about the promises to enter into the tribal areas of Pakistan despite the wishes of President Musharraf and his successor? Does that go in line with Obama's promise to respect sovereignty and to protect America only by the rule of law? All of this can be attributed to Obama within months. Are we then meant to forget all of this as well? One might seriously ask, how dare you send greetings to the Muslim world while thousands of Muslims are being detained in your facilities. And how dare you send greetings to the Muslims, while you are bombing our brothers and sisters in Afghanistan. And how dare you send peace greetings to the Muslims while you are supporting Israel, the most vicious and evil nation of this modern era. And how dare you send your peace greetings to the Muslims while you are actively opposing any establishment of a true Islamic state, directly and indirectly, in many places around the world.

"Are we meant to hear your greetings and forget the world we live in? Rather, are we led to forget the words of Allah when He said (Arabic): 'Never will the Jews or the Christians be satisfied with thee unless thou follow their form of religion.' (Koranic verse; Al-Baqara 2:120). (English translation) 'The Jews and the Christians will never be pleased with you until you follow their way.' Are we led to forget the words of Allah when He said (Arabic): 'And he amongst you that turns to them (for friendship) is of them' (Koranic verse; Al-Ma'idah 5:51). (English translation) 'And whoever takes them as allies from amongst you then he is from them.' Are we meant to forget all of the text of our religion about only giving allegiance to Allah and His Messenger and His believing slaves? Are we led to forget the teachings of our religion about jihad and that we should fight the disbelievers until the word of Allah is uppermost? Are we meant to forget the teachings of our religion about the implementation of Islamic Shari'ah? Of course, Islam has a history of tolerance. Islam ruled the world for centuries and provided the Jews and the Christians with freedoms and rights that were beyond their wildest dreams. The taxes they had to pay in order to enjoy the safety of the Islamic state and the ability to practice their religion in private were far less than the taxes that Muslim Americans and even non-Muslim Americans have to pay yearly to obtain their right to be surveilled in the over 1200 masjids (mosques) of America; their right to be harassed by the FBI; their right to have their phones tapped; and their right to be imprisoned under charges of secret evidence. So as history has shown, extensive rights were being given to non-Muslims and other religions were being tolerated in Palestine and in Al-Andalus (Spain) among other lands, while the Muslims were still

establishing Islamic shari'ah and while the Muslims were still continuing the obligation of jihad and conquering all the lands including those deep inside of Europe.

"But this is not the Islam that America would have because it is clearly against their interests. Instead, Obama would like to teach us another Islam: the so-called moderate or American Islam, the Islam of the Marines, the Islam of the Pope and King Abdullah. He would like to tell us about the rules of the "Hijab (veil)" and "Zakah (alms)" and distort the meanings of the verses of the Koran. He would have us forget about all of the verses and Ahadith (plural of Hadith), about jihad and fighting the disbelievers, and instead push on us that whoever kills a disbeliever, for instance, has actually killed all mankind and whoever saves a disbeliever has actually saved all mankind. We choose to believe the words of Allah and His messenger, peace be upon him, and disbelieve the plots of Obama. But since it is not beyond Obama to play such games with our Koran, we would like to ask him: Just how many times has America and Israel killed all of mankind? Obama would have us to believe that the mujahidin and those who speak to the true teachings of Islam are a small strange sect of weirdos that have nothing to do with the Muslim ummah. He would ignore the fact that the Muslim nation that he addressed in his speech is no longer asleep and that jihad and the mujahidin have spread to every corner of the earth, including America. He would like us to believe that all of the Muslims simply love America and its policies, while the mujahidin are busily planning how they can kill more Muslims, especially the women and children. This is a pathetic attempt to find a scapegoat for the hundreds of thousands of Muslim women and children killed by the American invasion of various Muslim lands.

"In addition, it is rather ironic that Obama mentioned innocents being slaughtered in Bosnia and Darfur and stated there will be a stain on our collective conscience. Could he really forget about all of the other innocent? Who dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki? Did he forget about the thousands of innocent that were killed during the Second World War? Did he forget about the support that America was giving Saddam (Hussein) while he was massacring Kurds? Did he forget about the million Iraqi children that died during the embargo and sanctions on Iraq? Did he forget about the oppression and murder of the Palestinians, which was made possible by the support and weaponry of America? Did he forget about the many tyrants that America has put into power and supported through all of their evil? Did he forget about the villages of Afghanistan that have been wiped off the map? Did he forget about the direct occupation of Somalia under the cloak of restoring hope and the massacre of scores of Somali Muslims at the hands of brutal American soldiers? Or did he forget about the thousands of Somalis that have been killed due to the invasion of the American-backed Ethiopians? And the list goes on and on.

