

From the Islamic Law and Judiciary Office of the Ansar al-Sunnah Group

To the Amir of the al-Qa'ida Organization in Iraq  
In the name of God, the Most Merciful.

Praise be to God, Lord of All Worlds, prayer and peace upon the seal of the prophets and messengers, Our Prophet, Muhammad, and upon his family, and all his Companions

To the Esteemed Amir of the al-Qa'ida Organization in Iraq  
Peace, God's mercy, and His blessings upon you.  
[Surat al-Fath 48; verse 29] God Almighty said:  
Muhammad is the Messenger of God and those who are  
With him are strong Against Unbelievers, (but)  
Compassionate amongst each other.

You have been warned before about the behavior of some of your members who have reached the point of ill-thinking in an astonishing amount in accusing the Muslim who disputes with you of being a non believer, and to regard blood feud (killing) him as lawful; meaning that the one who disputes you, it is permissible to shed his blood, and whoever does not give authority to your Imam and group, it is permissible to (shed his blood), as well.

We have told you, and we have informed you, and we have sat down and met with some of your leadership a number of times about how you can accept actions such as these that are originating from people of your group:

- Are you content with this?
- Is this your tenet?
- Or do you have knowledge of what happened to begin with?

The answer was the formation of a council which will resolve the problems, however, in our opinion, it is procrastination of these matters and they will be forgotten until this description has become the prevailing impression about the behavior of some of the individuals in your group.

The violence has gone beyond the limits, it is said, of the work.

Individuals from your group have conducted operations of kidnapping, torture, and the killing of people from our group and in a number of regions, with their (full) knowledge that they were from the al-Ansar group.

In the immediate aftermath (of such operations,) we notified some of the individuals who represent your leadership at your end about the matter, however we have not heard nor seen a response to this notice with their acknowledgement of this issue.

The most recent incident of this nature was when a group from your organization spilled the blood of (killed or executed) three of the best cadres of the mujahidin and those who had prior jihad experience in the battlefields who had many witnesses of them in operations in which they inflicted great injury upon the enemy time after time and repeatedly in the city of Mosul.

This incident had come about on the heels of a threat by some of your leadership in the city (of Mosul), that they had gotten guidance from their leaders!!! to eliminate the leaders of the group (Ansar al-Sunnah) and to detain the individuals and to toss them in prisons especially for this matter, since they considered it permissible to kill those who dispute with them. And, when all the facts were brought to light about them, they said: "It was our mistake to kill!!!" They deny what was issued by them from among the previous statements, and we will be able to provide you with the names of these peoples, each and every one, if the matter requires.

Our precious brothers in God..

You know Muslim blood is sacrosanct (inviolable, most holy, untouchable) in Islam. There is no need to mention the pieces of evidence for this (i.e. precedents in Islamic jurisprudence) because the problem is not in memorizing the evidence, but to understand it and apply it. Then what the Prophet said is sufficient for us, peace and prayer upon him: 'The Muslim is one of those who submits in his word and his deed.'

The Muslim is ever led by Shari'ah (Islamic law) rulings. He has no position on a certain issue without looking into the ruling of God Almighty, and the Islamic legal (Shari'ah) rulings are what prevent man from intellectual and conceptual mistakes; and likewise, they prevent many disputes among mankind because mankind, if they are left as mankind; what are they to him from among opinions and judgments? Indeed, each one has an opinion, and people splinterizing and splitting each dilemma to a hair (over minutiae) which is difficult to either contain or stop.

Thus, it is inevitable to rely upon the Islamic legal (al-Shari'ah) evidence in the argumentation and not merely whim; and within the context of what came about in Islamic law, are rulings on revenge for self-preservation (self-defense), rejection of (driving off) causes of corruption or evil, emanating from the spread of killing and the shedding of holy blood.

As God Almighty said: [Surat al-Isra'17; verse 33 Qur'anic quote]  
Nor take the life which God has made sacred- except For just cause.  
And if Anyone is slain wrongfully,  
We have given his heir  
Authority (to demand Qisas (retribution) Or to Forgive;)  
but let him  
Not exceed bounds in the matter  
Of taking life; for he  
Is helped by the Law.

Therefore, we did not want this event to continue as it did previously in a number of events, then it is a must to resolve through an (Islamically) legitimate solution, that is pleasing to God Almighty.

Therefore, we demand:

- 1) The incidents (precedents) of Islamic legal ruling to prove the truth on this incident in particular, and those like it.
- 2) Warning the mujahidin to apply the Islamic rulings to them in the event of the emergence of anything in violation of Islamic law. (al-Shari'ah.)

Note:

We are waiting for the response to resolve the issue...provided that we receive a response within one week "of the arrival of this message to your excellency" and that the response be written, and by your excellency.

In the event of non-receipt of the response, we will be obliged to think that this message did not reach you, and we will be obliged most compellingly to have no other choice but to publish it on the Internet, and that is in accordance with previous experiences (attempts) inasmuch as messages were sent to you and did not reach you despite the fact that we received answers to them and we do not know who it was that answered them!!! It is not right to procrastinate like this every time because the matter is of great importance and we want to spare blood and publish the best. In this, God is the apple of the eye of Muslims. (the dearest thing to them)

For your information there are other elements in the field who complain that we have the same reprehensible behavior and they want their voice to be heard; however, they cannot find a way to do this.

And upon you, grace, peace and the blessings of God.

The Ansar al-Sunnah group.

Peace, mercy, and the blessings of God be upon you.

The afore-mentioned message was delivered on January 13th. Today is Monday, January 22nd and we have not received any response to date. In the interest of Jihad in this country, we are of a mind for us to publish this message on this private forum and we will wait 5 days for a response to it. However, we are to receive the response from Shaykh Abu-Hamzah al-Muhajir, may God protect him, personally and on this same forum. Otherwise, we will be compelled to publish it on the public forum to ensure its arrival to the Shaykh.]

May God reward you.

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