

[UM] Unidentified Male.
 [UI] Unintelligible.
 [NFI] Not Further Identified.
 (LNU) Last name unknown.
 [*Italics*] Translator's comments.
 [...] Incomplete sentence.

Sh = Shukri Abu Baker
 Om = Omar Ahmad
 Gh = Ghassan Elashi
 Gh2 = Ghassan Saleh
 Ss = Sheik Sharif
 Ga = Gawad (Abou Ayyoub, LNU)
 Ab = Abdel Salam (LNU)
 Ak = Akram (LNU)
 Au = Abou Usama (NFI)
 As = Abdel Halim Al Ashqar (Aboul Hasan)
 Aa = Abou Ahmad (NFI)
 Aj = Abdel Jabbar Hamdan
 Ab2 = Abou Bassem (NFI)
 Mu = Muin (LNU)
 Ar = Abdel Rahman
 Ni = Nihad (LNU)
 Os = Osama (NFI)
 Ay = Ayman Sharawi
 Ha = Haitham Maghawri

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Sh: By God, you're negligent. No. We didn't mean that. Our brothers, let's not get...UI.
 Enough, please. In the coming period, the organizations must work to supply fundamental
 needs of the Movement in the fields of specializations such as journalism, law, politics,
 education and investment.

UM: Yes, yes.

Sh: I mean, urgent issues.

UM: What are you saying, man. These are long-term issues. What are you going to do in the
 short term.

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Om: As a practice, that is. As a practice.

Sh: As a direction. We're not..., we're not putting the plan in place. As a direction. Is it Ok that from now on we start thinking that the children of the community should be steered towards media, journalism and law and then tell them to go live in the homeland. Very general talk which we didn't say four years ago. We say it now. As for how the plan is going to be and these details will come later. This is just the general direction. Is it acceptable?

Group: Yes.

Sh: More than one brother focused on it yesterday and we saw that it is good to... That's it. Ok, our brothers, there are things to say in regards to our strategy relating to the peace project that it must be focused on the most the project can achieve. For instance, the brother said that the most it can achieve is the Palestinian state. Based on that, we examine the facts relating to the Palestinian state so that when the Palestinian state takes form, huh, we are already ahead of it and we are not still talking about self-rule. The self-rule is finished. What's after that? So, this was... But, do you think this is going to be discussed?

Gh: No.

UM: This is a sub-item under the media aspect.

Sh: Let's leave it to the brothers who are called the Think Tank, our politicians who keep working on this issue.

UM: The Association.

Om: ...UI.

Sh: The idea that media should adopt that, the idea to highlight the notion that Islamists..., the Islamists - we know what we mean by the Islamists - are the alternative, the alternative with a definite article. This is my opinion and I think we should take a vote on it because there are our brothers who can write about these issues.

Sh: Fine. That's fine. He is talking about the part which serves the Occupied Territories, about twenty-five percent of our media which said "Our brave heroes have conducted this and that operation and killed X number of Jews and Zionists and stuff like that. So, this is a part of it. They're asking, "Should we adopt an alternative to this or not..., in our lectures, our..."

Ak: Ok, I divided the paper to..., what do you call it, what are the new developments which took place, the problems and the positive things of the coming period and the suggested solutions. The change which will take place in regards to charity work in America is that, as a result of the accord which took place and as a result of the situation and the economy which might change somewhat, it will necessarily reflect on charity work in America. Therefore, we must get acclimated to this new situation. What are the expected problems because of this work..., because of these developments? First, the morale of donors will be more negative in regards to donations. There is a near unanimity that donations will decrease as a result of some donors' conviction that there will be an economic revival, at least in the initial phase, the first one or two years. There was also a unanimity that the Islamic organizations in Palestine will be targeted by the self-rule and also by the Jews, whether in Gaza, the [West] Bank or in the '48 territories as well. Also, there was a conviction that the current organizations in Palestine are not sufficient, the Islamic organizations, specially in the Gaza, '48 and some parts of the [West] Bank, some parts of the...UI. Positive aspects of the new stage; First, the new economic situation might cover some of the families' needs in Palestine, the needs which the Fund used to spend almost 80% of its allocations on. So, this small break which might occur can cover some of the need and, consequently, a direction to provide more support to the organizations might emerge and with more vigor in the future. Also, the one other positive aspect is that there will be an openness for new horizons for work, particularly in America, and particularly on the American people, international investments and organizations. I believe, I didn't feel there are more than two positive things in the coming stage. What are the suggested solutions and the future directions? First, avoiding the political approach in charity work. Let's have our brother Shukri stop his Friday sermons from now on.

