THE CONFERENCE ON THE REFLECTIONS OF 15 JULY COUP ATTEMPT IN ISLAMIC GEOGRAPHY

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BY THE INSPIRATION OF "TURKEY'S VICTORY"

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Introduction

"God help the revolution!"

The glorious revolution of January was experienced through its hopes, pains, victories and disappointments. The hopes felt for the victory of the revolution are still struggling with pain and I pray God for this. I personally experienced all the events of January 2011 without missing any moment. Then, I was at Rabaa al-Adawiya Square without being away from the events. And then, for the honor of my religion and revolution, I migrated to Turkey, or rather, to the Old Istanbul, the capital city of the world.

The Coup of 15 July became a turning point in the history of the "Ümmet" (the Islamic Community). Turkey is not to be the same Old Turkey any more. The revolutions in Arabic countries won't be the same as the old revolutions. I herald that the exemplary resistance of

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the Turkish nation against the coup became a source of inspiration for Egypt and for the Egyptians.

Rushing into the streets and squares, the Turkish people defended their leader and government. I can't see any difference between the hopes and pains of two nations. But I wish for the Egyptians the same happiness that the Turkish nation has experienced. I hope that the Egyptian authorities learn much from the Turks about how to resist a coup.

The Arab Spring ... The Turkish Spring

The Arab revolutions started in Tunisia towards the end of 2010. As soon as the revolution sprang to Egypt the term "Arab Spring" came into use.

After that, the revolutions reached to Libya, Syria, and Yemen to overthrow the Regimes of "al-fasad wal istibdad." These revolutions did not take place in the first lap. The revolutions in the first lap could gain partial achievements. The Turkish government and nation supported these revolutions with might and main. Turkey gradually entered into a second lap after the counter-revolution. At this stage Turkey became the native country of migration and trust for all revolutionary nations and for their leaders.

All the world, seeing this fact, wanted to punish the Turkish government and nation because of Turkey's taking side with the revolutionary peoples and decided to get rid of the Turkish Government, which reflects the will of the Turkish people by way of ballot boxes. In its real terms, the "Turkish Spring" started just after the failure of the coup in Turkey and the role taken by the Turkish citizens during the coup. This refreshed the hopes of the Turkish people and government to accomplish the reforms of the Turkish institutions and citizens. "The Turkish Spring" provided a great source of inspiration for the Arab and Islamic peoples, especially for the peoples of Egypt and Syria in two aspects:

- The Turkish people and government became the first promoters of these revolutions.
 The support for the revolutionary Muslim-Arab peoples against tyranny, defeatism, fierceness and political and economic oppression is to continue after the failed coup.
- 2. The victory of the Turkish people against the coup has presented an example for revolutionary peoples and leaders teaching them the ways in which they can resist coups especially like those in Egypt and confront ruling bands which do not reflect their nations.

The Double Coup Attempt

The evil powers of the Western and the Arab world worked together at the night of July 15, 2016 in Turkey to provide the success of the coup. This attempt aimed at accomplishing one of the two scenarios or fusing these two within each other.

- 1. The first scenario was that of the overt coups, which Turkey had already experienced four times in its history. Probably, these coups resemble to the coup scenario which was staged by General Sisi, together with the military council, against the selected government and leader in Egypt.
- 2. The second scenario was the aim of creating a religious state similar to the state in Iran. In this scenario, Gülen in Turkey would be the same as Khomeini of Iran. Gülen's religious concept, which was presented to the West as a service and an ideology under the leadership of the USA, is the most corrupt concept about the Islamic religion.

There is no doubt that one of the possibilities of this coup attempt was the accomplishment of the mixture of the two scenarios explained above. That is, the aim of the coup was to make Gülen the spiritual leader and mentor of the Turkish coup and to provide the control of the government by using force under the guise of a heretic religious cover.

By all means, the West, under the American leadership, does never reveal its aims clearly. On the contrary, it considers all possibilities carefully. Conceivably, taking advantage of the state of affairs, they try to involve all contracting parties into the events. This is known as the "double inclusion" or "overall inclusion". By way of "double inclusion", the West takes advantage of several different scenarios.

