

RISING AFTER A CALAMINITY

3 Safar 1443H/ September 10, 2021

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولًا بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينُ الْحَقِّ لِيُظَهِّرُهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ

وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ، وَأَشْهُدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهُدُ

أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسِلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ

وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبَعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقًّا ثُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُؤْتَنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

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,

The spread of Covid-19 in the country is a calamity that has affected many parties. Some of us have lost family members or acquaintances who were victims of this calamity. The government had to implement the Movement Control Order and close certain sectors to curb the spread of the pandemic. This caused some people to lose their source of income due to

being laid off by their employers and some businesses had to close down because they could not afford to continue operating.

Medical workers in our country are forced to work overtime as frontliners. Security personnel work tirelessly to patrol various locations and set up roadblocks day and night. Everyone felt the pain and fear due to this calamity. It is a very bitter test for us to face. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 2 (*Surah Al-Baqarah*), verse (ayat) 155:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَلَنَبْلُونَكُم بِشَيْءٍ مِنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنفُسِ وَالثَّمَرَاتِ وَبَشِّرِ

الصَّابِرِينَ

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Which means: “We shall certainly test you with fear and hunger, and loss of property, lives, and crops. But [Prophet], give good news to those who are steadfast.”

This verse proves that Allah the Almighty will give great rewards to those who are patient when tested by adversity.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We must believe that every disaster is the will and decree of Allah the Almighty. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 64 (*Surah Al-*

Taghabun), verse (ayat) 11: “Misfortunes can only happen with God’s permission—He will guide the heart of anyone who believes in Him: God knows all things—”

It is undeniable that this tragedy has caused many people to experience depression and emotional stress. As believers, we must face it with a positive attitude. Allah tests us because He loves us. He will forgive our sins if we are patient and give us something better as a reward. Every cloud has a silver lining. We have to strengthen our spirit and increase our supplication to Allah. Among the supplication that can be practiced are:

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ اللَّهُمَّ أَجْرُنِي فِي مُصِيبَتِي وَأَحْلِفُ لِي خَيْرًا مِنْهَا

Which means: “*We are from Allah and unto Him we return. O Allah take me out of my plight and bring to me after it something better.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters.

Every difficulty will come to an end and so will Covid-19. Let us play our role in stopping the spread of this pandemic. Increase our prayers, never despair and put our trust in Allah as Allah the Almighty has advised us in the Quran in Chapter 94 (*Surah Ash-Sharh*), verses (ayat) 5-6:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

فَإِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا ٥ إِنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

Which means: “*So truly where there is hardship there is also ease; truly where there is hardship there is also ease.*”

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْءَانِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّا كُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ

الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاقَتُهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا

وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ

وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