

Terrorism and Suicide Bombings

"Crush Terror Mercilessly" - Grand Mufti

Saudi Arabia's grand mufti yesterday (Saturday 31 January, 2004) reiterated Islam's total opposition to terror and called upon the world's decision-makers and politicians to do justice to the Islamic nation.

Delivering his annual sermon to nearly two million pilgrims who had assembled on the plain of Arafat, Shaykh 'Abdul-'Azeez Aal ash-Shaykh emphasized that **terror** and **violence** must be "**mercilessly**" crushed.

"Is it justice to blame a nation on the basis of the opinion of its rivals and enemies, ignoring the greatness of that nation, its roots, rulers, scholars and books?" the mufti asked. **"Islam has forbidden violence in all its forms. It has forbidden hijacking airplanes, ships and other means of transport and has forbidden all acts that would undermine security,"** he told the faithful.

"God says the penalty for those who fight God and His Prophet and spread violence and terror is to be killed, crucified or have their hands and legs chopped off," he said.

The mufti added, "Islam has also called for the killing of anyone who attempts to undermine legitimate rulers or divide Muslims."

He then questioned why Islam was branded by some as a religion of terror given its strong opposition to terror. "You must know Islam's firm stance against all these terrible crimes which have been attributed to it. The world must know that Islam is the religion of peace and mercy and goodness; it is the religion of justice and guidance. It is a religion that prohibits all forms of injustice and the shedding of blood without genuine reason," he explained.

"Islam has made the fulfillment of treaties and pledges compulsory and has given importance to protecting the blood of allies," he said.

Sheikh 'Abdul 'Azeez, the Kingdom's highest religious authority, said a true Muslim who intended to serve Islam would never try to undermine the Ummah. "Jihaad does not mean shedding the blood of Muslims or killing peaceful people or destroying their properties," he said and urged Muslims to act prudently and wisely and not be driven by emotions or passions.

"Jihaad was made lawful not to shed blood or to take revenge but as a kind of worship of God and one of the religious duties for defending the Islamic nation," he pointed out.

The mufti urged those who raise the slogan of jihaad to consider carefully for a time if what they were doing was really in accordance with the teachings of the Qur'an and Sunnah. Jihaad has a wide meaning in Islam, he said.

Calling people to God's message, promoting good relations between Muslims and carrying out one's duties are part of jihad. He condemned the attitude of some extremists who brand others infidels or enemies of God.

He urged Muslims to strengthen their faith in God and live in accordance with His teachings for success in this world and the hereafter. Islam is a complete way of life and is suitable to all times and places.

Makkah Imam Urges Muslims to Shun Terror

Wednesday 8 December 2004: As millions of faithful marked 'Eed al-Adhaa yesterday, Muslims were warned against heeding militant calls to wage terrorist attacks in the name of Islam.

The warning came, amid a surge in militant attacks in Muslim countries and beyond, from Sheikh Abdulrahman Al-Sudais, imam of the Grand Mosque in Makkah, while addressing Haj pilgrims in a customary 'Eed sermon. The imam also advised Islamic scholars to preach moderation to confront this "rotten" phenomenon.

"Islam is the religion of moderation. There is no room for extremism in Islam," he said.

He called on Muslims to "protect non-Muslims in the Kingdom and not to attack them in the country or anywhere. Islam is a religion of peace that abhors attack on innocents." Militants were using misguided interpretations of Islam to justify violence, he added.

"Because Muslims have strayed from moderation, we are now suffering from this dangerous phenomenon of branding people infidels and inciting Muslims to rise against their leaders to cause instability," Al-Sudais said.

"The reason for this is a delinquent and void interpretation of Islam based on ignorance...faith does not mean killing Muslims or non-Muslims who live among us, it does not mean shedding blood, terrorizing or sending body parts flying."

Al-Sudais warned that extremism would ruin the Muslim nation, adding: "This phenomenon has expanded so much that scholars must confront it with concrete proof from Islam to protect our youth from its stench and rottenness."

