International Daily

WWW.thekabultimes.gov.af

- Farid Ahmad Farhang, Director of Govt. Dailies
  Mob, 0704008080
- Editor-in-Chief, Hamidullah Arefi
  Mob, 0700163568, 020-230,1766
- E-mail, Hamidullah_arefi@yahoo.com
- Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Fathulbari Akhgar
  Mob, 0707005865
- Graphic designers, Edriss Akbary, Baktash Shaibani and Ali Ahmad
- Distribution, 2300337 - 0793531513 - 078245600 - 0766788447
- Printed at, Azadi printing press
- Address, 2nd Floor, Liberty Printing Press Building
  2nd Microrayon, Kabul, Afghanistan

twitter.com/thekabultimes www.facebook.com/thekabultimes

Editorial

Targeting Afghan masses against Islamic tenets

Taliban and other terrorists have continuously been killing the innocent people indiscriminately in Afghanistan. They even have continued their attacks on the people even during the Holy month of Ramadan and other holy days.

Religious scholars from the Islamic countries including Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Kuwait and Palestine and ICC have repeatedly condemned the war in Afghanistan and called as illegitimate. However, the terrorists have continued violence and killing the innocent people against the call of the Islamic scholars and their commitment to the peace agreement with the US.

Recently, religious scholars from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia at a meeting held within the framework of the Muslim World League (MWL), in the Muslim holy city of Makkah on Thursday, called for a swift halt to the war in Afghanistan, calling on the Afghan warring factions to follow the path of peace and reconciliation and resolve their differences through at the negotiation table.

Meanwhile, a number of scholars in Afghanistan have said that the current war waged by the Taliban has no justification and cannot be called a Jihad (Holy war). Some scholars in Pakistan have also raised their support for the Afghan peace process. The virtual meeting was hosted by the Saudi government.

Scholars said that Islam teaches tolerance and peace. They called on the Afghan government and the Taliban to resolve their differences through talks. "We should stop the explosions and the suicide attacks which make victims of our children, scholars and others in the country. Our opponents are also our Muslim brothers. But we do not act like them and do not brand them infidels," said Mohammad Qasim Halimi, the Afghan minister of religious affairs and pilgrimage.

"Muslims are being killed inside the mosques, the children are being killed during their birth, attacks are launched on universities and hospitals," the minister added, as quoted by media.

Overall, there is no legitimacy for the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan. Killing the people of Afghanistan is against religious tenets as Afghan and global clerics issued fatwa (religious decree) against the Taliban's acts of violence and bloodshed several times and urged the Taliban to end the conflict.

As what President Ghani said on different occasions that the Taliban's miscalculation is the main obstacle to peace. According to the president, Taliban still believe their own narrative that they have defeated NATO and the United States, and the group leaders did not encourage their rank and file to accept the idea of peace.

It is believed that there is still a widening gap between the Taliban leaders and their military commanders over the issue of peace. Their leaders fear that their rank and file may not accept their orders. If the Taliban leaders really lack control over their military commanders and fighters, the fear of splintering looms large, which will undo the US-Taliban Doha peace agreement.

If the Taliban have clear and transparent demands and plan, they have to put them all at the negotiating table and discuss them logically with the Afghan republic team to find out a solution. Going on a killing spree and targeting the people will bring nothing but Muslims genocide in Afghanistan.

Annual subscription fee of The Kabul Times

For government organizations and individuals 4000 Afs
For six months: 2000 Afs
For foreign organizations and diplomatic missions: 8000 Afs
For six months: 4000 Afs
For domestic commercial organizations: 6000 Afs
For six months: 3000 Afs
For students: 3000 Afs
For six months half price
Address: Second Microrayan, Azadi Printing Press Building, second floor.
Contact No: 0202301675-0700163568

Muslim World League: Declaration on peace in Afghanistan

Afghan and Pakistani scholars during a meeting in Saudi Arabia under the umbrella of Muslim World League, issued a declaration which is as follow:

We, the scholars of Pakistan and Afghanistan, have gathered today to discuss the peace process in Afghanistan and lend our support to the negotiations between the warring factions there, as this is the only way to resolve the long-standing Afghan crisis, to establish peace in the country, and condemn all acts of violence and extremism in all their forms as per the teachings of the Noble Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet.

