

**PUBLISHED BY THE INFORMATION COMMITTEE
ISLAMIC DA'WA PARTY (EUROPE)****KUWAIT'S BOMBINGS
SHAKE THE US ADMINISTRATION**

The city-state of Kuwait was the scene of a series of bombings aimed at American and French embassies and other related interests. The 'Islamic Jihad' Organisation claimed responsibilities and threatened further action against establishments of the two countries world wide. The attacks could not have come at a more embarrassing time to the American President. Only the night before, Reagan had warned that there were thousand men ready to die in suicidal attacks in Lebanon. These men, this time, disagreed with him. Their message in Kuwait is that they existed in more than one country and numbered more than a thousand. Lebanon was only the start of their campaign which aims at humiliating and debilitating their arch enemy, America.

Perhaps they missed their targets slightly, but the message was clear. Kuwait has long been considered a stable country, a notion received with warmth and satisfaction in the West. Together with the other five Gulf States; Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman, the United Arab Emirates and Bahrain, constituting the Gulf Cooperation Council, Kuwait is less stable than the US and Britain would have wished. British intelligence services, at least, are now worried that their efforts in establishing efficient intelligence-gathering networks are not fruitful. Two years ago, the Bahraini government claimed to have discovered a plot to overthrow the regime and the world was made to believe. That claim was later proved unfounded. The British-built security network in Bahrain, headed by Henderson, was successful only in 'exposing' this

faked ploy. This time, however, the Kuwaiti intelligence network failed to discover the real operations. That is an acute embarrassment to the highly-sophisticated arrangements agreed by the GCC heads of States in their last summit in Doha last November. Indeed, the casualties in the latest attacks against the American and French embassies may have been lighter than similar attacks in Beirut, but the political implications are, nevertheless, serious. Kuwait and its Gulf partners in the GCC are more important to the US and the EEC countries, and a major breach of the security of their heads of states, as in this case, may only be relieved with utmost apprehension. This is why British media is taking the matter seriously and suggesting large measures to confront the increasing risks in the region. Perhaps the most explicit recommendation that Britain should become more involved in Kuwait, has been given by the Times newspaper in its editorial (Dec. 13th) when it proposed that information on underground Islamic movements operating in Kuwait should be supplied by Britain. This flagrant invitation for British meddling in Kuwaiti affairs presupposes that the Kuwaiti government is not capable of minding its own affairs. However, the British government stood responseless when, two years ago, several bombing attacks were carried out against Kuwaiti concerns in the capital itself. It was known then, that the Ba'thist regime of Iraq was responsible for that campaign in an attempt to force the government to prompt payments for its war efforts against the Islamic government.

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BA'THISTS USE ILLEGAL WEAPONS

On the night of Tuesday 13th December, Saddam Tikriti ordered massive strikes on 'selected' targets inside Iran. Six cities were thus hit by Soviet-made SCUD ground-to-ground missiles. These 'selected' targets were found to be residential areas in the Iranian cities of Andemishk, Behbahan, Ahwaz, Dezful, NahawaND AND Ramharoz. There does not seem any political sense in selecting civilian attacks of such ferocity and the act can only highlight the nature of the political leadership in Baghdad. Revenging from peaceful residents can only be described as callous and barbaric act especially when the majority of the victims are inhabitants of the Arabic-speaking region of Khuzestan. Over the last two years, numerous attacks on civilian population in Iran were carried out by Saddam's troops using ground-to-ground missiles fired from Iraqi territory. Thousands were killed in these attacks and enormous damage was inflicted.

Recently, the UN issued a report on the extent of the damage inflicted on civilian population in the two countries. The report concluded after examining evidence collected from the war-stricken areas, that Iran suffered the most in this respect. The Ba'thist strikes were extremely devastating because they were intended to cause maximum damage by striking at times of massive congregation for prayers especially on Fridays.