The Whole *Ümmet* (the Islamic Community) against the Coup

It is certain that the Muslim peoples lived their longest night on the eve of 15 July. This is because of the modern technology providing news casting, the expansion of the social media cites and more importantly, the ambition of the Muslim peoples to follow the news about Turkey. This country has a central position as almost the "only" Muslim country which has a government and a leader representing his own nation. Just as the Ottoman Empire had become a central state before its dissolution during the First World War and the betrayal of the Arab leaders who worked for the British Empire, so now the reasons above make Turkey a forerunner of the Islamic World.

There is no doubt that the *Ümmet* (the Islamic Community) is the one and only community. The *Ümmet* is a community that feels empathy with someone either in the West or in the East. This community accomplishes to be the one and only whenever it resists something or becomes agitated. The following *Hadith* reveals this fact: "Muslims are like one body in their mutual love and mercy. When one part of a body is in bad health, the rest of the entire body joins it in restlessness and lack of sleep and is busy with its treatment."

During the coup attempt, the members of the *Ümmet* ran to help each other. It is certain that the President Erdoğan functioned as the leader in person in the resistance against the coup. However, the Arab and Muslim peoples provided support for the resistance of the Turkish people by way of their prayers, *salats*, the media, and feeling empathy with them. I

can honestly, without any exaggeration, claim that the love of the Arabs and the Muslims for the Turkish people and government is bigger than the love they feel towards their own collaborative government.

I joined the activities after the failed coup in Turkey in person just as I had joined the activities after the Egyptian coup in 2011. I could see almost no difference between our nations. We have the same ambitions, the same wishes and the same enemies. This is something cognizable by everyone. The Turkish nation was in the foreground. However, the Arab and Muslim generations ran to the streets in order to give support to the Turks.

This great love, which the Arabs and Muslims feel for the Turkish people and for their government, stems from the peaceful stance of the Turkish people in accordance with the Islamic virtues and values. This is perhaps a divine gift granted to the Turkish people because of their helps to the oppressed and of the moral values possessed by them and their administration. Our Prophet explains this situation as follows: "Allah helps the servant as long as the servant helps his brother."

There is no doubt that God helped Turkey for the resistance against the coup because Turkey has always helped the suffering Muslims all over the world.

The Egyptian Coup and the Turkish Coup

Doubts and Reactions:

There has been no other nation more anxious about the destiny of the Turkish people than the Egyptian nation, which still suffers from the bloody coup of July 2013 under the leadership of General Sisi and the military council. It was as if the month July were the month of coups.

Moreover, the Egyptian nation was the most concerned one because of the resemblance of experience between the coups in Egypt and Turkey. And it was also the Egyptian nation that became the happiest after the failure of the military coup attempt in Turkey. The Egyptian government and the Egyptian press, the UAE and the Saudi Arabian-based news networks became the first to announce the success of the coup in Turkey. They are the parts of the coalition that are the forerunners and supporters of the coup in Egypt. This symbolizes the fact that the Arab coalition has taken part in the support for the coup in Turkey. There were two vital benefits provided by the failure of the coup in Turkey for the revolutionary Egyptian people:

- 1. The failure of the coup in Turkey has really weakened the Arab coalition, which conspired against Turkey, the Turkish nation and the Turkish government.
- 2. The resistance of the Turkish people and the Turkish government against the coup became a practical lesson for the Egyptian people on the level of leaders, government and nation. This also encouraged the Egyptian revolution and the revolutionary Egyptian people.

Now, let me explain some issues provided by the success of the resistance against the coup in Turkey and some solutions for the doubts of those who wrongly handled the stage of the revolution in Egypt. I hope this will be useful for everyone:

A-Wisdom and Courage at the Very First Moments

Some people say that the Turkish military, unlike the Egyptian soldiers who murdered not to be removed from duty, did not use excessive force against the demonstrators. The Egyptian soldiers also did not use excessive force except for the opportunities that they handled. All cities in Turkey at first stayed in a difficult situation due to the fall of the police stations and the cities. If the Turkish military had been successful in the coup attempt, they

would have used excessive force against the people like the former coup attempts in the history. The important issue here is that Erdoğan was courageous at the first moments of the coup attempt, and he gave orders to his people in regard to resistance. To be honest, he was not content with that. On the contrary, he determined the names of the institutions and places that must be captured. The event has reached to such an important degree that Erdoğan acknowledged to his people to head towards Atatürk Airport and called on the Turkish nation to discharge the area since he would be among them. In Muslim governments, persistence and patience towards the principles and values are necessary conditions that are required. In the policy of management of a nation, wisdom and experience are essential. Besides, resistance against attempts and crisis requires courage that hardly exists in common people. My God! We wish an administration that possesses wisdom and courage in resisting against criminals.

