

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْزَ اللهِ الْإِسْلَامُ



المُ إِلَّاللَّهُ مُحَمَّدُ زَّسُولُ اللهِ

FRIDAY SERMON HADHRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH MUNIR AHMAD AZIM

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After greeting all his disciples (and all Muslims) worldwide with the greeting of peace Hadhrat Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al Fatiha, and then he delivered his sermon on:

"ISLAMIC" TERRORISM

Today, the so-called "Islamic" terrorism is on everyone's lips. Some want nothing more than to satiate their visceral hatred of everything related to Islam. In Western countries nowadays, it is recurrent for them through their written and spoken media/ press to perpetually talk/ discuss on the subject of "Islamic" terrorism that is currently overtaking the world. There is not a day which passes by that this act ("Islamic" Terrorism) does not make the front page of the media and therefore raises debates within the Islamic community and elsewhere on the merits of this religious terrorism. By publishing it urbi et orbi, there is no doubt that some people want nothing more than to appease their visceral hatred of everything related to Islam and to discredit this faith in the eyes of those who do not profess it.

So far, a lot of conferences, debates and meetings have been organized worldwide so that common sense prevails between the protagonists. But in

these dialogues of the deaf not a single glimmer of hope of peace, love and tolerance appeared on the horizon - those who vilify Islam continue to inject hatred and dream of a last crusade to end forever with the modern-day Saracens, i.e. the Muslims. On the other hand, the rebellious (among the Muslims – the extremists) do not give in - they organize themselves and make armaments speak. In all this folly, it is quite legitimate for one to know what the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam thinks about this so-called "Islamic" terrorism which is being projected from morning till night.

I really wonder what they mean by "Islamic" terrorism! Islam is to terrorism as light is to darkness, life to death or peace to war. Naturally they intersect each other but in diametrically opposed directions. We see them cling to each other but they never make the road happily together, hand in hand. However, it cannot be denied that on many occasions Muslims are involved in terrorist activities on behalf of a predominantly Muslim group or country. But aren't there also other groups involved in terrorism and subversion around the world?

Suppose that by using the same principle that gave rise to the term "Islamic terrorism", would it be appropriate to label all other forms of terrorism as follows: Sikh terrorism, Hindu terrorism, Christian terrorism, Jewish terrorism, Atheist terrorism, Buddhist terrorism, Animistic terrorism and Pagan terrorism?

It is not easy to turn a blind eye to the various forms of terrorism that are unfortunately growing in every corner of the world; it is impossible in fact for an observer to be unaware of the persecution, bloodshed and murders perpetrated in the name of a so-called ideal or noble cause. Terrorism is a global problem that requires careful consideration in its broadest aspects.

Unless we understand the forces working behind the violence, we will be unable to understand why some Muslim groups and states are turning to terrorism to achieve certain goals. I am fully convinced that almost all the forms of communal violence that we see in the world today - whatever their

nature or wherever they occur - are essentially of a political nature. It's the power-hungry politicians, for their internal or external political interests who divide people and nations and religious denominations and create tensions and wars between them so that they remain divided and when they do that, they think they're in able to easily control the mass, and choose how to finish a faith or a group of people easily, without problem.

Take, for example, terrorism caused by racism - is it not essentially political in nature after all the analyzes made? There are other small manifestations of terrorism born of religion and hatred against social systems, and prevailing cultures, and they are generally regarded as acts of anarchists or lunatics. There is a type of special terrorism that is related to the mafia's struggle for supremacy. This kind of terrorism is directed by some factions against others within the organization itself. Obviously this terrorism is nothing more than a struggle for power and of a political nature. When we examine the so-called "Islamic terrorism", we discover political forces working behind a religious appearance. Quite often the real manipulations and exploiters are not themselves Muslims.

The suicide attack on Thursday, 14 February 2019 against an Indian military convoy in Pulwama, Kashmir revived tensions between India and Pakistan. This attack claimed the lives of at least 41 Indian soldiers. Delhi is multiplying diplomatic initiatives to isolate its Pakistani neighbour, while preparing a military response. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has consistently referred to what has become a national tragedy in the country. He declared on Sunday, 18 February 2019: "The fire that embraces your heart also embraces mine." This statement was made to a crowd gathered for a political meeting, shortly after asserting that "the blood of India was boiling."

Fury has seized social networks and several TV channels close to the government call for revenge. For the Indian Prime Minister, the moment is critical: never has an attack raised so much emotion in the country since the terrorist attack of Bombay (Mumbai) which had made 174 dead in November 2008. The moment is also crucial for its political future just weeks away from

the scheduled elections in April and May. The two countries recalled their respective ambassadors for consultations. Delhi accused Pakistan of harbouring and supporting the Islamist group *Jaish-e-Mohammad* (JeM), which claimed responsibility for the 14 February 2019 attack, and to use it by proxy in its war against India. The Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said he was ready to cooperate with India on the bombing, but promised to "retaliate" if his country is attacked. The investigators still do not know if the 350kg of explosives contained in the car bomb came from Pakistan or not.

What I have read and understood is that Pakistan and India have always had a dispute over Kashmir. So every incident that occurs on the territory of Kashmir occupied by India is blamed on the actions of Pakistan. So, as it seems, Pakistan has become a scapegoat for India's mismanagement of Kashmir. My point is that India is targeting Pakistan. It is not really interested in resolving conflicts and wants to blame Pakistan for everything that happens in occupied Kashmir. The Indian government attributes everything that is happening in occupied Kashmir to external forces (and not to its own fault).