C u r r e n t l y , t h e U N secretary General is studying reports that internationally-forbidden chemical weapons are being used extensively by Iraq in its war with the Islamic Republic. Several British doctors have confirmed the use by Iraq of these chemical weapons after examining several patients with skin and eye disease. Their symptoms reflect unmistakably exposure to forbidden gases.

Many Iranian victims are now undergoing treatment in hospitals in West Germany and Britain.

The use of these unlawful weapons is clear relection of the desperation of the Ba'thist regime as well as its immoral attitudes.

Accusations fro these inhumane acts are also levelled against governments supplying these lethal weapons to Saddam's regime. France comes at the forefront for its efforts to prop up the declining regime by supplying him with all sorts of tools of death. Earlier in the month, Iraq announced attacks on Iranian naval targets and destroying them. Although similar claims in the past had always proved unfounded, and this time is no exception, the dangerous nature of Saddma's regime must not be ignored. It is believed by some circles that there is no limit to the regime's brutalities especially if he is guaranteed the blessings of the western powers for his actions.

The latest missile attacks have one dimension more than previous ones which were in retaliation for setbacks at the war front.

The reason given by the Ba'thist media this time is the bomb attacks in Kuwait on American and French establishments. Saddam was anxious to implicate



the Islamic Republic which has gone out of its way this time to deny any involvement in the affair in, at least, two seperate statments.

The Iraqi regime has thus done the job the Americans or the French might have done. However, the two countries know that Iran had no part in these developments, but their watchdog preferred to be more faithful than his own masters.

One Iraqi politician was stunned by the action of the Ba'thist regime and said; if Saddam possesses such devastating tools, why does not he direct them on the occupiers of Palestine?. This sentiment is expresse by many Iraqis and muslims who feel bitter due to the inaction against the zionists by any of the Arab regimes especially the rulers of Baghdad. However, the latest attacks on behalf of the Americans and the French may be taken within the context of the political arena in the Gulf. The United States, in shifting its stand in favour of Saddams's regime and France has all along been hostile to the Islamic Repbulic. Egypt, reflecting the American policies in the Middle East, has come to the aid of Saddam in both manpower and material sense. SAddam Tikriti in an interview with the Egyptian daily, Al-Ahram, recently, said he had no problem to visit Egypt but was waiting until the political atmosphere becomes suitable. According to informed sources, the Egyptian President may visit Iraq within the next few weeks. That will end the official, though sympbolic, boycott of Egypt by the Arab regimes in the aftermath of the Camp David accords. Already, the American proteges have voted in favour of Egypt's return to the Islamic circle in their recent Islamic conference in Bangladesh.

The American policies that essentially aim at preserving the statehood of the zionist entity are now being carried out by its puppets in the region. The missile attacks by Saddam's troops may therefore, be taken as a vote of confidence on the American policies in Lebanon and the Gulf region.

SCIRI DECALRES ALL IRAQI AGREEMENTS NIL AND VOID

The Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SCIRI), announced all agreements of the Iraqi regime with other countries was illegal.

Speaking to reporters after the session, the spokesman of the assembly, Hojatoleslam Mohammad Baqer Hakim, reiterated that rule of the Iraqi Baathist regime was illegal. Furthermore, all countries of the world and international organisations were informed that the legal representative of Iraqi people (SCIRI), considered void all agreements signed and stressed in the letter that the Iraqi nation would have no responsibility towards such agreements.

SCIRI CALLS ON U.N. TO ATTEND TO AFFLICTIONS OF IRAQI NATION

The supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq (SCIRI) in a message to the U.N. general assembly today outlined the savage crimes of the Baathist Iraqi regime and demanded the U.N. and other international organisations to adopt a decisive stance to liberate the nation of Iraq from domination of the regime.

The message pointed out the intensification of suppressive measures of the Iraqi regime against the Iraqi nation particularly in the wake of the heavy losses it suffered in the imposed war with Iran.

