

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

Sh = Shukri Abu Baker
Om = Omar Ahmad
Ha = Haitham Maghawri
Gh = Ghassan Elashi
Ss = Sheik Sharif
Ga = Gawad (LNU)
Ab = Abdel Salam (LNU)
Ak = Akram (LNU)
Au = Abou Usama (NFI)
As = Abdel Halim Al Ashqar (Aboul Hasan)

Ab: ... On top of the propaganda for them, propaganda which tempts people, there are increased calls such as "The police is coming" and "We will straighten out those who don't like it". "The police is coming and we will straighten out those who don't like it", specially to those who are known to be their enemies or the Islamists, the seculars who are affiliated with...UI, and the communists who are affiliated with the Popular Front. I mean, I mean, some lowlife people among them approach people now in plain light and tell them "We will show you tomorrow". You see, what the Jews do is not one tenth of what they do. So, now they threaten people that police is coming. We now move on to the role we ought to observe and stuff like that. In front of people, we shouldn't oppose the agreement as an agreement.

Ab: So, as far as the people are concerned, the flag of Palestine is now in front of them. Ok, yesterday, I was unable to raise the flag and but now I can raise it today. So, something must have happened. But, are they, like they say, going to sit down after the initial shock and review the matter over with a clear head? For instance, one woman who was walking between Gaza and Khan Younis. I was riding in the car and the flags are fluttering. She is old and she was saying... She has two sons, one was martyred and the other one is sentenced to life in prison. She was saying to them "This is wrong . When a Jew was killed, that used to cool my fire. When a Jew was killed, that used to cool my fire. And now? What..., what will calm my fire?"

Sh: She wants to relieve her anger.

Ab: [*She said*] "If I lay my hands on you, Arafat, I'd eat you with my teeth".

Gh: O God.

UM: Are there concrete evidence that there will be a confrontation between Hamas and the Authority?

Ab: Er...

UM: Through your experience...

Ab: When the Authority comes to office, it might happen. Because it is the Authority which doesn't want to...UI. They don't want to have clashes with Hamas or the Islamists now so that won't stir people against them. No, they want their police forces and [*say*] "We don't have a disagreement, we're democratic, we're this and that..." until they take hold of everything and then they will...UI.

UM: Ok, is this the conviction of the brothers?

Ab: See, they take advantage of people's ignorance of the agreement and occupy people very rapidly with economic development and stuff like that which doesn't give people the time to think about the agreement. They don't care about the text of the agreement, they care about their lives..., their daily lives and the material standard of living.

Sh: My brothers, this talk is to be continued, God's willing. There are remarks now. Please don't mention the name Samah in an explicit manner. We agree on saying it as "sister Samah". We will talk about her honor and the session is..., the session here is a joint workshop between the Holy Land Foundation and the IAP. This is the official form. I mean, please, in case some inquired.

Au: As far as the police is concerned, there is a good reaction to it. Expectations are that...UI.

[Several people ask questions and Abou Usama responds amid heavy static. Unintelligible]

Au: ...it depends on the media. If we managed to reach the people...UI.

UM: What about people's opinions...UI.

Au: That depends...UI.

UM: Is this against Hamas...UI

Sh: Didn't we say not to mention that term...

UM: Is it against the Movement...

Ab: The situation in the [West] Bank is probably wavering. I visited Jericho and the [West] Bank, Jerusalem and... Jericho, as I felt, has the same factors as Gaza as far as the low standard of services and stuff like that. People are very happy and are posting flags outside and stuff. The rest of the [West] Bank, I mean, Jerusalem and the area of Ramallah, you don't feel that there is anything called, excuse me, Intifada or something... Markets are full, people buy and sell, there are no curfews on the street. In Gaza, curfew is at 8 o'clock and that's it. There is no... There is fence around Gaza, entry and exit is through gates only. The economic situation in the West Bank..., there are economic resources at the level of the cities in it. You could even feel that each city has economic resources which is sufficient to it as a city. ...UI.

As: But, this stand... The public over there might get the wrong impression as long as you didn't object [*to the agreement*] and say "This might mean that you're supportive". The public on the inside might consider that you didn't...

Ab: No, no, no. Their..., their public stand is..., is..., is no different from... We're talking about private talks. Their public positions haven't deviated from the general outline regarding the opposition to the agreement. But, we need to ask what is the benefit from the overt opposition to the agreement.

As: As far as they're concerned?

Ab: As far as we're concerned. What is the benefit to be gained from it? What is the benefit from the overt opposition to the...?

As: They're known to have a certain inclination. If they don't show explicit opposition, people around them will think that they're supportive [*of the agreement*]. So, this might have an impact on the rest of the people who...UI, whether they're 800 or 700. This point is...

Ab: This is a new thing for all of us. Opposition to what extent?

As: Yes.

Ga: ... It is based on that understanding that we should deal with the agreement whether as far as America is regarded or not. Of course, the inside is number one, then Jordan and Lebanon. ...UI, the community abroad, but dealing [*with the agreement*] should be based on that. Regarding of the circumstances, this is what we should base our opinion on. After that, how to deal with each country, each arena and each circumstance - based on that approach - will be different.
