

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الْيَهُودَ وَالنَّصَارَىٰ أَوْلِيَاءَ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ وَمَن يَتَوَلَّهُمْ مِّنْكُمْ فَإِنَّهُ مِنْهُمْ﴾

“O believers! Take neither Jews nor Christians as guardians—they are guardians of each other. Whoever does so will be counted as one of them.” [Al-Ma'idah: 51]

(Translated)

In recent weeks, Tunisia has witnessed an influx of European officials. On Sunday, June 11, 2023, the Italian Prime Minister, Giorgia Meloni (whose visit is her second in a week), accompanied by the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen and Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte. This coincided with an intensity of statements warning that the collapse of Tunisia would affect all of Europe. This is in addition to statements by US officials who use the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to impose their conditions and influence, until Tunisia has become a hotbed of foreign interference and an arena of international competition. The most important things announced after these European visits are:

- Providing aid to Tunisia in order to limit immigration to Europe.
- Start linking Tunisia with Europe in the field of renewable energies.
- With promises to support Tunisia in its negotiations with the IMF.

These agreements represent an imminent danger and even aggression against Tunisia, and to clarify that, we recall the following:

1. Europe includes the largest countries that colonized the countries of the African continent, including Tunisia, so its view of Tunisia was and still is a view of a country that must be colonized, and even the withdrawal of the colonialists (their soldiers) from Tunisia was nothing but a change in the methods of colonialism, as Tunisia remained subordinate to the colonizer. This matter is rooted not only in the Western mentality, but also in the mentality of Tunisian politicians who see Tunisia as a small country that cannot survive without assistance, and that this assistance must be mainly European. On this basis, the relationship between Europe and Tunisia was established on a colonial basis.

2. Colonial Europe exploited the colonies in the worst way, as it made the youth of Tunisia human shields in its wars, then, with the end of the wars, Europe opened its doors to migrant workers from the countries of the Maghreb, Africa and sub-Saharan Africa to rebuild what was destroyed by the war, then when their role ended, it sought to get rid of them and close the doors in front of them. And the walls of Europe began to rise every day, announcing to millions of people in the countries of the Maghreb and south of the Sahara that they are not wanted. This is what made the continuous irregular migration, with all its tragedies, increase until the seas of our country smelled with the dead.

So, the issue of immigration is a matter of colonizing and plundering countries and making their people poor, until the countries could not contain their people, who decided to leave them in search of a life that might be decent. At the same time, it is a matter of rulers who see politics as nothing but subservience to Europe. Accordingly, the “aid” that they claim to provide to Tunisia is in fact nothing but “war” security funding, according to which Tunisia is committed to “fighting” irregular immigration and bears the burdens of the Europeans in deporting immigrants, which means that Tunisia will turn into a security outpost to guard the south of the continent.

As for linking Tunisia with Europe in the field of energy, it is a rampant evil. It only means more looting and control, more dependence and humiliation. The renewable energies program is a malicious, satanic program through which more international companies will infiltrate to control the sources of renewable energy and its sources and will control it after its control and plundering of fossil energy, which all studies confirm will be depleted before the end of this century, and that North Africa will be the optimal source of alternative energy for Europe, Tunisians will bear its cost exponentially through perishable loans that exacerbate deficits, poverty and dependence.

We have seen and heard all European statements calling for the completion of the agreement with the IMF, and in this context it is being promoted that the Tunisian president is the one who rejects the IMF dictates and that he wants an agreement without dictates. And the picture appeared as if everyone from inside and outside was seeking after the president to agree while he was reluctant and reluctant, and the truth is that the president does not mind; because the objector does not sit with the IMF in the first place, which means agreeing with it necessarily means submitting to its conditions, and this is known by President Kais Saeed. Nevertheless, he made his government and ministers meet with the IMF's experts, until a program was drawn up for Tunisia and an agreement at the expert level in mid-October 2022, but the truth is not the president's refusal, but rather the IMF's refusal to complete the agreement; Because he wants to sell public institutions and completely remove subsidies for basic materials and fuel according to a timetable imposed by the IMF, a step that the president "rejected" because it is currently impossible to implement, and the president's ministers submitted a proposal to the IMF promising to gradually lift fuel subsidies starting from 2024 until its liberation completely in 2026. This indicates that negotiations are still underway to persuade the IMF's management to postpone it. In this context, Europe seeks to "support" Tunisia in its negotiations with the IMF's management, which means that Europe wants Tunisia's approval and commitment and wants some flexibility from the IMF so that the agreement can be implemented.

Where is Tunisia's interest in this? And where is the reluctance and confrontation? We only see a sale of the country in the form of abstaining and rejecting, after the one who succeeded him used to sell it in the form of a democrat involved in a free world.

O People of Tunisia, O Muslims: Every day you witness how your country is transformed from a mini-state into a mere border "center" belonging to the new, old colonial Europe, and the dangerous issue is that this is happening amid empty speeches that almost never cease about liberation, sovereignty and independence. Real change is not words without actions, and what we hear from the president are words that are contradicted by actions and "agreements." At a time when the president is talking about independence and sovereignty, he receives European leaders, they talk to him about Tunisia's internal affairs, and he involves them in the matter. Rather, what we have seen in recent weeks indicates that the Tunisian issue has turned into a European affair with Tunisia's participation. What does Italy have to do with Tunisia's financial crisis? Isn't it internal? And who justified the European Union Commissioner for the Economy, Paolo Gentiloni (in televised statements reported by the Nova News Agency on Thursday, June 8, 2023) to talk about Tunisia's stability and avoid repayment?!

Then where is the independence when Gentiloni says this "the commission has a ready program that will be added to the International Monetary Fund program" and says: "We are working to facilitate a new program for the IMF"? The European official talks about economic programs that have been put in place for Tunisia, including those developed by the Fund and others by the European Union. Then, here is the European Union appointing another permanent official in Tunisia whose task is economic affairs (monitoring, following up, or controlling?) There is no difference. So where is the sovereignty? Why do Europeans decide the fate of Tunisia? Is this not an outright aggression against Tunisia?

O People of Tunisia, O Muslims: Europe is an old, new colonizer, and the coming of their leaders is nothing but a continuous aggression against our country, hosting and bringing them into our country is the introduction of an enemy who wants aggression, so will you remain silent? Was your revolution not for liberation? Why are we silent when our country is growing every day in dependence and humiliation? Why are we silent over a meager authority that has made Tunisia a hotbed for every enemy?

We are Muslims, and we will not have honor except with Islam, and if we seek glory in other than it, Allah will humiliate us, and remember, if you wish, His saying, the Most High: **﴿وَلِلَّهِ الْغَنَاءُ﴾** "all honour and power belongs to Allah, His Messenger, and the believers, yet the hypocrites do not know." [Al-Munafiqun 63 :8].

Thursday, 26 Dhul Qi'dah 1444 AH

15 June 2023 CE

**Hizb ut Tahrir
Wilayah Tunisia**