There are 180,000 political prisoners held in Iraq, about 40-50,000 of them are held in the above area, the rest are held in main prisons in Baghdad like Abu-Ghraib in Baghdad, which accomodates some 30,000 prisoners, the rest are believed to be held in secret hideouts.

It said the nation of Iraq has positively announced its opposition to the ruling regime of Iraq and that several of great Islamic jurists who opposed the regime have been martyred in the cause of God.

The SCIRI message went on saying that the Iraqi regime has often attempted to cover up such revolutionary operations but has been forced to admit to such moves following bomb blasts that shocked Baghdad.

It said the number of martyrs has reached 15000 so far and at present the northern and southern Iraq was witnessing real armed uprisings and over half a million Iraqi nationals who live outside Iraq together with 50 thousand Iraqi pows express their absolute opposition to the Iraqi regime.

IRAQ HAS CLOSED DOWN THE BAGHDAD OFFICE OF ABU NIDAL

Iraq has closed down the Baghdad office of Abu Nidal, the Palestinian group.

Abu Nidal was blamed for past attacks on 'moderate' Palestinian and other Arabs. The Ba'thist regime of Iraq have expelled his men from the country. This step was taken by Saddam to show his gratitude towards the west and America in particular who in the past criticized him for giving shelter and support to "terrorists".

NEW 2000 MILLION DOLLAR LOAN TO SADDAM

News coming from Kuwait say that the Kuwaiti parliament is discussing a new loan to Iraq worth US\$ 2000 million!

The bill is discussed in the parliament before being finalised. Kuwait is apparently resuming its aid to Saddam after hints of some territorial concessions from Iraqi side. Kuwait, together with other Gulf countries, aided Saddam in his war against Iran with an amount of nearly US\$ 40 billion over the last three years.

SADDAM'S CRIMES CONFERENCE

The Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) has started a new initiative. In Tehran in the period from 17th-22nd, the Saddam's Crimes Conference starts its sessions. This conference is designed to shed lights on the atrocities and unbelievable crimes that Saddam had committed in Iraq and abroad. Personalities and representatives are invited to the conference. Two posters have been made out; one of them carrying the conference motto, the other addressed "The new Hitler". The occasional stamp carrying the conference emblem has been printed.

EXECUTIONS OF 180 IRAQIS

In conjunction with his crimes, Saddam has recently executed 180 young men from the city of Najaf for religious activities. The security authorities handed their bodies to their families, and ordered them to pay about 2500 pounds if the victim was a university student (for repaying a guarantee money. A student owes the state if he leaves his course in Iraq !!!). While the Baathists execute the young men on unfounded charges, they force their families to pay huge amounts to add the their ordeal, and to terrorise the population. A wave of resentment and anger is largely felt in many cities, for random arrests of young men who refuse to go to the war fronts.



CAR BOMB IN BEIRUT STREETS

A large car bomb exploded on Monday December 5th in front of a nine-story building. The blast partially destroyed the apartment house and trapped many residents inside.

About 23 people were killed and 84 injured. The bomb was planted in a Muslim area in west Beirut, all the victims were civilians. Blood-Soaked pieces of bodies, including arms and headless corpses, were scattered on the vicinity of the building.

The 'Free Lebanon from foreigners' Organization claimed responsibility for the attack. The same organization was responsible for similar attacks on Muslim civilians. The Organization said 'it was aiming at driving out Syrian and Palestinians from Lebanon and announced its support to Israel as it considers it a true friend for Lebanese people!.

THE PLO PREPARING ITS FINAL DEPARTURE

The beleaguered PLO chairman, Yaser Arafat, is due to leave his last Lebanese stronghold in Tripoli. This was part of the agreement between his loyalist forces and his opponents. The agreement was concluded after weeks of heavy fighting between the two sides in which hundreds, and perhaps thousands were killed and injured, the majority of whom were civilians living at the two Palestinian camps at Nahr al-Bared and Baddawi.

