

Bismillahir Rahmanir Raheem

The Propaganda War

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ لِيَصُدُّوا عَنِ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَسَيُنْفِقُونَهَا
ثُمَّ تَكُونُ عَلَيْهِمْ حَسْرَةً ثُمَّ يُغْلَبُونَ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا إِلَى

جَهَنَّمَ يُحْشَرُونَ ﴿٣٦﴾

Verily, those who disbelieve spend their wealth to hinder (men) from the Path of Allâh, and so will they continue to spend it; but in the end it will become an anguish for them. Then they will be overcome. And those who disbelieve will be gathered unto Hell. [Anfal:36]

In the wake of defeat at Badr Quraysh gathered to take revenge..this is the background to the battle of Uhud

At-Tabarri narrated that Quraysh in order to guarantee success they enlisted help of the tribes of Banu Kinaana and Banu Tihaamah

It is said Abu Sufyan devoted 1000 camels and 50 thousand dinars for the war effort

They also enlisted the help of Abu ‘Azza the poet to recite propaganda against the Prophet (saw).

Brothers does this sound familiar?

**America has enlisted the help of Britain
They have allocated 75 billion on this war
And they have unleashed their propaganda upon the Muslims**

But Allah says: ‘...but in the end it will become an anguish for them. Then they will be overcome. And those who disbelieve will be gathered unto Hell.’

Introduction: The Kuffar’s Aim: to demoralise and intimidate...we need to study this situation and expose what the Kuffar are doing.

The propaganda of the Kuffar

a) Media Propaganda: the real fog of war

THE CNN

- **CNN mouth piece of America** cos directed by **PSYOPS** personell... France's **Intelligence Newsletter** (2/17/00) have revealed **that several officers from the US Army's 4th Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) Group at Ft. Bragg worked in the news division at CNN's Atlanta headquarters last year, starting in the final days of the Kosovo War.....they are given guidance on how to report propaganda as fact**
- **US policy to use CNN:** An unofficial strategy paper published by the U.S. Naval War College in 1996 and written by an Army officer ("**Military Operations in the CNN World: Using the Media as a Force Multiplier**") urged military commanders to find ways to "**leverage the vast resources of the fourth estate**" for the purposes of "communicating the [mission's] objective and endstate, boosting friendly morale, **executing more effective psychological operations, playing a major role in deception of the enemy, and enhancing intelligence collection.**" Ie they are spies!!!
- **US Control of Arab Media:** eg in the Arab media: ash-sharqal awsat and al-Hayat—did not show POW's..they were translating from Washington Post and the Wall street journal of 250 thousand soldiers amassing, laser guided weapons etc

EMBEDDED REPORTERS

- **Fired for telling the truth....**Job description is lie and not tell the truth--- look what happened to journalist **Peter Arnett** a Pulitzer Prize winner who was **fired for saying the American-led war effort initially failed because of Iraq's resistance**
- **Pentagon threats to reporters....**remember **Kate Adie, the veteran BBC war correspondent?** She said: "**I am enormously pessimistic of the chance of decent on-the-spot reporting, as the war occurs,**" she told Irish national broadcaster, Tom McGurk on the RTE1 Radio "Sunday Show." The war author Phillip Knightley, reported that the **Pentagon has also threatened** they: "**may find it necessary to bomb areas in which war correspondents are attempting to report from the Iraqi side.**"

- **Pentagon vets journalists**, She (Kate Adie) also warned that the Pentagon is vetting journalists according to their stance on the war.

COVERAGE SANITIZED LIKE A HOLYWOOD MOVIE:

- covering war like **Hollywood movie** to dupe their own people...look at the hollywood style centcom stage set up which Tommy Franks called 'the platform for truth'...savying private Ryan/...**and now saving private lynch or Jessica**
- **bombing if Baghdad is viewed as if its some kind of firework show**

MEDIA MISINFORMS THE PEOPLE:

America misinformed by media...look at the statistics:

an "embedded" CNN correspondent interviewed an American soldier. "I wanna get in there and get my nose dirty," Private AJ said. "I wanna take revenge for 9/11."

When the journalist told him there was no real evidence that linked the Iraqi government to the September 11 attacks. Private AJ stuck his teenage tongue out all the way down to the end of his chin. "**Yeah, well that stuff's way over my head,**" he said.

According to a New York Times/CBS News survey,

- **42 per cent of the American public believes that Saddam Hussein is directly responsible for the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Centre and the Pentagon.**
- And an ABC news poll says that **55 per cent of Americans believe that Saddam Hussein directly supports al-Qaida.** What percentage of America's armed forces believe these fabrications is anybody's guess.