The scholars of Pakistan and Afghanistan extend their thanks and appreciation to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques King Salman bin Abdulaziz for the Kingdom's firm and historic stance in supporting peace and stability in Afghanistan. In addition, we highlight the sincere efforts of the Kingdom in extending bridges and uniting the ranks, which have brought together the scholars of Afghanistan and Pakistan on one platform in the holy city of Makkah, with the aim of promoting peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan and to announce this joint declaration, today.

Together, we declare our agreement on the following:

Islam is the religion of peace, tolerance, moderation and reconciliation, it calls the believers to seek peace among themselves, and to end their differences by referring their grievances to the Holy Qur'an and the pristine Sunnah. Allah the Almighty says in his Holy Book: ?So fear Allah and amend that which is between you and obey Allah and His Messenger, if you should be believers.) Quran [8:1.]

Allah the Almighty also says (No good is there in much of their private conversation, except for those who enjoin charity or that which is right or conciliation between people. And whoever does that seeking means to the approval of Allah - then We are going to give him a great reward. Quran [4:114.] Allah the Almighty also says in the same chapter (O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger, and those of you who are in authority. If you differ in anything among yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination.) Quran [4:59]

Achieving peace among Muslims, is an obligation on every Muslim community, and it must be accomplished at any cost. This was the approach of the companions and scholars in mending relationships to prevent the bloodshed of innocent Muslims. Therefore, every dispute or discord among Muslims must be resolved through dialogue and peaceful means. This should be done according to the teachings of the Noble Qur'an and the pristine Sunnah. Hence, reconciliation among warring Muslim groups is a binding obligation on every Muslim. To this effect, Allah says (The believers are brothers, so reconcile between your brothers, and remain conscious of Allah, so that you may receive mercy. ? - the Holy Quran [49:10]

Undoubtedly, achieving peace

and reconciliation between two groups of Muslims fighting each other is a good deed. The Prophet (PBUH) said "Shall I inform you of something more excellent in degree than fasting, prayer and almsgiving?" The people replied: Yes, Prophet of Allah! He said: It is putting things right between people, spoiling them is the shaver (destructive). Sunan Abu Dawood (4919.) The prophet (PBUH) also said: "Do not hate each other; do not envy each other; do not desert each other; and be the servants of Allah as brethren. It is not allowed for a Muslim to keep apart from his brother for more than three days." Sahih Muslim, (2559).

During reconciliation Islam has permitted white lies, it has also allowed to tell the quarreling groups that the other party has praised them, as this will promote peace. In the hadith narrated by Umm Kulthum Bint Uqba that the Prophet (PBUH) said: "He who makes peace between the people by inventing good information or saying good things, is not a liar" Sahih Al-Bukhari (2692.)

The teachings of Islam and the biography of the Prophet (PBUH) emphasize the values of moderation and the need for balance and moderation in the lives of all Muslims. This was decreed by the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) who said:

"Religion is very easy and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way. So you should not be extremists, but try to be near to perfection and receive the good tidings that you will be rewarded; and gain strength by worshipping in the mornings, the afternoons, and during the last hours of the nights" Sahih Al- Bukhari (39) and Muslim (6816).

The Ummah is like one body, as the Messenger of Allah (PBUH) has said: "The believers in their affection, mercy, and sympathy are the like of one body. If one part of it complains, the rest of the body will fall prey to sleeplessness and fever" Sahih al-Bukhari (6011), and Sahih Muslim (2586). Similarly, if parts of the Muslim world fall into turmoil and unrest, the rest of the Ummah feels their suffering and pain, and rushes to the aid of their brethren to end their suffering by all viable means.