To understand the niceties of the situation, it is imperative to understand the American objectives in Lebanon. The most important of these is to establish a strong Maronite government loyal to the US, on peace terms with the Zionists and free from any Lebanese or Palestinian freedom fighters who may undermine these objectives. The existence of armed militias in Beirut and the Bekaa must therefore be eliminated. The presence of the Palestinian fighters in Tripoli and the Amal militias in Beirut is thus an obstacle in this process. The decision to evacuate the Palestinian fighters from Northern Lebanon is thus part of an underworld deal involving several parties. A concession by the Americans to allow Syria to retain a degree of domination over political events in Lebanon may have speeded up this understanding. On the other hand, the evacuation of all the Palestinian fighters from Lebanon will fulfil Zionist ambitions to see that country free from any Palestinian seriously claiming back his land. Extending the Gemayel's government sovereignty over the whole of Lebanon will, in the American view, ensure the stability of the regime. And when this arrangement is secured with the assistance of the Americans, some 'gratitude' will always be due to the Reagan administration.

Looking at the situation in this context, the expulsion of the Palestinian fighters for a second time in 15 months, cannot be simply attributed to inter-Palestinian feuds or settlement of old bloody accounts. It is doubtful that the anti-Arafat camp will survive the pressures to leave Lebanon altogether and settle in camps somewhere in the Syrian deserts. The pact concluded between the two factions, and sponsored by the Saudi government, provides that positions evacuated by Arafat supporters be handed over to the Lebanese Army. This army has been built and trained by the Americans and has excersised its techniques in dealing with the other Lebanese militias. It has stood by the Phalangists in their battles with the Druze and the Shia when they opposed the role of the multinational forces in the country.



Now Israel is refusing to guarantee a safe passage to Arafat and his forces as they leave Tripoli by sea to several destinations. Isaac Shamir, feeling strong enough after the recently-concluded military pact with the US, has threatened to order his navy to sink the vessels carrying the exiled Palestinians. This is not surprising since the Arab brotherens are offering little to comfort the evacuees. The lack of any serious response to the Zionist provocations has consistently encouraged the Zionists to take more arrogant stands. When the Zionist and French aircrafts strafed and bombed positions of the Islamic Amal and the Party of Allah in the Bekaa no attempt was made by any Arab force to intercept the attackers. Fortunately, little damage was caused to the intended targets.

The irony of the situation is that the Arab regimes always attempt to make big fuss even about their own defeats. The Lebanese Mujahideen have successfully defeated the



Zionists, the Americans and the French forces by their determined and steadfast resistance whilst the Arab regimes involved in the Lebanese crisis have lost their own prestige as a result of their inaction. They are now banking on the achievements of the Mujahideen and not on their own forces. The Zionists have even decided to pull back from the city of Tyre to the Zahrani River after their failure to contain or limit attacks by the Mujahideen. There are rumours that the Israeli army is now contemplating complete withdrawal from Lebanon as a result of its mounting casualties. The former Zionist premier, and under whose orders the invasion of Lebanon was carried out is now deranged as a result of the mounting Zionist casualties. The Israelis have demonstrated their concern towards their civilians when they agreed to exchange six prisoners of their own captured during last year's invasion of Lebanon for about 4,500 Palestinian and Lebanese prisoners at Ansar and other Israeli prisons. This knowledge of the Zionist psychology has led the Lebanese fighters to tighten the rope around the Zionist leadership and force it to leave Lebanon. They have achieved what the collective Arab leadership has failed to achieve in war and peace times.

The Palestinian fighters may shortly be on their final trip from Lebanon. Their camps will be exposed to Phalange brutalities as they were last year. The aim behind their evacuation from Tripoli has no moral basis and will not, in any way, serve the Palestinian cause. It may now be time for the evacuees to pose and contemplate the shortcomings of the leadership of Arafat and prevent any further dialogue with the Jordanian king and his likes who have not come to their aid in their hour of need.