THE BATTLE FIELD PROPAGANDA

- imagined wins: eg Umm Qasr /Basra/Nasiryyah
- **psyops:** It works on many different levels, according to Major Taylor. "We use tactical and strategic methods. Tactically, on the first stage, we target the military by dropping leaflets stating the inevitability of their defeat, telling them they will not be destroyed if they play our game and exactly how they can surrender. "On the second wave we show them pictures of Iraqi officers who complied. On the third wave we show them pictures of those people who did not."
- **smart bombs**...so smart 90% of fatalities of the British caused by Americans....they are using cluster bombs.....bunker buster bombs with uranium.....It was Al-Jazeera that interviewed workers from the Red Cross who

spoke out to say that the bombs dropped on cities were not hitting military targets but civilian buildings.

BUT WE SHOULD NOT FORGET: The political propaganda to justify the prosecution of this evil war---people just look to the battlefield stuff and ignore the most dangerous propaganda of all

- **liberating people** from Saddam Hussein.....'this is your country, we are here to give it back to you'[Brimms]...but they are already arguing about whose gonna gets the spoils of war...French are saying UN and not coalition led interim government so they can get a share of the cake...Powell said it will be coalition led...pentagon plans for 23 American minister led by Garner
- **oil – the future asset of Iraqi people**....reality is: it will pay for destruction, reconstruction and diversification.
- **humanitarian aid**...they turn water off in Basra and then come with mineral water
- **the middle east 'road map'**.....but destination of this road is hellfire ie two state solution

b) **conclusion:** we should not be fooled by this and lose heart

The propaganda of the Muslims

- rather than being at the receiving end we should be the ones engaging in this **because our aims are noble**

a) **The justice of the Islamic foreign policy:** basis of foreign policy is Da'wah and not plunder and its method is jihaad:

- Imam kasaa`I: Inn ahlul Kitaab innma turikoo biz-zimmah wa qabool al-jizyah laa li-raghbatin feemaa yu`khazu minhum aw tam'in fee zaalik bal lid-da'wah ilal Islam , liyukhaalitu al-muslimeena fayata`ammaloo mahaasinal islam wa sharaa`I`ahu wa yanzuru feeha fayarawhaa mu`assasatan `ala maa tahtamiluhul `uqool wa taqbaluhu fa yar`awhum zaalik ilal islam fa yarghaboona feeh. Fakaana `aqduz zimmah lirajaa` al-Islaam [baada`I` was sanaa`I` 7/111]
- `Ubaadah b. as-Saamit said to al-Muqawqis: wa laysa ghazawna `aduwwan min man haaraballah li-raghbatin fid-dunya walaa lihaajatini li-istikthaari minha illa annallaha `azza wajalla qad ahalla lanaa wa ja`ala maa ghanamnaa min zaalika halaalan

- The delegation that was sent to Rustom said to him: wallaahi! La-islamikum ahabbu ilaynaa min ghanaa`imikum

b) **Yes Islam allows propaganda** and deception in war but it is **for the ultimate good of the people themselves** and not those who rule over them:

Laa yahillul kaziba illaa thalaath: rajulun kazzaba ‘ala imra`atihi li-yurdeeha wa rajulun kazzaba fil harb fa innal harba khid’ah wa rajulun kazzaba bayna muslimeena li yusliha baynahumaa

c) **Look how the prophet (saw) conquered Makkah**

- Sent food to makkah when there was a famine there
- hodaybiyyah.....hiding your aims...eg Umar..
‘Umar: awa lasta kunta tuhaddithuna annaa sana`tiyal bayt wa natoofu bihi?
rasool: balaa, fa akhbartuka annaa na`tehil ‘aam? (yes, but did I inform you which year?
Umar: laa
Rasool: fa`innaka aateehi wa mutawwifan bihi (Indeed, you will go there and make taqaaf) [Naylul awtaar: 8/37]
- diversion..... Baladhuri and Ibn Sa`d narrated: (saw) sent Abu Qataadah with a detachment towards Idam in the north of Madinah so that one might think that prophet was intending to go in that direction
- On outskirts of makkah.....al-Ya`qobi narrated that (saw) ordered Sahabah to light fires separately
- How (saw) entered makkah: not as an arrogant victor but: humble servant
- The general amnesty.....laa tathreeba ‘alaykumul yawm
- Appointment of makkan man as governer: ‘Attab b Aseed

