

Periodical Review: Summary of Information from the Jihadi Forums

The Second Half of June 2011

This report summarizes the most prominent events brought up in the Jihadi online forums in the second half of June 2011. Following are the main issues raised in this report:

- Al-Qaeda's general leadership declares Al-Zawahiri to be Bin Laden's successor; the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement is the first to express its loyalty to the new leader.
- The Jihadi forums discuss at length the connection between the Arab Spring and the future of global Jihad.
- The Taliban-Pakistan organization is threatens to carry out terrorist attacks in the U.S., France and Britain.
- The "Boko Haram" Jihadi group carried out a suicide attack in the Nigerian capital.

New publications*Ideology*

- The "Jihadi Media Elite" media group published a booklet titled: "The Connection between Jihad and the Popular Arab Revolutions of Our Time", by Sheikh Husam Abd Al-Rauf.¹

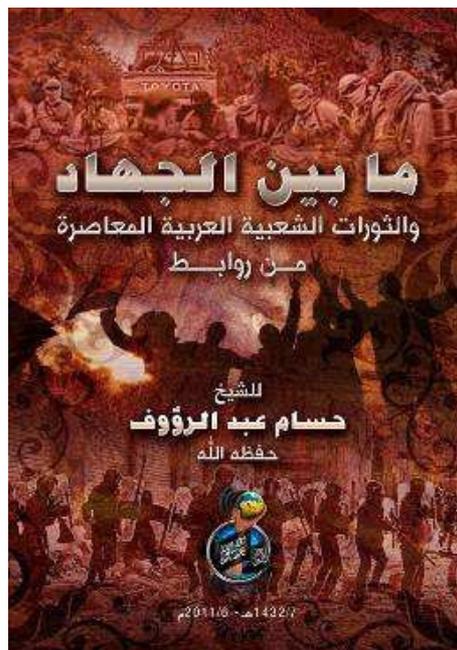
The author wishes to confront the recent speculation and assertions following the recent events in the Arab world and in general. For example, he criticizes the claim that Al-Qaeda has lost the most from the revolutions in the Arab world. The claim is that in only a short period of time, these revolutions have succeeded in obtaining what Al-Qaeda and the rest of the Jihadi and Salafi organizations have not succeeded in doing for over a decade, meaning – bringing down the tyrannical regimes. Furthermore, this was done in a peaceful manner, and not with Jihad. According to him, adhering to Jihad as a means or a strategy for achieving goals is more acceptable and appropriate than any other path for achieving political goals, and as proof he reminds of the success of the Mujahideen in causing the Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Another claim he faces contends that Al-Qaeda is killing innocent people indiscriminately. According to him, this claim is groundless. He says that if innocent citizens were killed, it happened for a number of reasons: (a) fate pre-determined by God; (b) the enemies of Islam intentionally placing their military and security bases at the heart of crowded areas, government buildings, markets and other places where there are civilians. All the while, the author stresses that the Mujahideen invest great efforts in trying to avoid innocent casualties who are close to attack targets.

¹ <http://www.atahadi.net/vb>

According to the author, this is in fact a campaign waged on behalf of the enemies of Islam, striving for the demonization of the Mujahideen.

He deals with additional claims, including the idea that the Mujahideen are the reason for the Islamophobia of the West, and wishes to refute them one by one. According to him, the Mujahideen are the ones willing to sacrifice their lives for the purpose of spreading the message of Islam, and protect the Muslim nation. At the end of the article, there is an annex where the author justifies the uprising against the Muslim rulers who contradict the principles of Islam.



- The "As-Sahab" Jihadi media institute published an interview with the head of the Da'awa and Media Department for Pakistan, Ahmad Farooq, on the subject of Jihad in Pakistan – its reasons and motives.² This is in fact a translation into English of an interview he gave in Urdu two years ago.

