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Guidance and Reform Council

Release number 2

SUBJECT: OUR CALL FOR GUIDANCE AND REFORM

We pay tribute to God, ask for His help, forgiveness, guidance, and may He protect us from our own sins and bad deeds. Whoever God guides none will mislead, there is none to guide the misleader, and I bear witness that there is no God but the one God and there is none who share his power, and I bear witness the Muhammad is the servant of God and his messenger.

We bless God Who in his book said, "You (true believers) are the best of people ever raised up for mankind, you enjoin all of what God ordained and forbid what is wrong, and you believe in God" (Our'an 3:110).

Blessings and peace be upon God's messenger Muhammad who said, "The people who don't punish the tyrant, God may have him punish all of them" (Hadith as stated by Abu Dawud, Tarmadhi, and al-Nisa'i).

I extend my greetings and pray for the blessings of God to the king of Saudi 'Arabia Fahd Ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Sa'ud and to all the Muslim people of the Arabian Peninsula.

I address you, the king, and say that you have frequently addressed me and often insisted and repeatedly asked me to come back to Saudi Arabia, and you have tried your best and exerted all means and efforts for that to take place.

God is aware how much I want to be in my country, which is the only one I seek to be in, because in it the revelation took place and God's message was given, and it is the country where I was born and spent my childhood.

That said, the past events and the ensuing evidence convinced me to stay outside the country for the time being, and underlined the fact that there is something hidden behind your efforts. I am not stating these words as a result of doubts and assuming the worst to take place, however what took place in the past, in forbidding me to give advice and to travel, which was followed two years ago by freezing my money, and by having me slandered in your media outlets inside and outside the country, and your trying to sever my relationship to the country and its people by confiscating and revoking my citizenship and ID documents, and by doing that without any misdeed or a crime that I committed. I declare that I rely on God, and that I left as a result of your efforts to deter me from carrying out my duty to give advice and state the facts, and all of this supports what I am trying to say.

I really don't give much attention to these facts because they are minor personal matters, and because our disagreement is not based on trivial personal matters and minor faults, but is based on the most important issues of the nation. Previously, in my first release, I promised to come back to this subject; to fulfill my promise I am issuing this release to reveal the truth and to fairly treat the people, "So that those who were to be destroyed (for their rejecting the faith) might be destroyed in the presence of clear evidence, and those who were to live (believers) might live in the presence of clear evidence" (Qur'an 8:42).

I will sum up what I am going to say without giving details. I will be short in my address until such time as I can give the details in presentations to follow, God willing. It will suffice in this address to hint at things without saying them, and I will do that to preserve the written words, (TN: avoid) the slip of the tongue, and I will limit my presentation to the following:

First: For a long time, our respected scholars and preachers have been advising and reminding you to adhere to kindness, leniency, wisdom, and they gave you good advice that calls for reform and repentance from committing grave sins and evil deeds, which include trespassing on the citizens' legitimate rights and from the precise religious guidelines.

I am sorry to say that all of what you did wasn't limited to renouncing them (scholars) and turning them away, but you made fun of them, ridiculed and discredited them, you followed the aforementioned transgressions with more severe and powerful forbidden actions which you enforced in the country of religion and monotheism. Keeping silent is no longer agreeable, and overlooking things is not acceptable.

As a result of your transgression, overstepping the grave sins limits and revoking clear Islamic rules, a group of scholars who were fed up with what is taking place, and who suffered your acts of deception that deafened their ears. These acts of yours clouded their eyes, their smell of corruption inflicted their noses, clouded their eyesight, and they vowed to God to reject your actions. These people called for reform to correct and change the situation, and they were joined by hundreds of educated people, merchants and ex-officials who sent you petitions and memos requesting reform. When the Gulf war took place in the year 1411h (circa July 1990 to June 1991), about 400 of these people sent you a petition calling for reform and putting an end to your unjust dealing with the people. You have neglected their advice, made fun of the advisers, and the situation is getting worse.

The people who extended their advise continued, sending you new petitions and memos, most important of which is their memo sent in Muharram 1413h (circa July 1992) in which they diagnosed the ailment and prescribed the medicine, basing themselves on the Shari'ah. They also submitted a scholarly presentation covering the wide gap in the regime philosophy and the main defects in the governing structure, which covered the marginalization and neutralization that the Scholars and preachers suffer from, and are hunted for.