For me, the current conflict between the two countries could have been avoided if India had taken the time to collect all the evidence after the Pulwama attack. The Indian government would have been able to demonstrate to its people and the world that it was the work of a group of people at the border working with those who perpetrated the attack. And he could have also shown that they are not Pakistanis but indeed Indians. Moreover, one of the perpetrators of the attack had made a video before it was launched. From what I read and after having studied this case well, we can know who these people are. India claims to have no connection with them, but let the Indian government comes forward to prove it!

We regret that after the attack, India preferred to act unthinkingly by sending two fighter jets into Pakistani territory. From what I learned, never before there was this kind of manifestation.

What I want - and what all those who love peace want - is that India and Pakistan find a compromise and live in peace, each respecting the rights and territories of others. A government cannot be blamed for the madness and bad behaviour of an individual or a group of people. So, to avoid an Indo-Pakistani conflict, I wish them to restore a cordial relationship between them.

When you study both countries, you see that Pakistan and India are almost at the same level in terms of economic development. The two countries are also making great efforts to improve the infrastructure and quality of life of their inhabitants. This is the common point between these two countries. So, it is normal for existing conflicts to have a detrimental effect on progress.

Personally, as the Khalifatullah of this era, I must judge the situation fairly. If the situation has arrived at this stage, it is because of the Indian Prime Minister, Narendra Modi. We cannot blame other people or other countries.

As for Pakistan, the Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan also has to understand the problem that exists in Pakistan. There must be freedom to choose one's faith. Faith cannot be forced on someone, and everyone has the right to practice his faith in peace, tolerance and freedom. One should not have such lobbies as the Mullahs who create disorder in the country and declare other Muslim groups as non-Muslim.

We do not have the right to judge the faith of a person. This privilege belongs only to Allah (Almighty God). Since 1974, they have passed laws to declare that Ahmadi Muslims are not Muslims. They went beyond the limits of the *Shariah* by establishing a law that is to the detriment of free will and they dared to judge other Muslims when they have for years and years cried out loud and clear that they are Muslims, and that they firmly believe in the Islamic Shahada: Ilaha Illallah Muhammadur Rassullullah.

Pakistan was formed with the active participation of Ahmadi Muslims, and after the creation of Pakistan, many despicable and anti-Islamic treatments were perpetrated against them. And they found themselves deprived of their rights to practice Islam, and to live their lives in peace. Allah is neither blind nor deaf. He certainly hears the tears and supplications of His sincere servants, whether Sunni or Ahmadi, or any other Muslim group. If Pakistan does not enjoy peace today it is because of the injustices it perpetrated against its own people, especially against the Ahmadi Muslims and the Muslim minorities of the other groups of Islam. Everyone has a place in this world. If anyone exceeds the limits of the permissible in Islam, it is Allah who will punish him, it is not for man to do it [especially in respect to faith], because man did not receive from Allah the permission to judge the faith of people.

O Pakistan, if Ahmadi Muslims are not Muslims as you say, leave them alone. Allah knows very well what to do with them. That's why He also raised His Khalifatullah in this century at the head of a Jamaat approved by Him to revive the teachings of Islam, and give everyone a chance - even you! - so that you reform and repair the errors of yesteryears. Do not waste time. Give back to the Ahmadi Muslims their rights, both civil and Islamic, the right to practice Islam in peace. If your people are at peace, and if Allah is pleased with you, then Allah will open the door of salvation for you, and grant you an extraordinary peace, and then Allah's decision in favour of unity and harmony will be finalized between you and India and the rest of the world. Treat your inhabitants well, do your politics well and do not meddle in people's faith because you are not an Islamic state. If you were really an Islamic state as you state, you would have ruled the country as our beloved prophet Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) had ruled Arabia without forcing anyone to accept Islam (the true faith). His politics were real politics. His governance over the country (Arabia) was a true governance. Everyone had the right to practice his faith.

Now, unfortunately, it is against your brothers, sisters and Muslim children that you are fighting. It's certainly not fair! Allah does not approve of a land where injustice reigns. So, wake up before it's too late for you! Modi wants to make India a totally Hindu country. How would you feel if our Muslim brothers and sisters had to suffer the worst repercussions because of their faith? Do you see today: Our Islam is qualified as terrorism! Keep in mind what our brothers, sisters and children of Palestine, or even the Royingyas Muslims of today have had to suffer. These are just a few examples. There are many more!

O Muslims! Wake up! It is time for us to come together for the sake of Allah and the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). Pull yourself together and give up all non-Islamic practices. Practice justice, and you will find Allah with you. He will support you in all your lawful actions. When you face an injustice, it is He who comes to your rescue, but you must be very sincere in Islam. **ISLAM** is our religion, and it is Islam that gives us real life. Reform yourself before it's too late. Otherwise, there will be bloodshed and wars, and loss of life in large numbers. Secure your lives in Allah, in your trust in Him, and in being just, loyal, and sincere to your Muslim brothers and sisters. Do not judge their faith. And be good and kind, be kind to people of other faiths too, because kindness and mercy are part of humanity with which God has created us. So, have mercy on others so that Allah may have mercy on you! Fight terrorism and help others fight it, because terrorism knows neither faith nor law! It destroys everything in its path.

May Allah help us to rebuild Islam, an Islam that is right at all levels, an Islam where life is good. A tolerant Islam that is close to our heart forever. *Insha-Allah, Ameen.* May Allah help us fight all forms of terrorism, and protect the honour and name of Islam against false and virulent accusations. *Insha-Allah, Ameen.*