

THE DISASTER (NAKBA) IN PALESTINE

MAY 26, 2023 | 06 ZULKAEDAH 1444H

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ

أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّهِ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, let us all contemplate a terrible disaster that befell Muslims. The disaster is called the *Nakba*, which was the fall of Palestine into the hands of Israeli Zionist, which caused many Palestinians to be expelled from their country. This horrific event happened 75 years ago on 15 May 1948 and has since destroyed the Muslim identity.

This tragedy was not only planned by the International Zionist Organization but also received official approval from the Western powers and sponsors of the United Nations, namely Britain and the United States. The tragedy caused 800,000 Palestinians to be expelled from their homes and homeland and forced them to live in refugee tents to this day. Their number now exceeds millions of people and they do not have full protection including from Muslim countries.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The expulsion of the Palestinians from their homeland is comparable to shedding their blood. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 22 (*Surah Al-Hajj*) verse (*ayat*) 40:

الَّذِينَ أُخْرِجُوا مِنْ دِيَارِهِمْ بِغَيْرِ حَقٍّ إِلَّا أَنْ يَقُولُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ
وَلَوْلَا دَفْعُ اللَّهِ النَّاسَ بَعْضَهُمْ بِبَعْضٍ لَهَدَمَتْ صَوَامِعُ وَبِيَعٌ
وَصَلَوَاتٌ وَمَسَاجِدُ يُذْكَرُ فِيهَا اسْمُ اللَّهِ كَثِيرًا
وَلَيَنْصُرَنَّ اللَّهُ مَنْ يَنْصُرُهُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَقَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ ﴿٤٠﴾

Which means: “those who have been driven unjustly from their homes only for saying, ‘Our Lord is Allah.’ If Allah did not repel some people by means of others, many monasteries, churches, synagogues, and mosques, where Allah’s name is much invoked, would have been destroyed. Allah is sure to help those who help His cause - Allah is strong and mighty.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The indifference of Muslims towards their brothers and sisters in Palestine is worse than simply failing to fulfill the demands of *ukhuwah* (brotherhood). This is because the land of Palestine is not just one of the territories of Muslims controlled by the enemy, but more importantly, it is the holy land of Muslims. Perhaps Muslims have forgotten that we have three holy lands. Besides *Makkah* (Mecca) and *Madinah* (Medina), we have the third holy land which is *Baitul-Maqdis* (Jerusalem) where the *Aqsa* Mosque is located.

It became a place of rest for the Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him [PBUH]) in the events of *Isra'* and *Mi'raj*. The Prophet (PBUH) declared that *Baitul-Maqdis* had a significant meaning for him and for Muslims. In addition to the *Aqsa* Mosque itself, it is significant based on related *hadiths*. Praying at the *Aqsa* Mosque promises up to 500 times the reward compared to praying in other places.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,


All Muslims should be reminded that the issue relating to Palestine is not merely a political issue, but it is directly related to the faith of Muslims. What will we answer to Allah the Almighty, when we are questioned for allowing our brothers and sisters in Islam to be oppressed, persecuted, starved to death and even brutally killed by the Israeli Zionist regime? According to a *hadith* from Mu'az bin Jabal, the Messenger of Allah the Almighty affirmed by saying: “*Allah the Almighty will give you the strength to conquer Ash-Shams (Palestine) after my death. Men and women will endure (staying in Palestine) until the end of time. Anyone among you*

who choose one of the beaches of Ash-Shams (including Gaza) or Baitul-Maqdis are those who are in jihad (struggle) until the day of judgment”.

The Prophet (PBUH) said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam At-Tabarani:

Which means: *A group among my followers will defend the truth, they defeat their enemies and those who oppose them cannot defeat them and they only get minor harm until the end of time; they remain in that state. His companions asked; "Where are they O Messenger of Allah?. The Messenger of Allah (PBUH) replied: "In Baitul-Maqdis and the surrounding area.*

It would be a loss if we do not take heed from this horrific event and consider the possibility of it happening to Muslims in our country. Let us together enrich our faith and confidence by continuously fighting in the path of Allah the Almighty. Know that when we help the religion of Allah the Almighty, He will give us victory. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 47 (*Surah Muhammad*) verse (*ayat*) 7:

 يَتَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِن نَّصُرُوا اللَّهَ يَنْصُرْكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَكُمْ

Which means: *“You who believe! If you help Allah, He will help you and make you stand firm.”*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْءَانِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي 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 فَيَا فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ

وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.