

## Jihad is our path; and death for the sake of Allah is the loftiest of our wishes



﴿And never think of those who have been killed in the cause of Allah as dead. Rather, they are alive with their Lord, receiving provision.﴾ (Al Imran: 169).

In a new crime committed by the Israeli occupation today, Brother Leader Ismail Haniyeh ascended to Heavens in the aftermath of a treacherous Israeli raid on his residence in Iran, to meet Allah Almighty as a martyr on the path of the liberation of Palestine. While the Muslim Brotherhood (MB) mourns the martyred hero, it hails his patience, steadfastness and long-time jihad in leadership of the Islamic Resistance Movement – Hamas.

The MB emphasizes that a movement does not die away with the death of a leader, but rather it ignites in belief in its message and in certainty in the promise of its Lord. On the path of jihad and martyrdom –the path of Sheikh Ahmed Yassin and Abdel Aziz al-Rantisi– Leader Haniyeh has fulfilled his wish and made the ultimate sacrifice of giving his soul, after his sons, sister, grandchildren, and about 60 martyrs from his family members, setting the most wonderful example of sacrifice and redemption for the sake of Palestine, and providing an example on the path of great leaders.

The criminal assassination of Leader Haniyeh inflames Islamic sentiments towards the cause for which he died and –imposes on the peoples of the Islamic nation to rise up once again, always and forever, until Palestine and the Al Aqsa Mosque are liberated. Allah Almighty says: ﴿Go forth, whether light or heavy, and strive with your wealth and your lives in the cause of Allah. That is better for you, if you only knew.﴾ (Al-Tawbah: 41). Jihad is Allah's legal ordainment that will last until the Day of Judgment; that no people abandon it without being humiliated. Palestine was usurped by force and will not be regained except by force. This is what the resistance does against an

enemy that understands nothing but the language of force.

Arab and Muslim leaders must move in support of Palestine, as the brutal Israeli occupation has gone too far in its war on Gaza and its people, to the point that it has harmed every Muslim across the world; and it must be deterred. More recently, it attacked Yemen; yesterday, it attacked Lebanon; and today, it is committing this crime in Tehran, disregarding the sovereignty of states and violating international law, which requires an urgent response and punishment by all possible military, legal, political, and economic means. Unless you do something about this (Israeli) rampage, neither history nor your peoples will have mercy on you, as your silence will be tantamount to supporting the occupying usurper. On the other hand, this crime is also a test for the international community in approval of a ceasefire in Gaza and implementation of relative resolutions of the UN Security Council and the International Court of Justice.

The Brotherhood stresses that the (military) operations carried out by the enemy today – though it may seem limited – here and there (outside Gaza), are a way of opening new fronts and a test of likely responses; and silence in this regard will tempt more aggression against the peoples of the region. Then, it will benefit neither the ruling regimes nor the peoples, and the region will not witness any stability.

The MB also emphasizes that what the people of Gaza and Palestine have provided of their lives and money, and are still doing, is a great price for a more precious and valuable goal. Certainly, Allah will grant them victory over their enemy, whether this takes a long or a short time. Allah Almighty says: ﴿... And incumbent upon Us was support of the believers.﴾ (Al-Rum: 47). Therefore, every Muslim must join the ranks of jihad and respond to the call for supporting our people in Gaza, Rafah and all Palestine. In fact, jihad, in our immortal slogan, is the path to dignity, victory and empowerment, and death on the path of Allah is the loftiest of our wishes.

Finally, we call on Muslims all over the world to perform the funeral prayers in absentia for Martyr Haniyeh and his companions, and to work to restore the momentum of the Palestinian cause everywhere. On my behalf and on behalf of the Muslim Brotherhood, I extend my sincere condolences to the family of the martyred hero, the leaders of the Islamic Resistance Movement – Hamas, all Palestinian forces as well as the whole people of Palestine, on the martyrdom of Leader Ismail Haniyeh. I also call on the Palestinian people to unite and rally around their lofty goals for which Leader Haniyeh and all the martyrs of Palestine ascended to Heavens, so that the hope for which they sacrificed their lives may be realized.

Allah Almighty says: ﴿Verily, Allah loves those who fight in His Cause in rows (ranks) as if they were a solid structure.﴾ (Al-Saff: 4). And He Almighty says: ﴿... But give glad tidings to As-Sabirin (the patient ones). Who, when afflicted with calamity, say: "Truly! To Allah we belong and truly, to Him we shall return.﴾ (Al-Baqarah: 155-156)

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