² <http://www.majahden.com/vb>

- A surfer on the "Shabakat Al-Mujahideen Al-Electroniya" Jihadi forum (the Al-Mojahden Electronic Network), posted correspondence in which he wrote that 15 worshipers were killed and 61 injured, when an explosive device was detonated at a mosque in Tikrit, Iraq. In addition, he notes that 6 people were killed and 15 injured in the bombing of a bus in East Pakistan. In his correspondence, the surfer criticizes the fact Muslims are harmed in numerous terrorist attacks, many of which are carried out in markets and around hospitals. As a result this serves only "the enemies of Allah" and hurts "Muhammad's nation". The surfer claims that after Bin Laden's death at the beginning of May 2011, the frequency of these terrorist attacks has increased, especially in Afghanistan and Pakistan. He stresses that such attacks do not constitute Jihad, and that some thought should be given to the matter.³

Strategy

- Al-Qaeda's general leadership published an announcement on the identity of Sheikh Osama bin Laden's successor, the next leader of Al-Qaeda.⁴ On June 16th 2011, Jihadi forums and websites identified with global Jihad published an official announcement on behalf of Al-Qaeda's leadership, declaring that Ayman Al-Zawahiri will take Bin Laden's place as the organization's leader. The announcement said that after completing its consultations, the leadership has decided on the appointment of Abu Muhammad Ayman Al-Zawahiri as the leader of the organization. The leadership emphasized several principles in the announcement, including its undertaking to act in accordance with the Quran and the

³ <http://www.majahden.com/vb>

⁴ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

Prophet's path. Another principle was a call for the continuation of Jihad against the infidels invading the lands of Islam, which is led by the U.S. and Israel, as well as against the rulers helping them. The leadership declared support for anyone carrying out Jihad and defending Islam and Muslim rights everywhere, and promised not to abandon any part of Palestine and not to acknowledge Israel, even if everyone else in the world does, as well as not acknowledging any agreement which robs the Muslims of any part of Palestine.

Furthermore, the leadership undertakes to continue exposing the traitors collaborating with the Mossad and the CIA in giving up Palestine. It promises to do everything it can for the liberation of Palestine; promises to help the operatives in Afghanistan under Mullah Omar's leadership; a promise is given to the Mujahideen in Iraq, Somalia, the Arabian Peninsula, the Maghreb and Chechnya, to continue on the same path and stay united; a promise to free Muslim prisoners wherever they may be, including Sheikh Omar Abd Al-Rahman; to support and collaborate with anyone operating for Islam in the framework of Islamic organizations and outside of them.⁵

⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

[تنظيم قاعدة الجهاد – القيادة العامة]

يان بشأن خلافة الشيخ أسامة بن لادن في إمارة جماعة قاعدة الجهاد

﴿إِنَّمَا لِلَّهِ الشَّرْءُ أَجْرًا حَسْبُ مَا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ وَإِنَّا لَنَاقِلُونَ﴾

وقال النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم: **أَنَا وَكَانَ مُطَاعًا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ لَمَّا تَوَلَّى عَلَى طَائِفَةٍ مِنْ بَنِي قُرَيْشٍ**

بقترب رغبة بقتداء الله وقدره عظيمة إلى عهد الله تعالى وحسن جزائه، فثلث الأمة المسلمة والمؤمنون في جماعة قاعدة الجهاد وخرجوا بنا استنجاها لإمام الهدى المهدي للهاشمي الزايد الشيخ أسامة بن محمد بن لادن رحمه الله رحمة واسعة، سائلين الولي عز وجل أن يرفع درجته ويكرمه عدا وعن أمة الإسلام عبر العراة.

هذا وما كان الجهاد ماضيا إلى يوم القيامة - كما ساء في الأسف - وقد سار في هذا العصر فرقا حثيا عند الكفار القارة الخليل لدهار المسلمين وحده الحكام الزمانيين المذمومين لشرائع الإسلام - كما أجمع على ذلك علماء الإسلام - وما كان هو وقفا للشهداء الأبرار وأسرة الشيخ المفيد أسامة بن لادن هو الاستمرار على درب الجهاد في سبيل الله ونصرة المسلمين وللمستضعفين، فإن القيادة العامة لجماعة قاعدة الجهاد - وبعد استكمال التطوير - لمن تولي الشيخ الدكتور أبي محمد زين القفاوي وفقه الله مسؤولية إدارة الجماعة، سائلين الله سبحانه وتعالى أن يوفقه ويعزقه ويجمع المسلمين للعمل بشريعته وأحكامه على الحق على الوجه الذي يرضاه عز وجل هو سائران ولا يخون.

