

A STATEMENT FROM THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE FOR SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND VERDICTS IN THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA REGARDING THE KILLING, ENCIRCLEMENT, AND DISPLACEMENT WHICH IS OCCURRING IN THE GAZA STRIP:

“ All praise is for Allaah, the Lord of the whole of the creation, and may Allaah extol and grant peace and security to the noblest one of the Prophets and Messengers: our Prophet Muḥammad, and his true followers, and his Companions, and whoever follows them upon goodness until the Day of Resurrection.

To proceed:

Then the Permanent Committee for scholarly research and verdicts in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has been witnessing; with feelings of great grief, sadness, and pain; what has been occurring, and is still happening to our brothers-the Muslims in Palestine, and in the Gaza Strip in particular- as regards the killing of children, women, and old men; and the violation of honour and rights; and the destruction of homes, installations; and terrorizing peoples' peace and security; and there is no doubt that this is a great crime, and is oppression against the Palestinian people.

So this painful episode makes it obligatory upon the Muslims to support their Palestinian brothers, and to aid, assist, and help them; and to strive to remove the oppression from them with the means and measures that they are capable of- in implementation of the Islamic brotherhood, and the ties of Eemaan (true Faith).

Allaah-the Most High- said: ﴿ إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ ﴾ [al-Hujuraat (49) : 10]

[[Meaning :The Believers are but brothers],

and He -the Mighty and Majestic-said:

﴿ وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ ﴾ [at-Tawbah (9): 71] [[Meaning: And the believing men and the believing women are friends, protectors, and allies to each other.]]

And the Prophet (صلى الله عليه و سلم) said: <<The Believer to the Believer is like a building: each part of which supports the rest.>>-and he intertwined his fingers. [Agreed upon].

And he (صلى الله عليه و سلم) also said: << The example of the Believers in their mutual love, mercy, and attachment, is the example of a single body: when one part of it suffers pain then the rest of the body is affected by fever and sleeplessness.>> [Agreed upon].

And he - `alaihīṣ-ṣalaatu was-Salaam- said: << The Muslim is a brother to the Muslim: he does not oppress him, nor does he desert him, nor does he betray him, nor does he belittle him.>> [Reported by Muslim].

And aiding includes many things, and will be in accordance with capability, and taking account of situations: whether it be tangible support or moral support; and whether it be from

the Muslims in general, in the form of wealth, food, medicines, clothing, and so on; or whether it is from the Arab and the Islamic states, by facilitating the delivery of aid to them, and taking true and sincere stances regarding them, and aiding their cause- in assemblies, committees, and in the international and national conferences.

All of this is a part of the cooperation upon righteousness and avoidance of sin, which has been commanded in His Saying- He the Perfect and Most High:

﴿ وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَى ﴾ [al-Maa-idah (5):2]

[[Meaning: And aid one another upon righteousness and avoidance of sin.]]

And from that also is extending sincere advice to them, and directing them towards whatever will result in good and rectification for them; and from the greatest of that, also, is to make supplication (*du`aa*) for them, at all times: that their trial be lifted from them, and that their difficult situation be relieved, and that their conditions be rectified, and their actions and sayings be made correct and sound.

Along with this we enjoin our brothers, the Muslims in Palestine to have *taqwaa* (reverence, fear, and dutifulness to Allaah), and to turn back to Him- He the One free of all imperfections; just as we enjoin them with uniting upon the truth, and abandoning splitting and disputing- and not giving the enemy the opportunity, which it uses and will continue to use, to carry out further aggression and attempts to weaken.

And we urge our brothers to carry out the means necessary for the removal of the transgression from their land, along with making their deeds purely and sincerely for Allaah- the Most High-, and that they seek to do what is pleasing to Him; and seeking assistance through patient perseverance (*as-sabr*) and the Prayer (*as-Salaat*); and consulting the people of knowledge, intelligence, and wisdom, in all of their affairs- for indeed that is a sign of being granted guidance and correctness.

Likewise we call the people of intellect throughout the world, and the international community in general, to examine this catastrophe, viewing it with intelligence and justice, so that the Palestinian people are given their rights, and oppression is removed from them, in order that they can live a decent life; and at the same time we thank everyone who has shared in helping them and aiding them: the countries and the individuals.

We ask Allaah, by His perfect names and His lofty attributes, to remove the distress from this nation, and to aid His Religion, and to elevate His word; and to aid His beloved servants, and to frustrate His enemies, and that He throw their plots back upon them, and that he suffices the Muslims in repelling their evil. Indeed He is the One entrusted with that, and the One Who is fully able to carry it out.

And may Allaah extol and grant peace and security to our Prophet Muḥammad, and his true followers, and his companions, and those who follow them upon good until the Day of Recompense.’’

His eminence, the Mufti of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the Head of the Committee of Major scholars:

Shaikh `Abdul-`Azeez ibn `Abdillaah ibn Muhammad Aalish-Shaikh ,

and the members of the Permanent Committee for scholarly research and verdicts.

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