d) **The Prophet (saw) did not tolerate the kufir propaganda:**

Abu Azza Shayr was one of the poets in Mecca who use to write satire criticizing the Muslims. After the battle of Badr, which the Muslims won, the Muslims took some prisoners of war. Amongst theses prisoners were some rich elite's of Mecca, like Abbas and **Abu** Lahab, who ransomed themselves to be freed. The prisoners who were poor, but were literate, the Prophet (SAW) asked them to teach ten Muslims children of Medinah how to read and write. **Abu Azza was an educated person, but he pleaded to Muhammad (SAW) to let him go. He said that he, Abu Azza, was a very poor man with lots of children. Muhammad (SAW) asked Abu Azza to promise that he would not write anymore satire and that he would not fight Muslims in the future. Abu Azza agreed to the terms.**

The following year, when the battle of Uhud occurred, he was captured as a prisoner of war once again. This time around, **Abu Azza** The war author Phillip Knightley, reported that the **Pentagon has also threatened** they: "**may find it necessary to bomb areas in which war correspondents are attempting to report from the Iraqi side.**" The Prophet (SAW) replied, "*I will not let you go to your tribe and boast amongst them that you fooled Muhammad (SAW) twice.*" The Prophet (SAW) continued, "*A believer never gets bitten from the same hole twice.*" Muhammad (SAW) sentenced **Abu Azza** to be killed.

“Laa yulda’u muslim fi juhrin marratayn”

Brothers !...we should not be bitten in the same hole twice.....the Kuffar fooled some of us in the first Guld war....will we be fooled again?

e) The prophet (saw) had his own media eg Hassan b. Thabit

Bukhari narrates that Hassan bin Thabit Al-Ansari said:

. وكان النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم يثني على شعر حسان ، وكان يحثه على ذلك ويدعو له بمثل : " اللهم أيده بروح القدس "

Example 1: he attacked the Qurashi tribe of Sahm b. ‘Amr:

أكثر شيخا جبانا فاحشا غمرا	والله ما في قريش كلها نفرا
إذا تروح منهم زود القمر	هذر مشائيم محروم ثويهم
لما تركت لكم أنثى ولا ذكرا	لولا النبي ، وقول الحق مغضبة

There is no one in Quraysh
more coward and faahish and ghamaran
Worst in speech , misfortunate....if he speaks..
If it wasn't for the prophet and the word of truth...
I would not left a man or a women

Example 2: He attacked the Quraysh after their defeat at Badr:

ويقول في مقطوعة يعير قريشا فيها بهزيمتها يوم بدر :

فينا الرسول وفينا الحق نتبعه حتى الهامات ونصر غير محدود
مستعصمين بجبل غير منجذم مستحکم من حبال الله ممدود

Vilifying the Quraysh for their defeat at Badr he says:

Amongst is the prophet and we have the truth that we follow
Until the death and a victory with no limits
Holding on to the rope ..munjazimamun...
Mustahkimum (holding tightly) to the ropes of Allah extended to us

Brothers !, we need to be like Hassan b. Thaabit...we need to counter the kufir propaganda and carry the da'wah!

Our responsibilities now:

- it is not enough to do du'a and salatul haaja-----we need to work for this state and call for the armies to defend the Muslims
- we need to be like Hassan b. Thaabit and fight the propaganda
- finally, we should never lose hope and trust in Allah

وَلَا تَهِنُوا فِي ابْتِغَاءِ الْقَوْمِ إِن تَكُونُوا تَأْلَمُونَ
فَإِنَّهُمْ يَأْلَمُونَ كَمَا تَأْلَمُونَ وَتَرْجُونَ مِنَ اللَّهِ مَا لَا يَرْجُونَ وَكَانَ
اللَّهُ عَلِيمًا حَكِيمًا ﴿١٠٤﴾

And don't be weak in the pursuit of the enemy; if you are suffering (hardships) then surely, they (too) are suffering (hardships) as you are suffering, but you have a hope from Allah (for the reward, i.e. Paradise) that for which they hope not, and Allah is Ever All-Knowing, All Wise. (An-Nisa 104)

I want to finish again with the poetry of Hassan because this is how we look at the times of distress:

فينا الرسول وفينا الحق نتبعه حتى الممات ونصر غير محدود
مستعصمين بجبل غير منجذم مستحکم من حبال الله ممدود

Villifying the Quraysh for their defeat at Badr he says:

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Aqoolu qawli haaza wa astaghfirullah al azeem