وهذه المناسبة فإن القيادة العامة لقاعدة الجهاد يهيمها أن تؤكد على النقاط التالية :

أولاً... إن جماعة قاعدة الجهاد بفضل الله وبسته تسعى للعمل بالكتاب والسنة وللثبات دعوى، تتبجج الله تعالى عليه وسلم وأصحابه الأبرار وآله بيته الأطهار وضوان الله عليهم أجمعين، وما أجمع عليه سلف الأمة من التابعين وتابعهم بإحسان ومن سار على نهجهم وأقصى أثرهم في العلم والعمل كالأئمة الأربعة وأئمة الفقه والحديث ممن تلقاهم الأمة باقتبال وشهدت لهم بالخيرية وأثبتت عنهم وترجت جيلًا بعد جيل، تقوم بما أجمعوا عليه بولا لخرج من قولهم قديما سواء، ونسبي لأن تكون يوم الله حينئذ لا يستحيين، عظمين لا يخترعون.

ثانياً... نسبي يوم الله وتوفيقه للخدمة للدين الحق وتبرئهم عدا على الإصعاد والقتال، مع كونهما المصلح للفرقة المعيبة في جهاد القارة لكثير المعصين على دين الإسلام، ونحن رأسهم تركمة العنصرية ودينها إسرائيل، ومن أعلمهم من الحكام الشائين لشرعية الإسلام، ابتدعهم بكل ما في طاعتنا وأمرنا الأمة على جهادهم باليد والقوس والخطاب والقتال والجدال وبكل مستطاع، حتى تخرج جميع الجوفى الفارزة من أرض الإسلام وتعود فيها حرية الله

- The "Al-Kataib" media institute, operating on behalf of the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement, published a statement made by the movement's spokesperson, Sheikh Ali Muhammad Raghe, regarding Sheikh Ayman Al-Zawahiri's appointment as Al-Qaeda's new emir. In a speech he gave on local radio, Raghe expressed sorrow over Osama bin Laden's death and welcomed Al-Zawahiri's appointment, calling it appropriate: "Our brother Dr. Ayman Al-Zawahiri is the right person for this position, as he is experienced in knowledge and Jihadi practices". Furthermore, Raghe expressed loyalty to Al-Zawahiri in the movement's name and promised to continue on the path of Jihad against the enemies of Islam. He stressed in conclusion: "We are saying to our Mujahideen brothers everywhere, whether in Iraq, or the Islamic Maghreb, or the Arabian Peninsula, or Chechnya or the Philippines and everywhere, to stand

alongside our brothers as they have stood before alongside the shahid Osama bin Laden".⁶

- Following Al-Zawahiri's appointment, a surfer on the "Hanein" Jihadi forum wrote that Al-Zawahiri's true test will be in his ability to execute his threats to avenge Bin Laden's death. Furthermore, the surfer writes that although the relative success of the Arab Spring makes it more difficult for Al-Qaeda to recruit new operatives, it should be noted that only two revolutions were successful up until now, while in other places there are difficulties and the central government is still strong.⁷ Another surfer wonders whether Al-Zawahiri will succeed in uniting the ranks of the Mujahideen and the Muslims in the same way that his predecessor, Bin Laden, did.⁸

- The "Al-Kataib" media institute, operating on behalf of the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement, published a two part video, titled "Amison (the African Union Mission in Somalia) and the Necessary End".⁹

The video claims that the "Crusading-Zionist" campaign today focuses on Somalia. It was further claimed that Somalia has known many invasions by crusading forces, for example Italy and Ethiopia, but they all eventually failed. Even the U.S. has finally understood that it made a mistake in sending forces to Somalia. However, it has not given up on its war in Somalia and has decided to use local forces to operate on its behalf in order to conquer it. The video claims that as an example of this, it has appointed Abdullah Yusuf, "one of the emirs of the war in Somalia" as the country's president. Furthermore, in the capital Mogadishu, a nine-leader

⁶ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

⁷ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

⁸ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

⁹ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

coalition was established, receiving funding from the American administration so that it can carry out intelligence surveillance and abduct religious students and businessmen and transfer them to an American military base in Djibouti.

