The Islamic Country in Iraq and the Levant:

Jihad Trading

By Shaikh Omar Abdel-Rahman (May Allah Set him Free)

In the name of Allah the Merciful

Jihad Trading

Verily all praises is for Allah, we praise Him and seek His aid and ask for His forgiveness, and we seek refuge with Allah from the evils of ourselves and our evil actions. Whom Allah chooses to guide, none that can mislead him and whom He chooses mislead, none that can guide him. I bear witness that none has the right to be worship except Allah Alone, having no partners, and I bear witness that Muhammad (sallallaahu ‘ alayhi ‘wa sallam (peace and blessings upon him) (saw)) is His slave and His Messenger.

Peace be upon Prophet Muhammad, and upon his family, and companions, and all those who follow them with righteousness until the Day of Judgment.

And thereafter, Allah, the Almighty, says: “O you who have believed, shall I guide you to a bargain that will save you from a painful torment?\* You shall believe in Allah and His Messenger, and strive in the cause of Allah with your wealth and your lives. That is best for you, if you should know\* He will forgive for you your sins and admit you to gardens beneath which rivers flow and pleasant dwellings in gardens of perpetual residence. That is the great attainment.”

O Venerable Brothers,

Allah obliged us to perform and commit to certain obligations. People have forgotten and neglected some of those obligations for so long such as the obligation of Jihad in Allah’s cause.

Jihad in Allah’s cause is like the highest point of the Islam hump. Islam requested us to commit to this obligation and also warned us greatly not to leave it.

Quran and Sunna requested Jihad from us. Here the verses of Holy Quran show us that the greatest trade a Muslim can have is Jihad in Allah’s cause. The one guiding us to it is the Creator of the universe, and the heavens and the earth, who created selves and granted us money. He demands selves and wealth from us and then gives us great things in return. He buys selves and wealth from us while He is the creator of selves and wealth. He gives us Janna as the price of this transaction. “Lo! Allah hath bought from the believers their lives and their wealth because the Garden will be theirs: they shall fight in the way of Allah and shall slay and be slain.”

This trade is full of profits, without any losses. It is very profitable; no harm and no perdition. Allah guides us to it in a desirable way and calls us believers. “O you who have believed, shall I guide you to a bargain that will save you from a painful torment?”

The first profit of this trading is being saved from painful torment and then having our sins forgiven. After that, we get admitted to gardens beneath which rivers flow and pleasant dwellings in gardens of perpetual residence… Which attainment could be greater and bigger than this?! “That is the great attainment.”

The Creator of selves knows that those selves get the immediate price back and the never-delayed profit. He gives us the immediate profit. “And (He will give you) another (blessing) which ye love: help from Allah and present victory. Give good tidings (O Muhammad) to believers.”

Which trading can be more profitable than this?! Believe in Allah and His messenger, and strive in Allah’s cause with life and wealth. “You shall believe in Allah and His Messenger, and strive in the cause of Allah with your wealth and your lives. That is best for you, if you should know.”

Our holy prophet, peace be upon him, shows that there is no deed that equals Jihad in reward. A man, who heard from the prophet’s Hadiths that the rewards of Jihad are great, asks the prophet: “Instruct me as to such a deed as equals Jihad (in reward)." He replied, "I do not find such a deed." Then he added, "Can you, while the Muslim fighter is in the battle-field, enter your mosque to perform prayers without cease and fast and never break your fast?”

Who can enter a mosque to pray without cease and never get tired and fast for days and never break his fast?! Who can do this?! All these rewards cannot equal the reward of Jihad in the cause of Allah!

Also, our beloved prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, shows us the rewards of jihad. “Say: Do you wait for us (anything) except one of the two best things (martyrdom or victory)”. The prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, says: “The example of a Mujahid in Allah's Cause-- and Allah knows better who really strives in His Cause----is like a person who fasts and prays continuously. Allah guarantees that He will admit the Mujahid in His Cause into Paradise if he is killed, otherwise He will return him to his home safely with rewards and war booty (maal-e-gani-maat)."

Our intercessor, peace be upon him, also shows us the grades of paradise. “Paradise has one-hundred grades and the distance between each of two grades is like the distance between the heaven and the earth, which Allah has reserved (only) for the ‘mujahidin’ who fight in His Cause. So, when you ask Allah (for something), ask for ‘Al-Firdaus’ which is the best and highest part of Paradise. Above it (i.e. ‘Al-Firdaus’) is the Throne of the Beneficent (i.e. Allah), and from it originate the rivers of Paradise."

