

## EVENT OF TWO QIBLAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَىٰ الدِّينِ  
كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ، أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ،  
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَىٰ  
سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَىٰ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَىٰ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمِنْ حَيْثُ خَرَجْتَ فَوَلِّ وَجْهَكَ شَطْرَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ وَإِنَّهُ لَلْحَقُّ مِنْ

رَبِّكَ ۗ وَمَا لِلَّهِ بِغَفْلٍ عَمَّا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٤٩﴾

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ  
مُسْلِمُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness and obedience to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. May we be forgiven in this life and the hereafter.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

There are many important events in the history of Islam that took place in the month of Syaaban. One of them is the redirection of the qiblah from Aqsa Mosque in Palestine to Masjidil Haram in Makkah. It took place in the month of Syaaban in the second year of Hijrah.

In the book of Ibn Saad's al-Tabaqat, it is narrated that the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) visited Ummu Bisyr bin al-Barra 'bin Mabrur in the village of Bani Salamah. Ummu Bisyr prepared a feast for the prophet (pbuh) and the prophet's companions.

When the time for Zuhur prayers came, the Prophet (pbuh) performed the prayer at the village mosque. When the Prophet (pbuh) was in the second rak'ah, revelation from Allah the Almighty occurred which commanded the Prophet (pbuh) to change the direction of the qiblah towards the Ka'bah in the Sacred Mosque (Masjidil Haram) in Mecca. Allah the Almighty said in chapter 2 (surah al-Baqarah) verse 144:

قَدْ نَرَى تَقَلُّبَ وَجْهِكَ فِي السَّمَاءِ ۖ فَلَنُوَلِّيَنَّكَ قِبْلَةً تَرْضَاهَا ۗ فَوَلِّ وَجْهَكَ شَطْرَ  
الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ ۗ وَحَيْثُ مَا كُنْتُمْ فَوَلُّوا وُجُوهَكُمْ شَطْرَهُ ۗ وَإِنَّ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا  
الْكِتَابَ لَيَعْلَمُونَ أَنَّهُ الْحَقُّ مِنْ رَبِّهِمْ ۗ وَمَا اللَّهُ بِغَافِلٍ عَمَّا يَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٤٤﴾

Which means: *We have certainly seen the turning of your face, [O Muhammad], toward the heaven, and We will surely turn you to a qiblah with which you will be pleased. So turn your face toward al- Masjid al-*

*Haram. And wherever you [believers] are, turn your faces toward it [in prayer]. Indeed, those who have been given the Scripture well know that it is the truth from their Lord. And Allah is not unaware of what they do.*

After this verse was revealed, the Prophet (pbuh) turned to face the Kaabah and continued to resume his prayer with his companions. The mosque is called the Qiblatain Mosque which still exists in Medina to this day.

After this incident, the hypocrites (*munafik*) and the Jews mocked and doubted the actions of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). They questioned the reason that caused Muhammad and the Muslims to turn away from the qibla they have been using all those years.

Allah the Almighty revealed verse 142 from Surah al-Baqarah in response to the questions of the hypocrites and the Jews to this deliberate question. He said:

سَيَقُولُ السُّفَهَاءُ مِنَ النَّاسِ مَا وَلَّيْتُمْ مَا وَوَلَّيْتُمْ عَنْ قِبَلَتِهِمْ الَّتِي كَانُوا عَلَيْهَا قُلْ لِلَّهِ  
الشَّرْقُ وَالْمَغْرِبُ يَهْدِي مَنْ يَشَاءُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ ﴿١٤٢﴾

Which means: *The foolish among the people will say, "What has turned them away from their qiblah, which they used to face?" Say, "To Allah belongs the east and the west. He guides whom He wills to a straight path."*

Events of the change in the direction of the Qiblah was a great blow to the Jews who have been so proud of their qibla i.e. Baitulmaqdis. They

ridiculed and mocked Muslims for following the Jewish qibla prior to this. However, the command of facing the Qiblah during prayer is a command from Allah the Almighty. This is actually the concept of absolute obedience to all commands from Allah the Almighty.

### **Dear brothers and sisters**

The event of change in the direction of Qibla from Aqsa Mosque in Baitulmaqdis to Baitullah in Makkah proves the power of Allah the Almighty in granting His Messenger's (pbuh) wish to pray toward Baitullah.

In this case, it is not Baitulmaqdis or Makkah which is the goal, but our ultimate obedience when accepting Allah's commands. Furthermore, facing the Qiblah is one of the legal requirements of prayer. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari and Muslim Imam:

إِذَا قُمْتَ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ فَاسْبِغِ الوُضُوءَ ثُمَّ اسْتَقْبِلِ الْقِبْلَةَ فَكَبِّرْ

Which means: "*When you stand for prayer, perform (your) ablution perfectly, then face the qiblah (towards the Ka'bah) and say the takbeer.*"

### **Dear brothers and sisters**

To end the sermon today, let us strengthen unity among us just as we are united in performing prayer facing the direction of one qiblah. Avoid

disunity. When we are divided, the enemies of Islam will easily take the opportunity to dominate us.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 2 (surah al-Baqarah) verse 115:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ  
وَاللَّهُ الْمَشْرِقُ وَالْمَغْرِبُ فَأَيْنَمَا تُوَلُّوا فَثَمَّ وَجْهُ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿١١٥﴾

Which means: And to Allah belongs the east and the west. So wherever you [might] turn, there is the Face of Allah. Indeed, Allah is all-Encompassing and Knowing.

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَتَفَعَّلِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ  
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ  
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،  
وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.