





Ref. 1439 AH / 11

Saturday, 22<sup>nd</sup> Jumada II 1439 AH

10/03/2018 CE

## Press Release

## **Russia Has No Mercy When Persecuting Muslims**

Putin's Russia has an atrocious record of terrorising Muslims: men, women and children, as it desperately tries to return to its perceived former glory. In the pursuit of this goal it is willing to emulate the genocidal behaviour of Stalin and the murderous Tsars of before. Today Russia is indiscriminately killing any Syrian Muslim who happens to be in way of its bombs, while supporting the barbarity of Bashar's regime.

The Tsars saw nothing of massacring tens of thousands for the sake of their superiority complex; the USSR, particularly under Stalin, annihilated hundreds of thousands and deported millions, of which 40% died. Now Putin, for the sake of his shallow nationalistic dream, continues the persecution in Crimea, Syria and all over Russia.

The reason for all this oppression, then and now, is the fear that the Russian regime has that Muslims will one day organise themselves and challenge the tyrannical rule, by returning to the Islamic way of life under the shade of the Caliphate (Khilafah) on the way of Prophethood. Despite the huge numbers of Muslims that Russia is willing to torture and kill, it knows that it cannot achieve its devastating goal through murder alone. Russia, just like the Western Nations and the despotic regimes in the Muslim world, is trying to drive a wedge between the Muslims, deceptively dividing Islam into moderate and extreme, so that its persecution appears justified, if it merely accuses them of being extreme or a terrorist.

Hypocritically, Russia is the one who is actually terrorising the people of Eastern Ghouta, while openly supporting the terrorist Syrian regime. Yet it only lies, by accusing those Muslims who oppose its aggression, as terrorists.

The persecution of Muslims in Russia is increasing daily, as more mosques are destroyed, more schools ban women from Islamic headscarves, and more Muslims are detained and given lengthy prison sentences for only believing in Allah and speaking the truth. But what else could one expect in a land where its judges are able to ban the Quran for being too extreme.

Their target is Islam, with particular focus on the Muslim dawah carriers who call for the application of Allah's Shariah laws, especially members of Hizb ut Tahrir. Although the whole world can see that Hizb ut Tahrir is a non-violent political party, that only carries the ideas of truth in the face of falsehood. It is these ideas that Russia is so afraid of, lest they find some followers from among their own people and the rest of the Muslims.

Hundreds of Hizb ut Tahrir members are currently in Russian prisons, while their families are also persecuted too. One such wife, <u>Jannat Bespalova</u>, a Russian convert to Islam, was arrested for her work with Hizb ut Tahrir and was thrown in prison where criminals are held.

The best response to Russia's actions against Muslim women, is to work with Hizb ut Tahrir establish the rightly guided Khilafah (Caliphate) on the method of Prophethood to gain the shield mentioned by the Prophet (saw): «إِنَّمَا الْإِمَامُ جُنَّةٌ يُقَاتِلُ مِنْ وَرَائِهِ وَيُتَّقَى بِهِ» "Verily the Imam is a shield who is fought from behind and is protected by."

We call upon all Muslims and others who care about the truth, to expose the atrocities and lies of the Russian terrorist regime, particularly its murderous policy in Syria, and its attempts to redefine Islam into moderate and extreme versions. By rejecting this false notion, Muslims will be able to unify and focus on the work to implement the Shariah of Allah, ending the tyranny of the tyrants and bringing truth and justice to the world again.

Allah (swt) says: ﴿ اللّٰهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتُخْلِفَنَهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمِكِنَنَ لَهُمْ لِيَبْدُونَنِي لَهُمْ وَلَيْبِكِلْتَهُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَنْ كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ثُلِكَ فَأُولَٰتِكَ هُمُ الْقَاسِقُونَ﴾ who have believed among you and done righteous deeds that He will surely grant them succession [to authority] upon the earth just as He granted it to those before them and that He will surely establish for them [therein] their religion which He has preferred for them and that He will surely substitute for them, after their fear, security, [for] they worship Me, not associating anything with Me. But whoever disbelieves after that - then those are the defiantly disobedient" [An-Nur: 55].

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