NEWS

MUSLIM AFFAIRS

AFGHAN MUJAHIDEEN KILL A GENERAL

Afghan Mujahideen in Islamabad confirmed

Afghan Mujahideen in Islamabad confirmed that the Soviet General, Vladimare Anitov was among the Soviet personnel whose helicopter was shot down by the Mujahideen on 15th November near Kabul. Sources from inside Afghanistan said that there were ten top Afghan government officials among them a high ranking Afghan officer, Mohamad Abdul Adhim. Also in the plan, there were top Soviet advisors.

It is worth mentioning that Afghan Mujahideen had killed another Soviet general IN May 1981 in a similar operation in Khost in the eastern province of PaKTIJA:

RUSSIANS SLAUGHTER 20 ELDERLY AFGHANS

A defected Afghan army officer to Pakistan, Brigadier Mohammad Rahim commander of the Afghani

army seventh division in charge of communications, said in an interview that Soviet troops killed 20 elderly Afghans at Ziyaratgh close to Ghazni city 80 miles southwest of Kabul. The officer was quoted as saying that the victims were dragged out of their homes and murdered as Afghan troops, who were the Soviets, looked on.

MARTIAL LAW IN BANGLADESH REMAINS IN FORCE

The military ruler and newly self-proclaimed President of Bangladesh, Lieutenant Hussain Ershad said on Monday 12th December, 1983 that martial law would remain in force until after the Presidential and parliamentary elections that are scheduled for next year.

The government, meanwhile, announced that General Ershad had ordered the release of seventy five politicians from prison and house arrest, Sunday. According to the Home Minister, Abdul Mannan Siddiqi, those released included Begum Khaleda Z. Rahman, the widow of the President Ziaur Rahman and Sheikha Hasina Wazid the daughter of the late President Mujibur rahman.

General Ershad who took power in a military coup twenty months ago said his decision to declare himself president, Sunday, 'had no relation' to the presidential elections scheduled for May 24th. He said there was no plan 'as yet' to cancel the elections.

The opposition leaders have called for national strikes and demonstrations on December 20th to protest against martial law and President's ban on political activities.

TWO MASSIVE BLASTS IN BAGHDAD

On the morning of Sunday 27/11/83, two massive explosions shocked Baghdad the capital of Iraq. The two explosions were aimed at the heart of the fascist regime of Saddam.

The first attack was aimed at the headquarter of the notorious Directorate of General Security offices. It was carried out by a mujahideen group of Martyr Abdul Jabbar Gurmah. Martyr Ebrahim Salman drove his car into the Security compound and forced his way into the heart of the building turning it into rubble. The attack resulted in the killing of about 200 of the Ba'thist agents and injuring 300 of them. The headquarters was levelled, and nearby offices were partially damaged. The Martyr was carrying some 230 kg of high explosives in his truck.

The second attack was also triggered off at the same time, causing extensive damage to an Army Stores Office, in Bab Al-Mu'addam area, close to the Defence Ministry. The second bomb was planted by another group called group of Martyr (Abdul Hussain Abu Lahmah). It contained 30 kg of high explosives. The blast wrecked the entire stores causing extensive damages and burning great parts of the stores, and killing 30 Ba'thist personnel.

The two explosions were aimed at the most heavily protected areas. The security offices are sited in an area which is absolutely forbidden land to the public. It accommodates huge offices, prisons and torture chambers, and it is also believed that there were some 20,000 personnel employed in that area alone. It has even anti-tanks and anti-aircraft weapons, plus recently built concrete posts, especially mounted to prevent any "suicidal car bomb" attacks against the area.

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The Dawa in its struggle is prepared to give all efforts and souls in the right path of Allah and the relationship with Allah is the key factor to ensure success. Similarly, if the Umma is not prepared to give and sacrifice in the way of Allah and join the Dawa in its struggle, there may not be success for the people. Hence the struggle must be accepted and backed by the Umma and the Dawa must not launch the struggle on its own.

