

Press Release

## Close Ties with Regional and Western Countries Have Destructive Consequences in this World and the Hereafter!

(Translated)

A top-level delegation of Uzbekistan led by Foreign Minister Bakhtiar Saidov visited Afghanistan, and met with senior officials of the Afghan government discussing political, commercial and transportation issues as well as emphasizing the strengthening of bilateral relations. During the visit, the Foreign Minister of Uzbekistan said that Uzbekistan has always supported Afghanistan in international meetings and that Afghanistan should become part of the international community, he emphasized.

In recent months, the regional countries' relations seem to have boosted with Afghanistan as China, Russia, Iran, India and Central Asian governments intend to ensure positive engagement with the current rulers of Afghanistan. The Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir/ Wilayah Afghanistan considers the close political ties of the Afghan government with the countries of the region as dangerous as its engagement with the Western countries by firmly questioning the mentality that reads that close ties with the countries of the region are aimed at confronting the influence and geopolitical games of the West in the region.

The fact is that the countries of the region and the West led by the United States, while ensuring their national interests, are pursuing a common agenda in Afghanistan with different approaches. Both clubs (Regional and Western) oppose the comprehensive implementation of Islam in Afghanistan. The West and the countries of the region are putting pressure on the Afghan government to limit, restrain and ultimately suppress the foreign Mujahideen. The Western and regional countries want to see Afghanistan integrated into the current international order. However, the current international order is similar to a lethal trap – whenever an Islamic group comes to power under this order trying to do politics through its set of guidelines, it would be definitely seen melted in this order and withdrawn from its Islamic claim over the course of time. What distorts the reality is that the West pursues its interests in Afghanistan directly through its carrot and stick policy, but the countries of the region pursue their interests through eye-catching gestures, appealing discourse and softer tones.

On the other hand, one could easily figure out the depth of the enmity of these governments and their rulers with Islam and Muslims by glancing their harsh treatments against the Muslims and Islamic groups. For instance, the harsh treatment of the Chinese government against the Uighur Muslims of East Turkistan; the crimes committed by Russia and the oppressive rulers of Central Asia against Chechen Muslims; the Islamophobic policies of Modi's Hindutva government against the Muslims of India and Kashmir; are flagrant examples that these governments act as the number one enemy of Islam and Muslims in the region. So, is it logical and reasonable to secure close political ties with such states?

Therefore, we emphasize once again that any kind of close and positive engagement with regional and Western countries is an irreparable political mistake, and we warn the current rulers of its harmful consequences both in this world and the Hereafter. This way of political interaction has been experimented many times among the Ummah, which have ultimately diverted the rulers from the full implementation of Islam and have led to infamy and political failure. The basic solution is to draw a third path among the Ummah instead of tying close relations with both or one of these two clubs (region and West). This will only be possible if you trust the Islamic groups and parties and believe in the capabilities of the Islamic Ummah.

There is no doubt that the Muslims of Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia do not want a system other than Islam – a system that secures unity among Muslims through the establishment of a Khilafah (Caliphate) based on the method of Prophethood, and they are ready for any kind of sacrifices for this great cause.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَتَّخِذُوا الْكَافِرِينَ أَوْلِيَاءَ مِنْ دُونِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَرْيَدُونَ أَنْ تَجْعَلُوا لِلَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ سُلْطَانًا مُّبِينًا

**“O believers! Do not take disbelievers as allies instead of the believers. Would you like to give Allah a solid proof against yourselves?” [An-Nisa: 144]**

Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir in Wilayah Afghanistan