"If we were to look at all the innocents that America has directly or indirectly killed or harmed, one would have to deduce that America does not have a conscience. Please Mr. Obama, do not bore us with your so-called facts that must be accepted. The blessed attacks on 9/11 killed thousands. Yes, this we accept, but were they all innocent? Well, we should first ask Mr. Obama: How innocent were the thousands of civilians killed in the napalm and agent orange attacks over Vietnam? And we should ask: why is it that the Americans are allowed to indiscriminately bomb Iraqi towns and cities with chemical agents, such as white phosphorous, but the mujahidin are not allowed to destroy the economic center of the very empire that is oppressively occupying them? Or are we meant to believe that the Twin Towers were maximally huge daycare centers and maternity wards? After all, if the mujahidin really wanted to simply kill American women and children, then why on September 11 did they focus on Capitol Hill, the Pentagon and America's most vital financial center? Well, it was a calculated attack on the leadership of America, its military, and the economic center that was funding its oppression.

"We are also told by Mr. Obama that violence is not the answer and that it does not gain moral authority but rather surrenders it. We would like to ask how then was it that American was born out of revolution? Did you forget that you just told us that you fought the British Empire to get your freedom? Did you forget that it was Lincoln who supposedly fought the civil war for the freedom of the slaves? I personally remember reading in my history books in primary school about President Lincoln's famous Emancipation Proclamation. Also, did you forget about the struggle of Malcolm X, the Black Panthers, and many others in the American Black history against oppression and racism in America? Or should we believe that one day American and the Ku Klux Klan were convinced by the sermons of Martin Luther King, Jr. and felt ashamed of all the water hosing, beatings, and lynchings that they had become accustomed to?

"This is only one of the many contradictions brought to us by Obama in his glamorous speech. One of the most interesting contradictions came in his discussion about Hamas. Of course, we do not surrender to the democratic system and the western values. But the irony cannot be denied. Despite the fact they were democratically elected, America views that Hamas should not be supported or declared democratic, while Husni Mubarak on the other hand, who is known for opaque elections and oppression of the people should be supported and promoted as an American partner in fighting violent extremism in all of its forms. Similarly, the masters of violent extremism in Israel are eternal brothers of America no matter how much oppression they pour onto the Palestinians because they have earned the right to take anyone's land they please because Hitler killed six million of them. And of course, these numbers are facts that cannot be denied. I would like to add, based on this logic, that if America and Israel continue to kill the Muslims at the current rate, we will soon have the right to give the Kurds a homeland in Dallas, Texas. And the current residents, including George Bush, will all have to leave or be the victims of our earned right to oppress them.

"In closing, I would like to give glad tidings to the mujahidin all over the world that they are the reason for this apologetic speech of Obama. The very existence of the mujahidin in the remote mountains is the reason that Obama is living in fear across seas. The bravery and courage of the mujahidin in Afghanistan and Pakistan is the reason Obama views it as costly to keep American troops there and is the reason why he no longer wants American soldiers to die. The bravery and courage of mujahidin in Iraq is the reason that Obama wants to pull out his troops as soon as possible and is the reason why he says he does not desire to have any bases there. Do not be fooled to think that the president of America would come humbly apologizing and seeking help from the Muslim world due to the sellout scholars who are overwhelmed with joy by the thoughts of receiving the greetings of salaams from the man who is the cause for the death of hundreds if not thousands of Muslims today. Do not think that the secularism of Al-Azhar or the antics of those who give religious verdicts promoting enlisting in the American army are the cause for the retreat of Americans and their change of approach. All of this victory is but from Allah and then from the actions of the devout and sincere mujahidin.

"Also, to the nearly seven million Muslims of America, I would like to extend some sincere advice. The animosity that America holds for Islam and Muslims and the establishment of an Islamic state has become clear as day. And it is a fact that cannot be denied by any intelligent person. The Muslims in America felt that fact after September 11, as thousands were jailed and new laws were passed, as you well know. The whole ummah feels the enmity, oppression and evil of America. And your Muslim brothers and sisters are surprised at how you are staying in America. It is known that you are paying taxes, which are in turn being used to make tanks and bombs and to support Israel, among other things.