The involvement of the Umma in the struggle implies that there are wide sectors of people who are ready and willing to see Islam back in the life of our people. Also it implies that as the Dawa leads the way in sacrificing and striving, it will encourage wide sectors of people to do so and as tens of party members give their lives in executions and prisons, there are tens and hundreds more who will join the party and the struggle to achieve the same aim. The Dawa party moves in the phase of political struggle with the Umma and shows the way towards achieving the Islamic aims. In some villages or areas, it is expected that the sympathy of the Umma may reach a level that people describe that area as belonging to the Dawa. The existence of such areas with their women, children and men provides the necessary resource for the Dawa to launch a long term struggle against the enemies.

SOCIAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF IRAQI PEOPLE

In order to understand the political tendencies among the Iraqi people it is necessary to present the background of the Iraqis in general. In presenting the social and historical background one ought to implement one's views or beliefs on the key characteristics in a society or people. Non-Islamic observers give preference to criterion such as; race or origin, class, religion or sect, social and demographic factors. Various factors contribute to the making of the Iraqi people in various ways and it is a serious error if only one single factor is adopted to interpret the behaviour or attitudes of the various sections of the Iraqis. The question is not whether or not such factors affect the Iraqis but it is to what extent they affect them and what are the key factors to understand the behaviour of people.

The state of Iraq was confirmed only in 1932 and hence the people of Iraq did not identify themselves as Iraqis before and during that decade nor did they have allegiance and loyalty to that state. It is only very recently that the new born generations in Iraq, in the 70's, have carried the identity of being Iraqis and pledge their loyalty to Iraq. The generations between the 30's and the 70's had a mixed identity band loyalty that varied among the various sections of the Iraqi people. In fact the attempts that were made by the British, at that time, to link the Iraqis with the new state, were disastrous failures. The people of Iraq revolted many times against the British-made state in 1916 and 1921. The attempts by the British to establish a ruling party and an opposition party within the framework of Iraq proved unsuccessful and the aspirations of the people of Iraq rose quickly beyond the borders of Iraq.

Before 1932, the people of Iraq, both in the cities, and among the tribes and the minorities, had one common identity and loyalty. They were citizens of the Ottoman state which ruled in the name of Islam. In spite of the many faults and symptoms of that state, the people maintained some form of loyalty to that state. Islam has always been a factor in binding together various cultures and social backgrounds into one homogeneous and consistent society and it was the case in Iraq. The people of Iraq were a combination of cities, tribes and minorities. In the cities, various religions and sects lived together, various races integrated, and various sections and classes cooperated. The tribes, Arabs and non Arabs had coexisted within the Islamic state in some form of independence that did not violate their pledge of loyalty. The minorities accepted to live under an Islamic state and their freedom was granted and secured.

In the cities, the people identified themselves first with Islam and this implied their school of thought. The economical interests of the cities came second as an identifying factor and so did the ethnic origin.

Among the tribes, the identity and loyalty to the tribe came first and then it was followed by the loyalty to the religion and the school of thought, in a traditional way. The loyalty and identity of the minorities were related to their religion and culture. In spite of the security and respect they had from the muslim Umma, they did not have much scope in developing strong bases or existence, socially or economically within the muslim state.

The Ulema were influential among the Arab tribes and the Mullahs were influential among the Kurds. The state was more influential in the main cities of Basra, Baghdad and Mousel.

The people of Iraq in general were not aware of the

dangers that surrounded their land. The British invaded Iraq in 1914 and it was three long years before they reached Mousel. The British learnt more about the people of Iraq as they proceeded and they used their knowledge in ruling Iraq.

