

Does this Hadith validate criticizing the rulers via the internet?

Question: Does this Hadith:

أفضل الجهاد كلمة حق عند سلطان جائر

The best Jihad is a word of truth in the presence of an unjust ruler
(Sunan an-Nasa'i 4209)

Does this Hadith validate those who criticize the rulers via the internet?

Shaykh Salih Fawzan: No. The Hadith states: (عِنْدَ) in the presence of an unjust ruler. This means a verbal conversation with him. He did **not** say to criticize him on the Minbar or on the roads; he said **in his presence**. Allah the Exalted said to Musa and Harun:

فَأْتِيَاهُ

So both of you go to him (Soorah Ṭāhā 20:47)

Meaning **go to** Pharaoh

فَقُولَا لَهُ قَوْلًا لَّيِّنًا

And speak to him mildly (Soorah Ṭāhā 20:44)