- Another prominent ally of the U.S. is Ethiopia, which also receives political, financial and intelligence support to prevent Somalia from becoming a Muslim state and to protect U.S. interests in the region. However, the Somali Mujahideen succeeded in blocking these attempts. Once the U.S. realized that Ethiopia cannot defeat the Mujahideen, it turned to the Crusading African Union Forces (Amison) for help. Here too the Americans saw fit to provide support, mainly on a military level, believing that the Union Forces will save Ethiopia from a lengthy war of attrition and help with the occupation of Somalia. There already are two military forces in the country: Uganda and Burundi.

The video claims that these forces also serve as a defensive shield for Yusuf's government and his people, who are in limited and restricted locations in Somalia. An example of this is the airport, which serves as a main base for the crusading forces and the American and French security companies. "However, Yusuf and his government failed in continuing to maintain the crusading agenda in the country" – a failure that led the "crusaders" to replace Yusuf with Sharif Sheikh Ahmad.

Upon Sharif's arrival in Mogadishu, the suffering of the Somali people was increased. This was especially due to the Mujahideen's success in defeating the Ethiopian Christians on Somalia's land, and their forced retreat back to their country at the beginning of 2009. The video further claimed that as of today, there are between 8,000 and 12,000 crusader

soldiers in Mogadishu, constantly hurting the Somali Muslim population. However, the Mujahideen are undeterred and adhere to their mission to remove these forces and their collaborators so that an Islamic state can be established. In other words, "The struggle currently going on in the Horn of Africa is a holy and fundamental struggle between Islam and the global Crusade".

The video's second part focuses on analysis of several terrorist attacks which were carried out by the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement, against the western forces in the country and their partners. This part of the video ends with a threatening message from Mukhtar Abu Al-Zubair, the emir of Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen, addressed to the people of Burundi. He tells them that their soldiers must retreat back to their country, or they will suffer the consequences.



- The "Al-Ma'asada" Jihadi media institute published a video (the fifth and final segment of a series) as part of the series of general publications dealing with planning and administration in Islam, titled "Monitoring and Supervision". The video is a lecture given by Abu Talal Al-Qasimi.¹⁰

Abu Talal Al-Qasimi was born in Egypt in 1377 Hijra (1957 – 1958). He joined Al-Jama'a Al-Islamiya, and was a member of the organization's Shura Council. Al-Qasimi was apprehended in 1402 Hijra (1981 – 1982) and sentenced to 7 years imprisonment after Sa'adat's murder. He was released from prison in 1409 Hijra (1988 – 1999), at which point he left for Afghanistan. From there he published a Jihadi magazine called "Al-Murabitun", a periodical published on behalf of Al-Jama'a Al-Islamiya. Following a difference of opinions between the leaders of the various factions in Afghanistan, Al-Qasimi left the country and settled down in Denmark. Upon the eruption of the events in Bosnia-Herzegovina, he tried to enter the country to take part in the Jihad on behalf of the Muslims. In September 1995 he was arrested by the Croatian authorities, and extradited to the U.S., who then turned him over to the Egyptian authorities.



¹⁰ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>. See also: http://www.ict.org.il/Portals/0/Internet%20Monitoring%20Group/JWVG_Periodical_Review_Dec_2010_No_2.pdf, pp. 2-3.

- A surfer on the "Shabakat Al-Mujahideen Al-Electroniya" Jihadi forum (the Al-Mojahden Electronic Network) published a series of steps to be taken before going on Jihad. The surfer called first for mental preparation followed by physical preparation. Afterwards, the surfer explains that theoretical preparation should also take place, involving the reviewing of Islamic religious books.¹¹