These grades are for mujahidin. So, when you ask Allah (for something), ask for ‘Al-Firdaus’ which is the best and highest part of Paradise. But, don’t ask Him while you’re sitting down too lazy to strive for Allah’s cause! Rather ask Him while you’re willing to commit to Jihad without retreating. “By Allah, if any man fights today and is killed ... forward and not retreating, Allah will cause him to enter Paradise.” Ask Him while you’re committing to jihad or mujahidin in one of the jihad fields.

While Islam requested Jihad from us, it warned against leaving it: painful torment and the adulterer’s punishment to those who left jihad in the cause of Allah. We find that those punishments afflicted the Ummah when people abandoned this obligation and left it. Any nation that leaves jihad inherits humiliation that Allah never takes away until they go back to jihad in Allah’s cause like our holy prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, told us.

This humiliation comes to the nation from every spot. The nation gets surrounded by its enemies. “The nations are about to flock against you [the Muslims] from every horizon, just as hungry people flock to a kettle. We said: O Messenger of God, will we be few on that day? He said: No, you will be many in number, but you will be scum, like the scum of a flash-flood.”

We, a billion and even more, are like the scum of a flash-flood! If we were insects, we would eliminate our enemies! If we were flies, we would ruin the lives of our enemies!

The terror that was cast in the hearts of the disbelievers regarding their hostility to Muslims was removed. Terror was cast in the hearts of disbelievers; Allah Almighty says: “I will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve. “We will cast terror into the hearts of those who disbelieve for what they have associated with Allah of which He had not sent down [any] authority. And their refuge will be the Fire, and wretched is the residence of the wrongdoers.” This terror was taken away from the hearts of disbelievers and their fear of us left their souls.

“Allah will take the fear of you from the breasts (hearts) of your enemy and cast al-wahn (weakness) into your hearts.” Someone asked, "O Messenger of Allah, what is al-wahn?" He replied, "Love of the world and dislike of death."

Loving the world, adhering to the earth, following whims, tending to the life of this world, and loving safety, profit and survival have dominated our souls. All these traits of the hypocrites and the Jews have crawled into the hearts of Muslims. The Jews whose traits Quran has told us about: “then wish for death, if you should be truthful. But they will not wish for it, ever, because of what their hands have put forth. And Allah is Knowing of the wrongdoers.” We don’t wish for death any more. We hate meeting Allah. Allah hates meeting those who hate meeting Him. We committed all this! We hated death and loved life. We abandoned the Hereafter and loved the life in this world: “Indeed, these [disbelievers] love the immediate and leave behind them a grave Day.”

What happened to this nation?! Traits of the hypocrites and the Jews, who used to ask for permission and apologize to us, crawled into this nation! Muslims now hate Jihad for their fear of death. Quran shows us that Jihad in Allah’s cause and throwing the self into the kiln of battles neither increases the years you are to live nor decreases them! Neglecting Jihad and being weak doesn’t increase your years on earth! “Say, "Indeed, the death from which you flee - indeed, it will meet you. Then you will be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you about what you used to do." “Say, [O Muhammad], "Never will fleeing benefit you if you should flee from death or killing; and then [if you did], you would not be given enjoyment [of life] except for a little. Say, "Who is it that can protect you from Allah if He intends for you an ill or intends for you a mercy?" And they will not find for themselves besides Allah any protector or any helper.” The verses show us that ages of people are in the hands of Allah, Allah willing; they are not decrease due to going to a battle or Jihad. “And it is not [possible] for one to die except by permission of Allah at a decree determined.”

Cowardliness, weakness, and powerlessness don’t increase the ages of people at all. A person who neglects jihad might die before the one entering Jihad battles. He might die in bed the death of a weak coward person. “May the eyes of the cowards never rest in sleep”

Mujahidin in the cause Allah die at a determined time or get killed at a decree determined. Yet, they die with honour, dignity, and greatness. They die and Horis welcome them and they dwell in Paradise.

This way, our prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, teaches us courage and boldness. Ali Ibn Abi Talib, may Allah be pleased with him said, "Whenever battle became fierce and the two factions met we would shield ourselves behind the messenger of Allah peace be upon him, and none of us would be nearer to the enemy than he peace be upon him." This is how the courage of our beloved prophet was. When his companions fled, the prophet, peace be upon him, stood firm before the enemy and said: “I am the prophet; it is no lie. I am the son of Abd Al-Muttalib.” How come weakness and cowardliness have dominated this nation?!