B- The Failures of the Coup Attempts in Egypt and Turkey

Some people says that Erdoğan has been ruling the country for fourteen years while Morsi has been only one. With the help of elections Erdoğan has come to power of a secular government. However, he could follow a slow and gradual reform plan. On the other hand, Morsi came to power with a reform which would allow him to make a total cleansing. His commanders possessed real will and consciousness. It is obvious that a reform at the hand is better that a thousand of revolutions at the pending. Shortly before the revolution, in one of his speeches Doctor Muhammed Mursi said that he made a mistake in relation to the reform process. He said that: "One year is enough. If we say that time was late due to the approaching revolution, we would meet a few problems."

1-Those who find excuses for each job are the most important factors of the tragic problems we experienced because they cover up everything. What is odd today is that they are vindicating those who were in a contradiction in the past. Most importantly, they maintain this attitude till death.

- 2- Even the coup attempt was at the door, they could have resisted just as the Turkish nation did but they did not actualize that.
- 3- Neither Dr. Morsi nor anyone had warned the nation against the coup attempt. They demanded a lot from him to perform this personally. They thought that they could terminate the attempt via closed door meetings and peaceful demonstrations.

Take Dr. Morsi's speech on the phone recorded by the Committee after he had been arrested and what he asked the people to do and compare it with what Erdogan asked his people to do at the time of the coup. Through his speeches Erdogan stated that the tanks in the streets are not real forces, so the Turkish nation must resist against them. My words are not biting words in essence. What I am cravingly emphasizing is the fact that the President Morsi should come to power though he has accepted his past mistakes.

C- Respond to the Warning Messages

Responding to the warning messages on time is crucial in prevention of the coup attempts. It is possible to see these messages clearly in a various news sources, including MIT chief Hakan Fidan's statements: "My President, this is a real coup attempt. We will fight against them till death. Be with your nation and stand by them." These messages belonging to Hakan Fidan are important since they contributed to the prevention of the attempt in the first minutes. This message was the same message that President Morsi gave to Islamic party leaders in the Dome of Presidential Place two days before the events of July 30, 2013. Later, I learned that the others said similar statements. One of my important statements in that period was as follows:

1-We are at the edge of an important military coup attempt. We must oppose it with all strength. Unfortunately, Dr. Morsi did not accept this. At the door of the meeting hall, when

we left the meeting, I realized that he had acknowledged it before and I will tell about the event in details soon.

- 2- When the criminals decide to confront, there is no escape for them. In such a case, before they attacked us, we should have acted before them and taken action with revolutionary and challenging decisions.
- 3- You need the supporters from your nation. You must never believe in military soldiers. Is it too late to say this statement? If we want to benefit from Turkish experience in the prevention of coup attempts and we want to hasten to benefit from God's blessing and we want to raise the resistance spiritual spirit of the Egyptian people, these explanations are important.

D. Three Basic Principles of the Resistance against the Coup

We learned three important lessons from the defeat of the army in the coup in Turkey:

- 1- The project-orientated, the vision-orientated, and the eruditely-leadership-orientated courage.
- 2- The communities that try to struggle and make sacrifice for the sake of the values accepted and the large communities being attentive to the instructions of the governance.
- 3- The organized resistance communities with power and equipment (they must take their power from the nation even though they don't have a promoter).
- 4- To pray to *Allah* for his help, to trust *Allah*, and to become sincere. This was very clear in the slogans of the Turkish people. They cried out in the streets and squares: "Ya Allah Bismillah Allahu Ekber."

This coup attempt is a God-sent blessing. It is a turning point for the Egyptian willpower and a moment of decision to act together with (and like) the Turkish people even if it occurs once in a time.

This is the thing on which the coup in Turkey is based. Can we not learn our lesson from this in Egypt?