The British proposals to rule Iraq aimed at displacing Islam from the constitution and replacing it with a monarchy. They carefully chose a Hashimite, a dissident of the Prophet, to rule Iraq as a King. Their attempts to win the Ulema on their side failed in North and South of Iraq. However, they won some Ulema who were previously employed by the Ottoman state and found it convenient to switch their loyalty to the new state. The British aimed at exploiting any national feelings of Arabs against the Turks and stressing on the Shias who lived under a sunni rule for a long time. None of these tactics worked in and the Ulema in particular declared Jihad against the invading troops and after their military defeat they called for a total boycott of the state. People of the tribes and some people of the cities responded strongly to the calls of the Ulema and the British learnt at that time that the Ulema will always remain as their enemies. The people of Iraq proved to be stubborn and tiring to the invaders. It took the British a long time to break their resistance and eventually control them.

The British took several measures to rule Iraq such as; bringing to government representative members of the various communities and tribes, separating the rich zone of Kuwait, developing contacts with the heads of most tribes, employing the minorities to strengthen the new fragile state, etc.

The British rule was not challenged seriously except by Rashid Ali's military coup in 1941 and it continued to control Iraq until 1958.

The aspirations of the Iraqi people was dealt with in a British manner one by one. The Islamic movement was the first to be crushed and the other movements of the Iraqi people were confined and undermined.

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The American President's response was, as usual, cowboyish. 'America has had enough' he said. For the American public, this may be appealing under circumstances leading to presidential elections. But for the muslim people of the region, Americans must leave their lands before they could contemplate a ceasefire with the invaders. The Lebanese 'Islamic Jihad' Organisation believes that the American action in Lebanon including their naval bombardment of the positions of the national resistance fighters, can, in no way, be justified. If the Americans are free to choose their own president, why can't they? When the marines were ordered to undertake combat operations against the Lebanese nationals, then they should have expected severe retributions. It is unlikely that the Americans have, as yet, understood the implications of their arrogant strategy in Lebanon and elsewhere. The White House is now being protected by anti-aircraft missiles in case a suicidal attempt by air is made to kill the President. The hard-headed president may need some time to grasp the implications of the latest attacks on his embassies, but that may be too late.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AL-DA'WA THOUGHT ON THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE

Clarifying the political struggle, which forms the second stage in the growth of the activities of the Dawa, is related to the stage before and the stage after the declaration of the struggle. We will elaborate on the issue as much as possible without going in details of the following stages.

The article seeks to answer questions related to defining the struggle, defining its conditions and requirements, proposing possible locations of such struggle and what is likely to accompany the stage of political struggle.

WHAT IS THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE?

In brief, we define the stage of political struggle as the second phase in the life of the party during which all activities of the party become politically oriented. Political struggle means taking a public stand on current issues and conditions of poor people and in particular opposing all forms of colonialism and imperialism, in our countries.

In a political struggle, we describe the good as being good and the bad as being bad and although we continue our educational and intellectual activities, the most obvious aspect of our activities remain political.

The party moves into this stage with ready institutions and preparation and when the people are in sympathy and cooperation with the party. The activities grow in such a way that the party does not face a shock in its approach to the new tasks and conditions. The growth of activities must run in parallel with the growth of the influence of the party over the masses in a way that the party does not take stands far away from those of its people nor to be left behind in the stands and struggle of its people.

When does the Party start the Political Struggle?

In order to answer the above question, there are three issues that must be considered;

First: The Party and its resources:

Any group that attempts the political struggle must be prepared to face the difficulties and tolerate the repression on its own abilities and potential.

The group must be prepared to take a leading role and meet the aspirations of the masses. The group must also be prepared for a long term battle with continuous demands and changing circumstances and hence the group must predict and sense dangers before their occurrence. In particular, the party must provide continuity to specific leading roles and efficient contacts with various figures and powers and with the masses through its publications and similar means of contacts.

All the above is required under extremely difficult circumstances and hence in order to carry the above tasks, the followings are required:

1- Members of the group must be well spread among all sections of the people in that region so that all sectors of society feels the struggle. To be well spread means to include most urban and rural areas.

2- The members of the group must not be known to the enemies and Islamic activities must not solely indicate their presence behind it. There must be well

spread Islamic activities and a good number of unrecognised members of the organisation.