When they used to cling to the Jihad obligation, the whole world was at hand. They opened the two greatest continents then –Asia and Africa, and owned the keys to the oceans. When they left Jihad, Allah made them inherit humiliation that is never to be taken away, and nations flocked against them, occupied them and got them out of Andalusia. Also, the Islamic Abbasid Caliphate and what followed it broke down. All this is because they left Jihad in Allah’s cause. The Holy Quran warns, threatens, reprimands, and reproaches with His holy verse: “O you who have believed, what is [the matter] with you that, when you are told to go forth in the cause of Allah, you adhere heavily to the earth?” What is wrong with you? What happened to you? What afflicted you? What’s the matter with you? What is the matter with you that, when you are told to strive in the cause of Allah, you adhere to and fell on to the earth like the heavy weight that won’t leave the earth? It is as if you’re like the gigantic rock or a stone that hits the ground heavily and violently every time cranes try to lift it up: “you adhere heavily to the earth.”

Quran uses the approach of reprimand and censure; “Are you satisfied with the life of this world rather than the Hereafter? But what is the enjoyment of worldly life compared to the Hereafter except a [very] little.” What made you leave Jihad? Being satisfied with the life of this world and loving it, and neglecting the Hereafter? Although everybody knows that the enjoyment of the Hereafter is permanent and everlasting and that the enjoyment of the life of this world is ephemeral? “But you prefer the worldly life, while the Hereafter is better and more enduring.” “Whatever you have will end, but what Allah has is lasting.” So, why do “you adhere heavily to the earth?”

Who abandons Jihad in the cause of Allah is committing one of Al Kaba'ir (the major sins). He won’t repent of it unless he performs this duty. If he dies, he will be under the category of hypocrites. Fear for yourselves! Fear Allah! Fear to die like hypocrite people! Fear to die committing one of the major sins! Fear to contribute to the nation’s inheritance of humiliation, degradation, and wretchedness when you leave the duty of Jihad.

After reprimand and censure, Quran goes on to warn and threaten: “If you do not go forth, He will punish you with a painful punishment and will replace you with another people, and you will not harm Him at all. And Allah is over all things competent.” If you don’t strive in the cause of Allah, He will punish you with a painful punishment, not only in the Hereafter, but also quickly and immediately in the life of this world. It is the punishment of the life in this world which Muslims are being punished with. So, their problems became big and complicated; problems of food, clothing, medication, housing, and transportation. What is in their lives without problems?!

“If you do not go forth, He will punish you with a painful punishment and will replace you with another people,” who raise the banner of jihad, and fight in the cause of Allah. “And you will not harm Him at all”; you will be valueless as long as you quit Jihad. “And Allah is over all things competent.”

The painful torment surrounds us. What’s even harder is what we see in the Islamic world; no one feels safe about himself, his honour, or his life. Life is so harsh and violent in every aspect. This punishment is after us. So, why don’t we strive in the cause of Allah?!

Battlefields of Jihad are calling you. Come! Go faster to strive in the cause of Allah! Don’t let your brothers down. Don’t hand them over to their enemies. Our holy prophet says: “A Muslim is a brother of another Muslim, so he should not oppress him, let him down, nor should he hand him over to an oppressor.” How come you let your brothers down? How do you hand them over to their enemies?!

The Islamic Ummah degraded greatly by [quitting] Jihad! When the Afghans raised the banner of Jihad in the cause of Allah – just as the Palestinians, Eritreans, and other Islamic nations did – Muslims started to get stronger and more powerful. Why do we let them down? Why do we prefer safety and survival? Why do we love and prefer to adhere to the earth? Why do we follow whims? Why do we love the life in this world and hate the Hereafter? Why do we hate death, although it’s undoubtedly coming to us?

O Venerable Brothers, come to a Paradise whose width encompasses the width of the heavens and the Earth. Hurry up to Al Ferdous al-A'laa (the highest point in Paradise). Hurry up to jihad in the cause of Allah. Enter Jihad battlefields. Raise His banner. Raise the word of Allah and perform your duties. Don’t you abuse the trust put in you. Hurry up to Jihad and guard Islamic country on the border. Don’t let your brothers down. You’re enemies are lurking. They wish you delay Jihad so that they Muslims become a weak nation easy to conquer. After they occupy Afghanistan – Allah Forbid – they will go to Pakistan and all the other countries; also to Palestine and Eretria. Beware of the consequences and hurry up to Jihad in Allah’s cause.

'O believers! Be patient, and excel in patience with the enemies and guard Islamic country on the border and remain fearing Allah that haply you may be successful.”

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for my sins and yours!

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