

The Egyptian “Jihad” Group and the Global Financial Crisis

**Col. (ret.) Jonathan Fighel, Senior Researcher,
International Institute for Counter-Terrorism**

October 24, 2008

Members of the Egyptian “Jihad” organization incarcerated at the “Abu Za’abal” prison in Egypt, published a declaration in which they claim the reason for the global financial crisis are hundreds of millions of counterfeit dollars spread by Jihadist groups in capital markets around the world, with the aim of hurting the U.S. economy.¹ In the declaration written by the members of the organization incarcerated in Egyptian jail, it was stated that the defeat of America and its allies is imminent, and that it is divine retribution.

According to them, the collapse of the financial markets and the stock exchange in the U.S. is another step in the collapse process of the American “empire” after a string of ongoing defeats in Iraq and Afghanistan. This declaration joins a long line of recent declarations and announcement of global Jihad entities published in many Jihadi websites characterized by shows of gloating and calls for exploiting the confusions and instability in the west for the promotion of the goals of Jihad. In websites identified as supporting global Jihad it was stated that the crisis is “the new economic 9/11 in America”.

The atmosphere surrounding the crisis encouraged global Jihad entities to take credit for imagined successes (as if Allah has created the financial crisis, storms and other nature disasters to punish the West) that have no connection with reality, to create a sympathetic public pinion amongst their supporters and feelings of identification with the goals of Jihad that is strengthened and deepened. Since the September 2001 terrorist attacks, large-scale abnormal natural disaster phenomena occurring in the U.S. were exploited by Jihad entities for propaganda purposes, claiming these are the punishments justly brought down by Allah on the Americans as retaliation. In this context Hurricane “Katrina”² Hurricane “Ike” and others that have hit the sates along the Mexico Bay should be mentioned, as well as the great blackout in New York³, and the recent forest fires in California.

Regarding the financial crisis, it should be mentioned that the radical Islamic Hamas leader, Isma’eel Haniya, Hamas Prime Minister in Gaza, called during Friday prayers at a mosque in Gaza: “the economic crisis is Allah’s punishment on America for its support of Israel and for the occupation in Iraq and Afghanistan”. Haniya have made a reciprocal approach in saying: “they [America] denied our people money, Allah denies them money, they have blockaded our people, Allah punished them with divine punishment”⁴.

It should be noted that after the 9/11 attacks and the following years, Jihadist apocalyptic discourse, either by Jihadi-Salafi scholars, clerics, or supporters of global Jihad, was one of the main subjects evolving of the Jihadi-Salafi discourse. Jihadi scholars and sympathizers were viewing clear signs for the beginning of the process that would lead to the “Day of Judgment” or “Resurrection”, with all the apocalyptic rituals that should precede it according to the Islamic belief.

The apocalyptic aspirations of supporters of global Jihad, especially as they appear on Jihadi web sites and forums⁵, are all linked to Al-Qaeda, where Osama bin Laden is viewed as the “new savior” about to fulfill the wishes of reconstruction of the Islamic victory.

Natural disasters and other unnatural big scale phenomena, which occur, are being rationalized as divine powers, God’s strikes and are praised by Jihadi supporters as revelation of justice and punishment related to Al-Qaeda's divine command, global Jihad and the rise of overwhelming Jihadi “forces” to confront the “Evil West.”

References:

¹ <http://www.islamouna.info/dnn/Default.aspx?tabid=504&Id=2747>

² Al Jazeera TV, Ayman al-Zawahiri claimed the hurricane was sent by the terrorist organization in retaliation for the United States invasion of Iraq. Jihadi weblogs declared, “*Katrina, a soldier sent by God to fight on our side... the soldier Katrina joins us to fight against America.*” See in: <http://memri.org/bin/articles.cgi?Page=archives&Area=sd&ID=SP97705> September 2, 2005.

³ Northeast Blackout of 2003. Dar Al-Hayat “ Al Qaeda Claims Responsibility For Power Blackout In U.S “ 18.8.2003. http://english.daralhayat.com/arab_news/08-2003/Article-20030818-14bdd659-c0a8-01ed-0079-6e1c903b7552/story.html.

⁴ “ Hamas: Al ‘Azma Al Maliya ‘Eqab Min Allah La Amrica”(Hamas: The financial crisis, Allah punishment on America). See http://www.aafaq.org/news.aspx?id_news=7214, 17.10.08.

⁵ <http://hrmageddon.com/vb/index.php>

The Egyptian Jihad group statement:

NegotiationDetails - Windows Internet Explorer

http://www.islamouna.info/dnn/Default.aspx?tabid=504&id=2747

Google

Go

Bookmarks PageRank 925 blocked Check AutoLink AutoFill Send to Settings

Cisco Subscriber Edge Service... NegotiationDetails

أسلامنا :: أخبار العالم

القاعدة: 11 أيلول إقتصادي جديد في أمريكا
مصر: بيان لمعتقلي الجهاد يؤكد وقوف عناصره وراء الأزمة العالمية بتوزيع مئات الملايين من الدولارات المزيفة



أزمة أسواق المال العالمية

أسلامنا - الحقيقة الدولية

كشفت أعضاء في تنظيم الجهاد المصري، عن قيام مجموعات جهادية بتوزيع مئات الملايين من الدولارات الأمريكية المزورة في أسواق المال العالمية لضرب الإقتصاد الأمريكي.

وقال بيان أصدره عدد من أعضاء تنظيم الجهاد المعتقلين في سجن "أبو زعبل" في مصر، حصلت "الحقيقة الدولية" على نسخة منه، أن "مجموعات جهادية وزعت دولارات مزورة في أسواق المال

start

Negotiation... Inbox - Mic... 11:39