The memo also covered the rules and regulations that are enforced in the country and that legalize and forbid matters without basing such decisions on God's Shari'ah. It also touched on the country's media situation where it is becoming the means to canonize people and influential persons, falsify the truth, slander the true people, and shed crocodile tears to mislead the people without carrying any serious action. It also covered the squandered and confiscated legitimate rights of the people, and the failure and corruption of the country's administration.

The memo covered the financial and economic situation of the country, the horrible destiny that will be the outcome of the high interests that broke the back of the country, and squandering money to satisfy personal whims!!! As well as the taxes, fees, and excise duties imposed on the people!!! The memo also covered the lousy general services in the country that are becoming worse after sending the memo, and that include water services, which is one of the most important daily needs. All of

these are forcing our brothers to live in a state of austerity, renounce worldly pleasures, and restrict their spending in fear of what is going to take place; May God help them.

The memo revealed the hopeless situation and covered what was prevalent during the Gulf crises; i.e. the small count (TN: of the fighting force), its lack of readiness, the failure of its General Command; all of which took place despite the astronomical amounts of money spent on it. As to justice and its courts, the memo revealed that man-made laws replaced Shari'ah laws. The memo also revealed that the country's foreign policy neglects the Muslims' issues, supports the enemies against the Muslims, an example of which is what recently took place in Gaza, Jericho, Algeria, etc. Everyone is aware that enforcing man-made laws, supporting the atheist over the Muslim is considered to be a part of the ten items that contradict Islam, as was deemed by the religion scholars to include Shaykh Muhammad Ibn 'Abd-al-Wahhab; may he rest in peace.

Despite the fact that the memo's composition was supple and kind, refers to the words of God, was amiable, contained true facts, and despite the fact that Islam gives importance to sharing advice with and extending advice to the rulers, and despite the position and the number of the memo's signees and supporters, it still didn't have the approval of its recipients who refused it, opposed it, and badmouthed and punished the people who signed and supported it.

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Despite all of what took place, the banner and the flags (TN: of Islam) didn't drop down, and will never drop down as long as there is an eye that blinks and a heart that beats. Instead, a new group of scholars and advisers formed a Human Rights Committee to support the truth and the oppressed. This committee was received in the same way and had the same fate as the other committees, and that took place with the blessings of the ruler's official organizations that were tasked by the regime to defend it instead of defending the religion. The committee's members were badmouthed, blamed for things they didn't do, and the true scholars who didn't accept to be blackmailed and exploited were ousted; and we don't recommend any to God.

Through an open conspiracy with other scholars, panels were formed to issue renouncing and rebuttal replies whose composition are similar to that of the security and media declarations, and aren't based on the mandated true Shari'ah

words. As expected, these panels lost their status and duty after they were stripped of their independence and were annexed to the Royal Bureau that gives them their orders which they have to execute. The creation of these panels gave the people the justification to refrain from trusting them; instead they trust the scholars and preachers whose crises and problems that they passed through proved that they are worthy of the people's trust and support.

Second: What is taking place in the country, to include corruption, restricting the freedom of the people, waging a war on the true people and hunting them within and outside the country, we from our position outside the country, to fulfill our declaration and extend advice, declare that we will continue with the work of our scholars in the interior to extend advice, and enjoin what is right and forbid evil. We will do that because we are an indivisible part of the call for Islam, and are united with it in our aim and fate. On this occasion we declare that we are holding fast to the demands mentioned in the advice memo, we support the legitimate Human Rights Committee, and all other legitimate demands.

Due to the difficulty that we face in carrying out our work in the interior as a result of the existing state of intimidation and subjugation, we from our current position (TN: in the exterior), in consultation with some of our brothers in the Arabian Peninsula, have formed a committee to extend advise and to support the truth, which we named, "The Advice and Reform Committee".

In conclusion, we beseech God to have this nation follow the right path, to honor those who obey Him, degrade those who disobey Him, enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong, have our best people rule us, dismiss our evil persons, and have us join forces in our devotion and devoutness, "Verily never will God change the condition of a people until they change it themselves" (Qur'an 13:11).

Our last words are, "Praise is to God the Lord of all".

Date: 2/11/1414h corresponding to 13 April 1994

Written on behalf of them (NFI) by,

Usama Bin Muhammad Bin Ladin

(End of translation)