Promoting the Myth of the Shahid

- The "Al-Malahem" Jihadi media institute published the sixth booklet in the series of "The Shahids of the Arabian Peninsula", titled "The Biography of the Shahid Commander Abu Yaqin Al-Qasimi Fahd bin Salih Al-Jatili".
After graduating from high school, Al-Qasimi began studying at the Imam Muhammad bin Saud University in the Faculty of Sharia Studies. However, he did not complete his studies and abandoned them to join the ranks of the Mujahideen in Afghanistan. After the fall of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan he was forced to retreat to Pakistan, but was taken captive by the Pakistani Army and later turned over to the Americans who then sent him to Guantanamo.
Five years after his release from prison he married. He extensively read Jihadi literature found on the "Minbar Al-Tawhid wal-Jihad" website, a Salafi Jihadi website founded by Sheikh Abu Muhammad Al-Maqdisi.
Eventually, Al-Qasimi decided to return to the Jihad theater, and was killed two years ago as a result of the detonation of a bomb during its construction, which also killed some of his friends.¹²

¹¹ <http://www.majahden.com/vb>

¹² <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>



Reports from the field

Afghanistan - Pakistan

- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum reported that the Taliban–Pakistan organization threatened to carry out terrorist attacks in the U.S., France and Britain, in response to the killing of Bin Laden. This statement was made by the organization's Deputy Leader, Wali Al-Rahman Mahsud, to the "Al-Arabiya" station.¹³
- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum quoted the Taliban spokesman who stated that one of the organization's operatives and his wife carried out a suicide attack on a police station in Pakistan, killing 12 policemen.¹⁴
- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum reported that at least 16 people were killed, including the terrorists themselves, in an attack on the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul.¹⁵ The Arab media reported that there were at least 12 casualties in this attack.¹⁶

¹³ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

¹⁴ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

¹⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

¹⁶ <http://www.elaph.com/Web/news/2011/6/665642.html>

- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum reported that Fadi Said Haqqani, who was a senior military commander in Pakistan Taliban, has defected from the organization and established a new group called "The Islamic Taliban Movement".¹⁷

Iraq

- The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization published a list of 29 military operations carried out by the organization in the Baghdad Province. These included the assassination of an Iraqi administration official, and the killing of senior officers from the Ministry of Interior.¹⁸
- The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization published an announcement of an attack carried out by the organization's operatives against the Diyala Province Council.¹⁹
- The "Islamic State of Iraq" organization published a list of military operations carried out by the organization in the Southern Province, such as the placing of roadside explosives devices, the killing of Iraqi military personnel, and more.²⁰
- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum reported on a life sentence imposed on the wife of Abu Hamza Al-Muhajir, the former Minister of War of the "Islamic State of Iraq" organization. He was killed in April 2010.²¹

¹⁷ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

¹⁸ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

¹⁹ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

²⁰ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

²¹ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

The Arabian Peninsula

- The "Shabakat Al-Mujahideen Al-Electroniya" Jihadi forum (the Al-Mojahden Electronic Network) reported that Al-Qaeda in Yemen is attempting to take over the oil routes in the country.²²

The Al-Sham region

- The "Shabakat Al-Mujahideen Al-Electroniya" Jihadi forum (the Al-Mojahden Electronic Network) launched a campaign to unite the Salafi-Jihadi groups in Palestine.²³
- The "Shabakat Al-Mujahideen Al-Electroniya" Jihadi forum (the Al-Mojahden Electronic Network) posted a link to a video on YouTube containing a report on a new Salafi-Jihadi organization in the Gaza Strip called the "Taliban-Palestine Movement". The report, which was aired on the "France 24" channel in Arabic, claimed that the organization was established in 2009 and today numbers about 100 operatives.²⁴

Africa

- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum quoted the spokesman of the Ahl Al-Sunna wal-Jama'a organization in Somalia, who said that the killing of the leader of Al-Qaeda in East Africa, Fazul Abdullah, was done with the knowledge of associates of Mukhtar Abu Al-Zubair, the emir of the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement.²⁵

²² <http://www.majahden.com/vb>

²³ <http://www.majahden.com/vb>

²⁴ http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTgkU1kr8_w

²⁵ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

- The "Shabakat Al-Mujahideen Al-Electroniya" Jihadi forum (the Al-Mojahden Electronic Network) posted photographs from a military parade of the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement in north Mogadishu.²⁶



