

1914 Declaration of Support for French in WWI

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Translated into English from the French translation of the Arabic original

In the name of God the generous and merciful.

Praise be to God, master of the worlds, and may peace be upon Muhammad and the other prophets and saints.

God, the generous and merciful, all knowing and wise, revealed, by the entry of the French power into the country of the Tokolor, the Moors and the Blacks, the incalculable advantages that had not been known before, such as abandoning the instruments of tribal war, the abolition of the acts of oppression inherited from previous generations, the suppression of pillage and death penalties, all of which were ancient practices. France has also instituted justice and security in all of the areas it administers, sedentary and nomadic; she has built abundant wells in the desert and in the towns, she has provided skilled doctors, for rich and poor alike.

She has also provided other advantages that intelligent people will not ignore. Only the ignorant, or those who feign ignorance, will not recognize that.

Praise be to God for providing such favors from the hands of this pacific power.

It is to God that we ask for the consolidation and preservation of this power in the country and to protect it from every enemy, may this power always be the one who puts down the evil doer and brings peace, may she continue to control the affairs of the inhabitants, sedentary as well as nomadic. Amen.

Seal.

Written as God knows, with two days remaining in the lunar month of Muhammad, corresponding to 8 December 1914, at Butilimit, may God keep it safe.

May our Muslim brothers - may God guide them - be vigilant at the lies that can damage the interests of France and create distance from France, given the merits which the French have brought to the Muslim countries, which they have always treated with care and to which they have brought many advantages. It is not permissible for a Muslim who knows his interests to work in any way which can weaken France.

The recompense for a good deed, is it not also a good deed?