"Obama himself mentioned that you are enriching his country to creating businesses and teaching in American universities. Some of the Muslims give you the benefit of the doubt saying that you must be in such a difficult situation that you aren't even able to immigrate. But Allah knows. In most cases it is not like that. Allah, the Exalted said that those who choose to remain oppressed instead of making 'hijra' (Arabic): 'When angels take the souls of those who die in sin against their souls, they say: "In what (plight) Were ye?" They reply: "Weak and oppressed Were we in the earth." They say: "Was not the earth of Allah spacious enough for you to move yourselves away (From evil)?" Such men will find their abode in Hell,- What an evil refuge!' (Koranic verse; Al-Nisa 4:97). (English translation) "Indeed those who souls are taken by the angels while they are oppressing themselves, the angels say to them, what type of situation were you in? They say we used to be oppressed in the land. The angels say, wasn't the land of Allah expansive enough that you could immigrate therein? Those are the ones whose abode is hellfire and what a terrible destination.' You must turn to the command of Allah and join the Ummah. You must use your talents and money and lives in support of the Muslims rather than in support of those who at war with Allah's religion.

"Reject the calls of Obama and answer the calls of the oppressed. Allah, the exalted, said (Arabic): 'And why should ye not fight in the cause of Allah and of those who, being weak, are ill-treated (and oppressed)? Men, women, and children, whose cry is: 'Our Lord! Rescue us from this town, whose people are oppressors; and raise for us from thee one who will protect; and raise for us from thee one who will help!' Those who believe fight in the cause of Allah, and those who reject faith fight in the cause of Evil: So fight ye against the friends of Satan: feeble indeed is the cunning of Satan' (Koranic verse; Al-Nisa 4:75-76). (English translation) 'And what is the matter with you that you do not fight in the way of Allah? And the oppressed from amongst the men and the women and children who say: 'Oh our Lord, remove us from this town of oppressors and make for us a protector from yourself and make for us a victor.' Those who believe fight in the way of Allah and those who disbelieve fight in the way of the 'Taghut' (tyrant). So fight the allies of Satan. Indeed the plot of Satan is ever weak.'

"In addition, I would like to address some words of advice directly to President Obama. In light of your allusions to the golden rule, 'do unto to others as you would have them do unto you', you must first know that all our actions are simply reactions to oppression you have begun. Did we cross an ocean to come to your land to involve ourselves in your affairs? Did we construct bases on your land and steal all your national resources at the hands of paid mercenaries? Did we round up countless numbers of your women and youth and force them to languish in secret torture chambers around the world? Did we desecrate your holy texts and abuse your prophets? Did we submit your men and women to perverted forms of sexual abuse and humili ating acts? You are promoting 'do unto others as you would have them do unto you', but you have treated us in a particular manner that makes it nearly impossible for us to respond to you in the same. "You appear to be extending your hand in peace to the Muslim world based upon a few weak claims of change. As far as your claims in regards to improving some of the policies of Bush, you are claiming that Guantanamo Bay will be closed down early next year. We won't be satisfied until all of the Guantanos and the Abu Ghraibs around the world have been closed around the world and all of the Muslim prisoners, male and female, have been released. You claim that you will fully pull out all of your troops from Iraq by 2012. We won't be satisfied until you pull out all your troops from all of the Muslim lands. You claim that you won't interfere with the sovereignty of nations. We won't be satisfied until you completely cease to push your influence upon any and all of the Muslim lands. These conditions have already been spelled out to you clearly by the leadership of Al-Qa'ida. We have been awaiting your compliance to this. So if you are serious about your claims of wanting peace, then these conditions must first be met. Then and only then would we be able to even start contemplating the issue of peace.

"And finally, I would like to leave President Obama with some words to contemplate. As you have presented to us a new beginning, we reply by saying that by the permission of Allah this beginning is at best the beginning of the end -- the end of the tyranny and the oppression so common to America. As the days go on, it becomes more and more apparent that this cause is not simply being carried by those who live in Palestine, Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia and other far-off lands. This is the cause of the entire Muslim ummah and it is being carried even by those who are considered legal citizens of your own country, according to your own laws. This is the cause that we were created to live for and it is the cause that we are willing and striving to die to protect. So by the will of Allah, and until our time has been decreed, we will continue to work in these blessed mountains and forests putting fear into oppressors across oceans. I ask Allah to make me firm and to give me martyrdom upon this path and may his peace and salutations be upon Muhammad and his family and companions.

"And the last of our calls is all praise is due to the Lord of the worlds."

At minute 26:18, when Al-Amriki mentions "...Somalia and other far-off lands...", a video insert labeled "Mujahid brother Adam al-Amriki" (Adam Ghadan) appears on screen. The video is followed by a picture labeled "Shaheed Insh'allah (God willing) Abu Hurriya Al-Amriki" (see AFP20081211601002), and videos labeled "Shaheed Insh'allah Burhan Al-Amriki" and "Shaheed Insh'allah Dahir Al-Amriki." The screen returns to a picture of Abu Mansur al-Amriki at 26:52.