²⁶ <http://www.majahden.com/vb>



- The "Al-Kataib" media institute, operating on behalf of the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement, published a declaration announcing the completion of a religious course for school teachers. The teachers underwent a six day course on the subject of Islamic Sharia in preparation for their placement in schools in Somalia.²⁷
- The "Al-Kataib" media institute, operating on behalf of the Al-Shabab Al-Mujahideen movement, published an announcement on the aid that is provided to the needy in Somalia, which includes food packages.²⁸
- One of the members of the "Shumukh Al-Islam" Jihadi forum posted photographs from the site of a terrorist attack carried out by the "Boko Haram" group, a Salafi Jihadi group in Nigeria which is identified with Al-Qaeda. The terrorist attack was on the Nigerian Police Headquarters in the capital Abuja - over 30 people were killed, and around 40 cars were destroyed.²⁹

²⁷ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

²⁸ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>

²⁹ <http://202.149.72.131/~shamikh/vb>



Miscellaneous

- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum posted correspondence calling on Muslims around the world to carry out online attacks on western websites.³⁰
- The "Atahadi" Jihadi forum published an official announcement on its resumption of activity after a three week absence.³¹



³⁰ <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

³¹ <http://www.atahadi.com/vb>

- The "Hanein" Jihadi forum reported on the shutting down of the "Shabakat Al-Qawl Al-Fasl" forum, after four years of activity.³²
- A member of the "Atahadi" Jihadi forum, who is also a member of the forum's Proofreading Committee, published an announcement stating that the "Shabakat Al-Leyoth Al-Islam" Jihadi forum (the Al-Leyoth Islamic Network) has announced a temporary cessation of activities due to a change of server. This is for security reasons.³³

Facebook

- On April 15th 2011, a page was created called "Millat Ibrahim" (Religion of Ibrahim). The page contains Jihadi content.³⁴

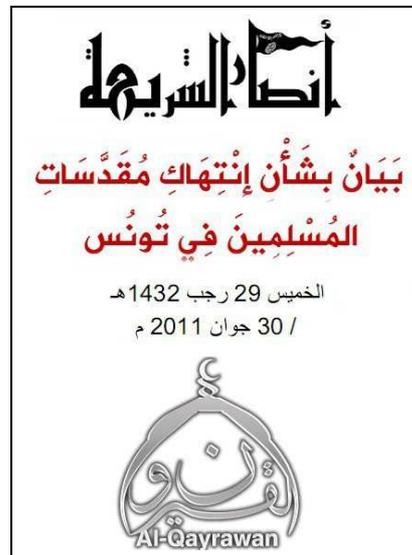


³² <http://www.hanein.info/vb>

³³ <http://www.atahadi.net/vb>

³⁴ <http://www.facebook.com/pages/%D9%85%D9%90%D9%84%D9%91%D8%A9-%D8%A5%D8%A8%D8%B1%D8%A7%D9%87%D9%8A%D9%85/219208991425996#!/pages/%D9%85%D9%90%D9%84%D9%91%D8%A9->

- On June 30th 2011, the Jihadi media institute of "Ansar Al-Sharia", a Salafi-Jihadi group in Tunisia, published a message on its Facebook page titled: "The Desecration of the Places Holy to the Muslims in Tunisia".³⁵ According to the group, there is a troubling increase in the disrespectful and hurtful attitude of secular groups towards places holy to the Muslims in Tunisia, following the flight of the former Tunisian President Bin Ali. Manifestations of this include: the prevention of the wearing of the veil in educational institutions; a disparaging attitude towards prayer; a call for normalization with the "Zionist enemy". According to the group, this trend is improper and will lead the Tunisian people to unwanted territories and the country to the "Crusading West". In light of this reality, the group concludes that all those involved in Islamic activity "must fulfill their role and come out against this vicious attack on our religion and our holy places".



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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/%D9%85%D8%A4%D8%B3%D9%91%D8%B3%D8%A9-%D8%A7%D9%84%D9%82%D9%8E%D9%8A%D8%B1%D9%88%D8%A7%D9%86-%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%A5%D8%B9%D9%84%D8%A7%D9%85%D9%8A%D9%91%D8%A9/116624498420570>. See also: <http://www.atahadi.net/vb>