

Shaykh 'Ali bin Hasan al-Halabī al-Atharī

(hafidhahullāh)

ON THE CRISIS IN DAMMĀJ, YEMEN¹

**[DEFENDING THE SALAFIS OF DĀR UL-HADEETH
DAMMĀJ]**

Indeed, all praise is due to Allāh, we praise Him, we seek His aid, and we ask for His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allāh from the evil of our actions and from the evil consequences of our actions. Whomever Allāh guides, there is none to misguide and whoever Allāh misguides there is none to guide. I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship except Allāh and I bear witness that Muhammad is the servant and messenger of Allāh.

I read an article published by the French Press Agency which was then spread in a number of local and international Arabic newspapers and the article was entitled *'The Hūthīs Have Offered Besieged Salafīs a Two-Month Truce'* (!! Here I do not want to discuss this so-called “truce” if it is true or false, existent or non-existent. Rather I wish to refute a number of errors found in the article some of which were transmitted directly from the “Hūthi Spokesman” who accused our Salafī brothers over there [in Dammāj] without right:

ONE

They mentioned that the number of **“followers of the Salafī current”** residing in Dammāj is “7000”. I can almost say for sure that this figure is exaggerated, the Hūthi just wants to scare people away and justify their enmity against the brothers.

TWO

The Hūthi claims that: **“the blockade is not against food or civilians, rather it is so that no weapons or fighters can get through to the group...”** this is a lie as the siege is a comprehensive oppressive one. The weapons that the Salafis there have are the same as all other Yemenis have throughout the country, this is something which is well known without discussion.

¹ Dated Monday 5th December 2011 CE, it can be read here:
<http://www.alhalaby.com/play.php?catsmktba=2943>

Translated by 'AbdulHaq ibn Kofi ibn Kwesi al-Ashanti.

It is well-known that the Salafīs over there distance themselves from politics not to mention fighting and enmity.

THREE

Then the Hūthi described the Salafīs of Dammāj as being **“an Armed Salafi-Takfirī Group”**!!? This is of the worst lies, for there is no Salafī who is a Takfirī. Whoever is Takfirī cannot be Salafī. The Salafīs in Dammāj fight against the Takfirī ideology, extremism and terrorism.

FOUR

As for being “armed” then all of Yemen is “armed”! As mentioned before, so why the deception?

FIVE

Then the Hūthi Spokesman said about the Salafīs of Dammāj: **“there are many foreigners among them”**. So what?! Most of those “foreigners” migrated from their lands and countries, and left their jobs and wealth all in order to seek Shari’ knowledge in maintaining the true deen void of any extremism or negligence. There are absolutely no terrorists or extremists among them.

SIX

Then the Hūthi Spokesman says: **“that group made takfeer of us and then waged a jihad against us”**! As for “takfeer” then this has rules and principles and it is not possible that a Salafī can make takfeer of a person who ascribes to Islām whoever he is without rules. As for “jihad” then yes! But after when though?! After the oppressive siege and blockade, do you expect them to be quiet and be uprooted?! Defending one’s self is Divinely Legislated and not rejected by any intelligent person and I do not say “scholar” rather I say “a Muslim”.

SEVEN

As for: **“issuing a fatwa prohibiting demonstrations”**² and considering demonstrations to be **“rebellng against those in authority”** then this is the truth and there is no doubt about this. This is the correct stance which our Salafī Shaykhs and ’Ulama gave fatwas on past and present Ibn Bāz, al-Albānī and ’Uthaymeen. There is no doubt that there are academic restrictions to these issues and they are not to be taken arbitrarily in a chaotic fashion.

What is strange is that the confusion is still present among the media when it comes to understanding the Salafīs and those who oppose them yet hide behind the name [“Salafī”] so as to deceive the people when in reality they are “Takfirī” or “Jihādī”. These elements make *tabdī’*

² [TN]: The Hūthīs are mentioning this so as to garner support for their actions and make out that the Salafīs are the enemies for not being “with the revolution”.

of us and our scholars and deem us as being misguided, while some of them even make takfeer of us! So with what right can they be ascribed to us?!

O Allāb unite our hearts and aid us against those who transgress against us!