

UNITY: LESSONS FROM THE CATASTROPHE IN PALESTINE (NAKBA)

14 Rajab 1445H / 26 January 2024

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

سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ 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،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ 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 forgiven in this world and in the Hereafter.

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

Living in a sovereign and peaceful country is among the dreams of believers. *Alhamdulillah*, thank Allah that our country is blessed with this dream. However, let's not forget that our brothers in Palestine are fighting to defend the third holiest mosque for Muslims, which is *Al-Aqsa* Mosque.

Indeed, the fate that has befallen Muslims today is the result of a series of plans by the enemy of all time. The Jews (Zionists) are not happy seeing believers unite. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 5 (*Surah Al-Ma'idah*) verse (ayat) 82:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

لَتَجِدَنَّ أَشَدَّ النَّاسِ عَدَاوَةً لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا الْيَهُودَ وَالَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا وَلَتَجِدَنَّ  
أَقْرَبَهُمْ مَوَدَّةً لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا الَّذِينَ قَالُوا إِنَّا نَصَارَىٰ ذَٰلِكَ بِأَنَّ مِنْهُمْ قِسِيَسِينَ  
وَرُهَبَانًا وَأَنَّهُمْ لَا يَسْتَكْبِرُونَ

**Which means:** “You [Prophet] are sure to find that the most hostile to the believers are the Jews and those who associate other deities with God; you

*are sure to find that the closest in affection towards the believers are those who say, "We are Christians", for there are among them priests and people devoted to worship. These people are not given to arrogance,"*

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

The illegal state of the Zionist regime was established in 1948 through cruel means and has killed many innocent lives in the country known as Palestine. Before the Zionist invasion, Al-Aqsa and Palestine were ruled fairly and equitably by Muslims. *Al-Aqsa* was first freed from the Eastern Roman Empire during the reign of Caliph Umar bin Al-Khattab. He implemented a fair policy, allowing the Romans to continue living there if they wanted, and even the Jews who originally lived in exile, were allowed to return to Jerusalem.

People of various religions and races lived in peace under the authority developed by Caliph Umar. Even so, during the reign of Al-Hakim bin Amrillah, the ruler of the Fatimid Kingdom, Palestine faced instability when the government failed to maintain racial unity by oppressing people who had different opinions. This led to the invasion of the Crusaders, who plundered Palestine for 88 years in the 12th century.

Jerusalem at that time was gloomy again. *Al-Aqsa* became the place where thousands of innocent lives were slaughtered by the Crusaders, and was eventually turned into a stable for animals. This sad episode lasted until Allah sent Sultan Salahuddin Al-Ayyubi to free Palestine (Jerusalem) for the second time, in 1187. The principle of justice was reintroduced. People lived with the spirit of unity despite following different religions.

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

Even though Muslims ruled Palestine for a long period of time, eventually the unity that became the pillar of the country's strength became increasingly fragile. Racism began to spread, especially by the Orientalist group formed by the Zionist leaders, causing a feeling of mistrust between the Arabs and the Ottoman Turks. The colonial power's "divide and conquer" policy succeeded in dividing the Muslims. At its peak, there was a racial uprising and a civil war among Muslims that contributed to the fall of Jerusalem to the hands of British colonialists in 1917. All that led to the suffering of Muslims in Palestine. Jews through the Zionist organization, lobbied the British for Palestine to be made a country belonging to their people. And finally in 1948, the Zionist regime officially colonized Palestine and changed its name to Israel.

Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 5 (*Surah Al-Ma'idah*) verse (*ayat*) 78:

لُعِنَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ عَلَى لِسَانِ دَاوُدَ وَعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ ذَلِكَ بِمَا عَصَوْا وَكَانُوا يَعْتَدُونَ ﴿٧٨﴾

**Which means:** *“Those Children of Israel who defied [God] were rejected through the words of David, and Jesus, son of Mary, because they disobeyed, they persistently overstepped the limits.”*

**Dear Brothers and Sisters,**

Let us together learn from the Palestinian *Nakba* incident how important it is for Muslims to unite on the basis of religion. Beware, before a land is colonized, the enemy, especially the Zionists and their allies, will first colonize the people's minds.

Many forms of modern thinking, such as pluralism, secularism and liberalism are poisoning the thinking of Muslims in Malaysia. Its purpose is to colonize our minds. It is to make Muslims glorify western culture and to forget Islam's comprehensive teaching. In the end, we as Muslims will lose our strength due to disunity. We will be ashamed to live by the Sharia and disregard religious laws. Let us pray that this does not happen in our country. But if Muslims are complacent, it is possible that the sovereignty of our country can be tarnished by the enemies of Islam.

Allah the Almighty mentions in the Quran in Chapter 37 (*Surah As-Saffat*) verse (*ayat*) 113:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَبَدَرْنَا عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَىٰ إِسْحَاقَ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِهِمَا مُحْسِنٌ وَظَالِمٌ لِّنَفْسِهِ مُبِينٌ ﴿١١٣﴾

**Which means:** “and blessed him and Isaac too: some of their offspring were good, but some clearly wronged themselves.”

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ. وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ

وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ. وَتَقَبَّلَ اللهُ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ

قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ

وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