The basic principle of Islam lies in upholding human dignity and preserving human life. The Holy Qur'an has described that whoever kills a soul is like he has killed all of mankind, and whoever saves a life is as if he has saved all of mankind. This confirms that Islam- ic civilization is built on the foundations of peace, love, humane values and tolerance.

Scholars must also continue their efforts individually or collectively using other platforms to disseminate the true message of Islam and peace that is based on respecting life, humanity, justice, peace and avoiding discrimination, as there is no room for extremism and violence.

Scholars also bear the responsibility of safeguarding the highest standards of moral ethics, and spreading Islamic and human brotherhood among Muslims all over the world.

Scholars must guide the Ummah by spreading the true message of Islam and the proper interpretation of religious texts and the Sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH). Scholars from Pakistan and Afghanistan can play an effective role in spreading peace and unity in the Muslim world, especially in Afghanistan due to their thorough knowledge of the challenges facing Muslim countries.

Therefore, we wish that both countries establish a joint association for scholars, to carry on with the practical peace efforts in the Afghan peace process.

The scholars from Pakistan and Afghanistan are playing an effective role in spreading peace, harmony and brotherhood across the Muslim Ummah, particularly in Afghanistan, based on the teachings of Islam, the Noble Qur'an and the Sunnah. We appreciate the efforts made to realize lasting peace in the Muslim Ummah in general and Afghanistan in particular, this includes initiatives such as the "Pakistan Message," "the Bogor Declaration," "the Reconciliation Fatwa" issued in Afghanistan, and "the Makkah Declaration," and all other similar initiatives undertaken by the scholars of the Muslim world to achieve peace in Afghanistan.

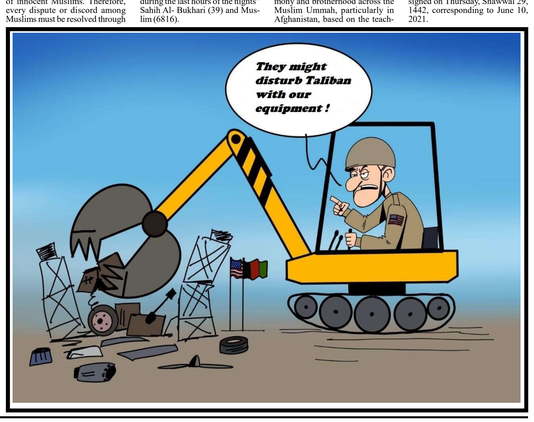
We reiterate that violence should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or race. Violence resulting from extremism and terrorism in all its forms; including violence against civilians and suicide attacks are completely rejected by the basic principles of the Islamic faith.

We call on both parties in the conflict to exercise maximum restraint, to avoid further bloodshed, refrain from provocative actions, and to sit down for honest negotiations to end the suffering endured by the Afghans for so long, effective solutions to the situation in Afghanistan must be worked out without any of the parties being belittled, blamed or disrespected by their counterpart.

Therefore, we express our full support for the peace process in Afghanistan; it is an obligation upon the entire Muslim Ummah. Particularly, on us (the scholars) to contribute effectively in finding a solution to the Afghan conflict by lending our support to the reconciliation process between the fighting parties in Afghanistan. We hope that (the fighting parties) will agree on a common ground for reconciliation, by tackling all issues relating to politics, social life, and economy, as well as other related issues in the spirit of joint action, so that the constant bloodshed in Afghanistan can be stopped, and the Afghan people find the path of peace, reconciliation, stability and progress in this world, with Allah's help.

In conclusion, we express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan for its genuine and honest support of the peace process in Afghanistan and reiterate the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's efforts in instilling solidarity and harmony within the Ummah.

We look forward to the Kingdom's continued support to maintain the momentum generated by this declaration among the scholars in the Muslim world in general, and among scholars in Pakistan and Afghanistan in particular.

We ask Allah Almighty to guide us to the right path.

This declaration was issued in the holy city of Makkah, and signed on Thursday, Shawwal 29, 1442, corresponding to June 10, 2021.