

Press Release

Blinken's Visit to Uzbekistan

(Translated)

February 28, US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken participated in the C5 + 1 summit of foreign policy department heads of the Central Asian countries - the United States in Astana. Then, on the same day, he arrived to Tashkent for an official visit. On March 1, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev received a delegation headed by Blinken. As expected, the main topic of the visit of the senior American official was to call on the Central Asian countries to exercise caution and stay away from Russia's aggressive policy. In this regard, he also stressed strongly that America is ready to help the countries of the region by using all possible capabilities. In particular, Blinken said at the C5 + 1 summit that the peoples of the Central Asian region have suffered more from US sanctions against Russia than other countries and that America will compensate for these losses. On the same day, it was announced in a written statement from the US State Department that \$25 million would be allocated for regional programs within the framework of the Central Asian Economic Stability Initiative. He also said that Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine worries the countries of the region, and there are no guarantees that Russia will not launch aggression against it tomorrow.

With regard to Blinken's visit to Uzbekistan, he stressed first and again that America is determined to always support the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Uzbekistan. He pointed out that Uzbekistan, like the countries in the region, is suffering from the Russian aggression against Ukraine, and said that 16 million dollars have been allocated as emergency (urgent) aid for food. He also expressed his thoughts on strengthening local publications against Russian propaganda in Uzbekistan. During his meeting with Mirziyoyev, Blinken conveyed Biden's greetings and best wishes. He stressed that democratic reforms in Uzbekistan gained momentum during the era of Mirziyoyev's rule and that America welcomes that. Blinken also called for impartiality and transparency in the investigation into the riots that took place in the city of Nukus in Karakalpakstan on July 1 and 2 of last year, and discussed the full implementation of reforms in the field of religious freedom and human rights.

It is clear that America believes that the time has come to do what it has always dreamed of, which is to exploit Russia's preoccupation with Ukraine to expand its sphere of influence in Central Asia, especially in Uzbekistan. That is why, with the beginning of the Russian-Ukrainian war, the relations of the West, especially America, with Uzbekistan gained momentum. Blinken's visit is one of the steps that America has taken towards its goal, and is trying to remove Uzbekistan from Russia's political and economic influence as much as possible through economic and educational projects.

We call on the Muslims of our country to be wary of these American steps, because behind its "noble goals" lie only its interests. It accuses Russia of aggression against Ukraine and shouts out loud to the whole world and shouts nonsense about sovereignty and territorial integrity. It is the one that destroyed the sovereignty of the Islamic countries, especially when it invaded Iraq and Afghanistan, contrary to the international norms and laws that it adopted. Wherever it was, it left nothing but poverty, hunger, destruction, decadence, and immorality. Ugly democracy was adopted as a weapon to enslave people and seize their wealth. If so, how can you believe what its official representative says?!

The real solution is not America, Russia, China or Europe, but only Islam. Islam is the only way to save us from these evil colonial states. This path is the straight path leading to the establishment of the Khilafah (Caliphate).

O Muslims of Uzbekistan: Help those working to establish the Khilafah as your Lord's obliges, for in that is the happiness of this world and the Hereafter. Allah (swt) says: **يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اسْتَجِيبُوا لِلَّهِ وَلِلرَّسُولِ** "O believers! Respond to Allah and His Messenger when he calls you to that which gives you life. And know that Allah stands between a person and their heart, and that to Him you will all be gathered." [Al-Anfal 8:24].

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