Sh: By God, I just delivered a sermon last week.

Ak: There is an inclination to stay away from the political address in the charitable organization's name. Also, there is a direction towards all forms of address. They are already in place now. But, we now have a larger scope for the Americans..., to address all people in regards to things they are interested in. For instance, addressing Muslims now about the issue of Jerusalem, the issue of protecting the Islamic organizations in Palestine, the issue of maintaining the steadfastness of Muslims in Palestine and Jerusalem, for example. Also, issues relating to Jihad which will continue such as supporting the injured, the martyrs and prisoners, I mean, their families. These are directions for Muslims. As for the American society, opening the door to the American society through participating with them in building the infrastructure of Palestine, to have our charitable organizations become a front for that kind of work. And, there is more acceptance by the Americans now for this kind of work. Encouraging investors, attempting to get governmental support, if possible, for some projects. It is possible to form some economic committees which benefit from the changing situation. Securing protection for the Islamic organizations in Palestine and it can be done in America through fraternity, for instance, through registering some of the charitable organizations in Palestine under names of people living abroad in order to make it hard to hit them in the inside and closing them. Er...

Ak: We said..., we said "supporting organizations in Palestine". I mean, supporting the organizations includes support for the organizations which have to do with education.

Sh: It is a program, Ghassan. It is a program.

Ak: Yes. We didn't exclude any work...UI. The exclusion..., not the exclusion, but the simple change we talked about is turning to organizations and not supporting the people's living conditions as these might improve somewhat in light of the new circumstances.

Gh2: And it can be focused on the issue of education and support for educational institutions as the issue of [*students*] delegations and stuff like that can be underlined.

Ak: It is mentioned.

Gh2: Where?

Sh: By God, I told Aboul Hasan about it.

Ak: It is mentioned. I mean, one of the problems which relate to the Islamic organizations in Gaza, '48 areas and some of areas of the [*West*] Bank and the lack of administrative stability, specially in the fields of research and education. Education is mentioned as a problem.

Gh2: But, the idea..., the idea..., the idea is that the approach should be that we take advantage of children of the community here or children of the inside. They can choose a brother or two in a certain format to be sent to America.

Ak: We can add it.

Gh2: And one of the organizations is to adopt them in the fields they need. We said that the need is in journalism, media, politics..., these fields.

Ak: I don't believe there is any disagreement on the subject. What remains is the issue of changing the directions to the Palestinian camps outside Palestine. I want the people who adopted the two opposing ideas.... Brother Shukri had adopted the idea of turning to the camps, I believe,...

Sh: Not turning...

Ak: I mean, I want two people to defend the two theories.

Sh: This is one of the issues we can discuss because it is not included in the... It serves the general direction which is bringing failure to the project you're talking about, the peace project, because when you feel the issue of these people, it exposes the self-rule and its...

Ak: But, I want the people who presented the opposing ideas...

Om: Abou Ayyoub and Shukri.

Ga: All I want to say is that it should not be done at the expense of support to the Occupied Territories. That's it. Because this is the most important...UI, right now.

Sh: Our brothers, allow me. This is..., this is a point of fact for the brothers. When we say "focus", what do we do in the organizations? We do campaigns. A campaign for this issue, a campaign for that issue. This year, we can do a campaign for the camps, you see? Then, we can say that 700,000 people in Gaza are staying in camps, this is not a small issue. It is a humanitarian issue, you see? So, this is the purpose. It is a good issue to approach and to focus on. We don't have to neglect it like we used to do in the past, we neglected it in the past, specially that now this will serve us in this issue. That's it. As for us to turn all of our efforts to..., no one is saying that.

