

Source: Voice of Jihad website in ! Pashto 22 Jun 13

Text of interview with Dr Mohammad Naim, Taleban spokesperson in Qatar, by unidentified correspondent: "Alemara website exclusive interview with Dr Mohammad Naim - Islamic Emirate spokesperson in Qatar" by Afghan Taleban Voice of Jihad website on 22 June

The flag of the Islamic Emirate at the political office, which is adorned with the creed "There is no god but God; Mohammad is the Messenger of God", is still in place.

Dr Mohammad Naim, esteemed spokesman of the political office of Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, said that the office of the Islamic Emirate was officially inaugurated in the Islamic country of Qatar on Tuesday [18 June]. The Afghan nation has extensively welcomed this and congratulation messages from a large number of countries have been received via social media and the Alemara [Voice of Jihad] webpage. Opening of this office indicates the end of occupation of Afghanistan and victory of the mojahedin. On the other hand, the Kabul administration has expressed deep disagreement over opening of the office, the name of the Islamic Emirate and our flag. Could you please answer below questions of Alemara website? Thanks!

Alemara: His Excellency Dr Mohammad Naim, spokesman of the official office of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan in Qatar! How will the office be used and what type of activities it will do?

Answer: First of all, I should say openly that the political office of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has been inaugurated in the Islamic country of Qatar and it is a big happiness for the all Afghan nation. Because of all-out efforts and sacrifices of our heroic mojahedin and participants of the holy war, after 11 years, occupiers have realized that the Islamic Emirate is a reality which cannot be ignored. Therefore, members of the Islamic Emirate have not been allowed to live on the ground over the past 11 years. Today, the world countenances it as a political power.

I am coming to answers of your questions. The usage of the office was set out in a statement published on the day of inauguration. Here are the five articles.

1. To communicate and talk in order to improve relations with the world countries
2. To support such a political and peaceful solution in which the end of occupation of Afghanistan, establishment of an independent Islamic system, and establishment of real security, which is the demand and desire of the entire nation, will be guaranteed
3. To meet the Afghans in accordance with the need of the time
4. To contact the UN, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations
5. To give political statements to the press about the current political situation

Alemara: Sir! Will the Islamic Emirate only talk to the Americans through the Qatar office or it will also pursue a negotiation policy with other aggressors in Afghanistan?

Answer: Talks will be held with all the sides involved in Afghanistan through the office. America is mentioned because it is at the top of all of them and in fact, the invasion was started by it and others have supported it.

Alemara: Mr Mohammad Naim! If you could please clarify the agenda of the future meeting of the Islamic Emirate with the Americans. Will the coming meeting only discuss prisoner exchange or other issues as well? If only the exchange of hostages is negotiated, what prisoners - the ones imprisoned inside the country or outside?

Answer: First, I must say that the Islamic Emirate has delayed the meeting, which was talked about, at the moment for certain reasons. However, once it starts, everyone knows, it will be the first meeting between the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and America. Normally, in initial meetings, the two sides exchange views; therefore, specific points cannot be mentioned right now. The issue of prisoners is very important and it will be discussed for sure. The Islamic Emirate is considering negotiations about all prisoners of the Afghan nation. It makes efforts to get them released. However, we will all see later how practically the opposite side will take action in this regard.

Alemara: Esteemed Doctor! Does the Islamic Emirate consider talking about improvement of relations and other discussable points with the neighbours of Afghanistan at the moment or in near future through this specific office?

Answer: Why not. As mentioned in the first paragraph of the statement, the Islamic Emirate will improve its relations with all the world countries through this office and the neighbouring countries are a top priority.

Alemara: Doctor! Does the Islamic Emirate wish to talk with the Islamic conference organization, the UN, the Arab League, the EU and the Shanghai group from this address (the political office in Qatar) about ending the conflict in Afghanistan and about a prosperous Afghanistan?

Answer: As mentioned in the statement in this regard, the Islamic Emirate will establish relations with the UN and other international and regional organizations and non-governmental groups and will share its opinion about the Afghan people's problems with them.

Alemara: Esteemed Doctor! Will the office of the Islamic Emirate in Qatar maintain its previous stance about talks with the Kabul administration or it has a ! new plan in this regard or it is working on it? Please clarify.

Answer: As the Islamic Emirate has clarified in its statements previously, the problem in Afghanistan has two important dimensions one of which is external dimension that is related to the foreigners and the other is internal dimension that is related to the Afghans. Unless the problem is solved with the invaders in the external dimension, turning to the internal dimensions is useless. And the third paragraph of the statement reads that the Afghans will also be met and talked with based on the need of the time.

Alemara: Mr Naim, will the office in Qatar talk about the problems in Afghanistan with other prominent parties and political and academic personalities apart from the puppet regime in Kabul?

Answer: In this regard, I mentioned earlier that the third paragraph of the statement has said in clear terms that all Afghans will be met and talked with based on the need of the time. It is worth ! mentioning that all these will take place in light of Islamic principles and the national interests.

Alemara: Esteemed Mr Naim! The last question is that there are rumours in the media that due to the Kabul regime's opposition and disappointment, the white flag and the plaque of the Islamic Emirate have been removed from the office of the Islamic Emirate in Qatar. Is it true? If it is true, is it a violation of the agreement with the opposite side about the office or not?

Answer: It is true that raising of the flag and the signboard in the name of the Islamic Emirate at the political office of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan drove the Kabul administration crazy. In this regard, I must say that the flag raised there only reads [in Arabic], there is no God but Allah and Mohammad is His Prophet. This is a sentence that no Muslim can oppose. In my opinion, when someone calls himself a Muslim, how can he oppose There is no God but Allah and Mohammad is His Prophet? And if someone opposes it, then how does he call himself a Muslim? Ev! ery Muslim must accept this sentence sincerely and wholeheartedly.

I am confident that every Muslim accepts and respects it, because Allah, great be his glory, says in His Koran Karim that [in Arabic] the word of Allah is high (prominent, everlasting). When a person opposes this sentence, he actually opposes Allah, Prophet of Allah, peace be upon him, and the Holy Koran.

The flag of the Islamic Emirate, which was raised in the political office and reads there is no God but Allah and Mohammad is His Prophet, is still in its place. The words that it has been brought down only have a propagandistic aspect. And the sign is not changed either. It has only been moved from one wall to the other.

Legally too, the Islamic Emirate has a right to put its own plaque and sign on its office, because it is now the property of the Islamic Emirate. Others do not have a right to bring changes or replacements in it.