

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Evil Effects of Terrorism

From the Noble Scholar of Islam, *Al-'Allāmah*,

Zayd b. Muḥammad al-Madkhalī (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ)

Translated by Abū al-Ḥasan Mālik al-Akhḍar

IN HIS MONUMENTAL WORK *Al-Irhāb wa Āthāruhā al-Sayī'ah 'ala al-Afrād wa al-Ummah* (Terrorism and its Evil Effects on Individuals and Nations), *al-'Allāmah*, *al-Shaykh* Zayd al-Madkhalī (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ) states: “Indeed the abduction of people on flights or land transport or those walking the streets or the killing of leaders or the bombing of government installations to destroy their interests is nothing except a form of wicked, filthy terrorism.

And the dreadful planning of overthrowing government leaders and rulers of the *Ummah* and the killing of their guards and deputies in unlegislated fashion—nay, upon the way of innovated anarchy, is nothing except a form of rejected terrorism, which the devils from mankind and the *Jinn* made pleasing to the terrorists and fair seeming to their hearts. Thus, they fall into this sinful crime without finding any impediment in the Religion or fear of any ruler or shyness from the Creator or mercy for the creation, because they have sold their souls to the Devil, the enemy of mankind and the *Jinn*, obediently and voluntarily, so evil is this transaction of theirs, and wicked is their action. For they have traded guidance for misguidance, forgiveness for punishment. And every crime has a recompense with Allāh.

﴿جَزَاءٌ وَفَاءٌ﴾

“An exact recompense (according to their evil crimes).” [*al-Naba* 78:26]

﴿وَلَا يَظْلِمُ رَبُّكَ أَحَدًا﴾

“And your Lord will not oppress anyone.”

[*al-Kahf* 18:49]

And the assault and attack of places of business and bank depositories and the theft of wealth in broad daylight is nothing except a form of the criminal terrorism, which only emanates from those devoid of faith, in general, or from those who have deviated, wreaking

havoc upon the worshipers of Allāh to satisfy their base desires, even if the end result of that will bring about insult in this life and a painful chastisement in the next.

And the action of these armed groups found in some of the lands who assault and wheel about in the name of *Jihād* and the return to the Islamic legislation (they claim); killing this one, seizing the wealth of that one, frightening families and societies, blowing up installations, like an airport or a school, is nothing except a form of disgusting terrorism and loathsome criminal behavior. And if only this sort, who give themselves the title *Jamā'ah* (the group) of such and such, claiming to possess knowledge and passing religious verdicts that make the blood of the rulers violable; rather, that make lawful the blood of those who remain quiet concerning the shortcomings of the rulers, and those who refrain from the assailing of their homelands—I say, if only these people exerted themselves in the spread of knowledge to those in need: in matters of creed, worship, mutual dealings, etiquette, and [Islamic] character to the best of their ability, taking from the Noble Qur'ān in methodology and the authentic *Sunnah* in instruction, before brandishing their weapons, causing fear in the roadways, quaking the people's safety and security out of rancor, oppression, and enmity, while claiming to do this out of love for the Islamic legislation and the reparation of its nation.

And by this action, they distort and damage the reputation of the true Islamic *Ummah*, opening them up to derogation—nay, opening them up to the adversaries of Islam and the Muslims in the east and west to enter and label our noble Religion of Islam with cruelty, injustice, and terrorism, just as they label its people (i.e. the Muslims) in general as terrorists, extremists and those who do not respect human rights. All of this due to evil behavior in the call of the creation, which must be done in true legislative fashion and upon the clear methodology of the Prophets and the Messengers.

And I say without doubt that these type of individuals—may Allāh guide them—have deviated from the true path in their treatment of the people, and no one is safe from their evil in his homeland, unless he is a member of their partisan movement which does not build, but destroys; does not repair, but corrupts.

And how many noble Salafi scholars and people of sound intellect from the Muslims have called them to what is correct and warned them from evil conduct, [which they commit] in the name of calling to Allāh: such as operations of murder, theft, plunder, and aggression against the inviolable, even if they be from the Christians with a guarantee of safety...¹



¹ *Al-Irhāb wa Āthāruhā al-Sayī'ah ala al-Afrād wa al-Ummah* (pp. 10-13)