It is inevitable that the declaration of the struggle and the declaration of the party behind the struggle may lead to uncovering some members of the party. However, the secrecy must remain as a rule. Members who are known to the opposing authorities may move to areas that are fresh in the struggle or areas that are far away from the observations of the authorities without jeopardising their roles.

Although it may sound contradictory or impossible to lead a public political struggle and maintain some level of secrecy, the Dawa believes that it may be achieved by Muslims who are prepared to strive and give themselves in the way of Allah.

3-The organisation must be solid enough to survive the anticipated climate of confrontation and struggle.

4-The activists of the party must be spread over the various lines of activities so that no deficiency is felt in any particular line.

5-The relationship of every member with Allah must be strong and dominating all aspects of their behaviour. More spiritual and worship practices are needed throughout difficult times of the party.

Second: The relationship with the Umma

The political struggle of the party makes the Umma involved in a new phase of its life. It reflects a sign of awakening and readiness towards a historic and cultural jump. It also indicates that the phase of backwardness and passive attitude is over and a more active and effective role of the people is underlined.

The progress of any nation is related to the will of Allah and hence we cannot overlook the facts mentioned in the Quran regarding social changes; no change will take place unless people change what is in themselves. There is no guarantee of the results other than Allah's promise to us and hence we shall strive in this way and hope that Allah will grant us victory or martyrdom.

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TO OUR READERS

Al Da'wa Chronicle welcomes on its pages all the news and views of concerned Muslims and freedom-loving people on matters relating to Iraq and the Muslim world.

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WHEN THE CANDLES WERE EXTING- UISHED



On the Ninth Anniversary of the Martyrdom of the Five Scholars

The blood of five graced martyrs ignited the spark of the Islamic Revolution in injured Iraq. It was a normal day in the winter of 1974 when the five candles were extinguished by the Ba'athist executioners in Baghdad. The muslim Ummah was still struggling to come out of its long disappearance after centuries of inaction and weakness.

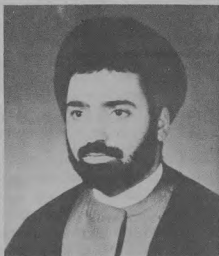
The murderers in Baghdad had felt that something big had been in the offing for some time and that their foundation together with the other despots and tyrants in the region were subject to unstoppable threat from the Islamic resurgence.

The five scholars, Sheikh A'raf Al-Basri, Sayed Ezzeddin Qobbanchi, Sayed Emad eddin Tabatiba'i, Sayed Hussain Jaloukhan and Nouie Tu'mah were known to the Ba'athists as frontline activists in Baghdad and its suburbs. Their involvement in the Islamic work over the previous ten years had made them popular figures and the idea they stood for had attracted massive following. The Islamic Da'wa Party, affiliation to which they were accused of, was becoming the symbol of opposition to the Ba'athist domination and the ray of hope of many of the oppressed of Iraq.

The Ba'athists decided that time was ripe for a drastic action to curtail the spread of Islamic awareness among the masses who had discovered the false identity of their rulers. By now, the majority of the population believed that the Ba'athist Party was intent on eradicating the Islamic identity of Iraq and their six years of rule was nothing more than a nightmare. The preaching of the five scholars and their colleagues was the main obstacle in this process. Thus, on one day of December 1974, Ahmad Hassan Al-Bakr, to be executed eight years later, issued the order of execution on the five mujahideen. A clean blood was thus spelt on the land of Iraq marking the beginning of a bloody era in the history of the country. And once a blood is spelt by a regime, the relation between the people and the regime becomes a bloody one.

Since then, the Islamic movement in Iraq, led by the Da'wa has pledged itself to seek revenge against the murderous regime who had murdered the symbols of justice, knowledge and piety.

Today, nine years after that cold-blooded murder, the blood of the martyrs stands a symbol of the oppression of saddam's regime and will not dry up until Ba'athism is eradicated from Iraq.



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