



## **Anwar al-Awlaki: “Salutations to al-Shabab of Somalia” December 21, 2008**

### **Anwar al-Awlaki: “Salutations to al-Shabab of Somalia” Released: December 21, 2008**



*[This document is the transcript of a communiqué obtained by NEFA investigators and is being provided for educational and informational purposes only. Al-Awlaki is a U.S. citizen, who served as an imam in Colorado, California, and Washington D.C. and worked as the Muslim Chaplain at George Washington University. He was the “spiritual advisor” to 9/11 hijackers Nawaf al-Hazmi and Khalid al-Midhar, and the Congressional Joint Inquiry on 9/11 reported that “the FBI agent responsible for the September 11 investigation informed staff that ‘there’s a lot of smoke there’ with regard to...[al-Awlaki’s] connection to the hijackers.” Returning to Yemen, he was arrested in 2006 and held for over a year. He reports being interrogated by FBI agents about a number of subjects, including 9/11. A February 2008 Washington Post article notes that U.S. officials now “believe that al-Awlaki worked with Al-Qaida networks in the Persian Gulf after leaving Northern Virginia” and has been involved in planning attacks on the U.S. and its allies. On February 29, 2008, the U.S. State Department designated Shabaab al-Mujahideen as a Foreign Terrorist Organization.]*

“We are following your recent news and it fills our hearts with immense joy. We would like to congratulate you for your victories and achievements.”

“Al-Shabab not only have succeeded in expanding the areas that fall under their rule but they have succeeded in implementing the sharia and giving us a living example of how we as Muslims should proceed to change our situation. The ballot has failed us but the bullet has not.”

“al-Shabab who are with limited resources in an impoverished country are a manifestation of what tawakul on Allah means. We see in them the meaning of ‘And whoever has taqwa, Allah will make a way out for him. And will provide for him from where he does not expect.’ [al-Talaaq 2-3]”

“The university of the battlefield that al-Shabab have chosen to study at, which is teaching them lessons in honor and steadfastness will prove to be a better tarbiyyah method than the Islamic universities run by Green Zone Scholars under governments headed by pimps that teach them the fiqh of weakness and humiliation.”

“The university of Somalia will graduate an alumni of judges, administrators, enjoiners of good and forbidders of evil, capable and tested leaders, teachers, imams, and fighters who are hardened by the field and ready to carry on with no fear and hesitation. It will provide its graduates with the hands-on experience that the ummah greatly needs for its next stage.”

“But their success depends on your support. It is the responsibility of the ummah to help them with men and money.”

“Al-Shabab have already started a program of enforcement of law that would bring peace and security to the people. They are also applying hudud and fighting against innovations that have been around for centuries. We ask Allah to grant them success.”



**Anwar al-Awlaki**

“I would like to take this opportunity to advise my brothers to be kind and soft with the masses; to excuse them for centuries of ignorance and false beliefs; to teach first and hold responsible last. I would advise you to go by certainty and to leave doubts; to prefer forgiveness over revenge. The masses of the people are suffering from the illnesses of tribalism, ignorance, and a campaign of defamation of sharia. Therefore you need to win the hearts and minds of the people and take them back to their fitrah.”

“Dear brothers may Allah guide you and grant you victory. Only Allah knows that if my circumstances would have allowed I would not have hesitated in joining you and being a soldier in your ranks.”

Assalamu alaykum  
Your Brother  
Anwar al-Awlaki