UM: In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful. God's willing, I will begin with a summary of the 3rd session yesterday which was about political, media and public action in America which is the future and the challenges. In reality, I summarized it in three or four elements, a simple introduction and goals of the coming stage, priorities of action, axes of action and specific recommendations based on the stuff that was mentioned yesterday. In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful. It is expected that the last goals are a reflection for political, media and public action in America due to the U.S. Administration's complete support to the agreement and the Jewish influence on the media outlets with that is based on that such as the impact on the Islamic, Palestinian and Arab community. Therefore, goals of the Palestinian action must be explained in the coming stage on the U.S. front and determine possible means to achieve these goals. I wrote six goals and we can discuss them one by one based on what was presented yesterday. The first goal is to continue to support the Palestinian cause and defending the Movement's positions and explaining them in the suitable way at the Palestinian, Arab and Islamic community's level and the American people in order to form a public opinion which adopts the Movement's position and its political program using the available resources. Of course, through the address. By the way, we will be discussing the issue of the political address later. Would you like to present this point for discussion or continue?

Gh: It is agreed upon.

UM: Agreed upon. Ok. Two, working to stabilize Islamic organizations working for Palestine and protecting them under a legal cover to guarantee their continuity in conducting their mission. Agreed upon or...?

Om: Keep going.

UM: Yes. Three, strengthening..., strengthening our presence in the Palestinian, Arab and Islamic community and resorting to all possible means to maintain the current gains, developing them and strengthening the alliance with Arab and Islamic organizations in the field. Ok? Four, working to make the Islamic Association for Palestine the main source of information which represents the Movement's positions.

UM2: ...UI.

Om: The sole legal representative [*laughter and UI group talk*].

UM: Of course, regarding the point which was mentioned yesterday that when we fight with the other Islamic organizations, it weakens our position and our political address. ...about the Movement's position of the cause and this in order to make sure to continue to offer a clear Islamic position to the Islamic community. A special focus on the Islamic community while being careful not to show the Association as an opposition party with direct connections with the inside. It expresses its position. It expresses the Movement's position but it doesn't say I represent this side or anything like that.

Sh: It should lie, you mean.

UM: It shouldn't talk [laughter]. It shouldn't lie. It shouldn't talk [laughter].

Sh: War is deception.

Om: Learn from your masters in the Fund [laughter].

UM: ... Our political address must be based on our Islamic creed and fundamentals of our straight religion, and it must express the positions of our Movement and its political program. The language of the address might differ according to the addressed public without touching the staples. One, to detail this point; One, address to the Islamic and Arab community: It must be a clear address and based on the Sharia fundamentals and the creedal staples and the principle of..., and expressing the Movement's position and its political program in a fruitful objective manner.

UM: ... The American people and the media and the official media...UI, and the official and legal organizations. It must taken into consideration that this category of people doesn't understand our cause in the same manner our Islamic community understands it due to many accumulations. Therefore, we must get better at delivering our idea to them with what does not contradict the principles of our religion, while emphasizing the issue of human rights and that true peace cannot be achieved unless when accompanied by serving justice and removal of injustice and the following items..., we will mention the following items which are: our historical right in Palestine, injustice and terrorism befalling the Palestinian people, attacking the credibility of the [Palestinian Liberation] Organization and its ability to lead the Palestinian people, relying on UN resolutions according to need because, as I mentioned yesterday, some of the resolutions are old and can be modified according to..., attacking the credibility of the Jews and our right to fight occupation.

UM2: Even attacking the [Palestinian Liberation] Organization and its representation of the Palestinian people.

UM: And leading..., its ability to lead the Palestinian people.

UM2: No, its representation of the Palestinian people.

UM: Or, representation... Yes.

UM2: This is a legal issue.

Gh: On the contrary, it doesn't represent the Palestinian people...UI.

UM: What I mean by this point is what? It is that the Americans are running with this point, that the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization is now qualified or is delegated to negotiate..., regardless of the representation, that it has the power to lead the Palestinian people. That's why they deal with them, because the Americans are...UI. I mean, in the future, if they have to..., if the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization failed in its program and they have in the future to deal with Samah, for instance, they will deal with their conditions. Their mentality allows them to deal with any sides if they have to. So, they see that the [*Palestinian Liberation*] Organization is a better alternative right now to deal with.

Sh: Your mother, Samah, is the mother of democracy.