Concerning Suicide Bombings

But as for what some people do regarding activities of suicide, tying explosives to themselves and then approaching non-muslims and detonating them amongst them, then this is a case of suicide and Allaah's refuge is sought. So whoever commits suicide then he will be considered eternally to Hell-Fire, remaining there forever, as occurs in the hadeeth of the Prophet, (sal-Allaahu `alayhe wa sallam). (i.e., his, (sal-Allaahu `alayhe wa sallam), saying:

«and whoever kills himself with an iron weapon, then the iron weapon will remain in his hand, and he will continuously stab himself in his belly with it in the Fire of Hell eternally, forever and ever». Reported by al-Bukhaaree, no. 5778 and Muslim, no. 109, in the Book of Eemaan.)

Because this person has killed himself and has not benefited Islam. So if he kills himself along with ten, or a hundred, or two hundred other people, then Islam will not benefit by that, since the people will not accept Islam, contrary to the story of the boy. Rather it will probably just make the enemy more determined, and this action will provoke malice and bitterness in his heart to such an extent that he may seek to wreak havoc upon the Muslims.

This is what is found from the practice of the Jews with the people of Palestine so when one of the Palestinian blows himself up and kills six or seven people, then in retaliation they take sixty or more. So this does not produce any benefit for the Muslims, and does not benefit those amongst whose ranks explosives are detonated.

So what we hold is that those people who perform these suicide (bombings) have wrongfully committed suicide, and that this necessitates entry into Hell-Fire, and Allaah's refuge is sought and that this person is **not a martyr** (shaheed). However if a person has done this based upon misinterpretation, thinking that it is permissible, then we hope that he will be saved from sin, but as for martyrdom being written for him, then no, since he has not taken the path of martyrdom. But whoever performs ijtihaad and errs will receive a single reward (if he is a person qualified to make ijtihaad)."

Attacking the enemy by blowing oneself up in a car

Question: What is the ruling regarding acts of jiidah by means of suicide, such as attaching explosives to a car and storming the enemy, whereby he knows without a doubt that he shall die as a result of this action?

Response: Indeed, my opinion is that he is regarded as one who has killed himself (committed suicide), and as a result he shall be punished in Hell, for that which is authenticated on the authority of the Prophet (sal-Allaahu `alayhe wa sallam).

[«Indeed, whoever (intentionally) kills himself, then certainly he will be punished in the Fire of Hell, wherein he shall dwell forever», [Bukhaaree (5778) and Muslim (109 and 110)]]].

However, one who is ignorant and does not know, and assumes his action was good and pleasing to Allaah (Subhaanahu wa Ta'aala), then we hope Allaah (Subhaanahu wa Ta'aala) forgives him for that which he did out of (ignorant) ijtihaad, even though I do not find any excuse for him in the present day. This is because this type of suicide is well known and widespread amongst the people, so it is upon the person to ask the people of knowledge (scholars) regarding it, until the right guidance for him is differentiated from the error.

And from that which is surprising, is that these people kill themselves despite Allaah having forbidden this, as He (Subhaanahu wa Ta'aala) says:

{And do not kill yourselves. Surely, Allaah is Most Merciful to you}, [Soorah an-Nisaa., Aayah 29].

And many amongst them do not desire anything except revenge of the enemy, by whatever means, be it halaal or haraam. So they only want to satisfy their thirst for revenge.

We ask Allaah to bless us with foresight in His Deen and action(s) which please Him, indeed He is all Powerful over all things.

Committing suicide

Question: What is the ruling regarding suicide in Islam?

Response: Suicide is when a person kills himself intentionally by whatever means. This is haraam and regarded as amongst the major sins, and likewise included in the general statement of Allaah (Subhaanahu wa Ta'aala):

{And whoever kills a believer intentionally, his recompense is Hell to abide therein, and the Wrath and the Curse of Allaah are upon him, and a great punishment is prepared for him}, [Soorah an-Nisaa, Aayah 93].

And it is established from the Sunnah on the authority of the Prophet (sal-Allaahu `alayhe wa sallam) who said:

«Indeed, whoever (intentionally) kills himself, then certainly he will be punished in the Fire of Hell, wherein he shall dwell forever», [Bukhaaree (5778) and Muslim (109 and 110)].

In reality, the one who commits suicide, generally does so because of his desperate situation, either as a direct result of an act of Allaah or a human being. So you find him unable to cope with that which has afflicted him, and in actual fact he is like one who is calling for help from the scorching heat of the fire. So he has progressed from that which was tough (bad) to that which is worse. And if he was patient, then Allaah would have assisted him in dealing with the difficulty.

Material from : www.fatwa-online.com

Email Us : U2US@IslamAgainstTerrorism.com