

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَمَا لَكُمْ لَا تُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَالْمُسْتَضْعَفِينَ مِنَ  
الرِّجَالِ وَالنِّسَاءِ وَالْوِلْدَانِ الَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا أَخْرِجْنَا مِنْ  
هَذِهِ الْقَرْيَةِ الظَّالِمِ أَهْلُهَا وَاجْعَلْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ وَلِيًّا وَاجْعَلْ  
لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ نَصِيرًا.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

...وَهُمْ يَدٌ عَلَى مَنْ سِوَاهُمْ يَرُدُّ مُشِدَّهُمْ عَلَى مُضْعِفِهِمْ  
وَمُتَسَرِّعُهُمْ عَلَى قَاعِدِهِمْ...

### GAZA: A TEST FOR HUMANITY

#### Dear Muslims!

Three years have passed since the oppressors began their genocide against our brothers and sisters in Gaza. Even today, mosques, homes, schools, and hospitals continue to be bombed in the city reduced to rubble. Our brothers and sisters are being deprived of their homes, their orchards and gardens are being plundered, and their workplaces are being burned and destroyed. The sacred values of Muslims are being desecrated. Children, the elderly, women, persons with disabilities—in short, an entire society—are being mercilessly massacred before the eyes of the whole world.

#### Dear Believers!

The suffering in Gaza is not merely a tragedy endured by our Palestinian brothers and sisters. It is a historic test of the conscience, morality, and dignity of every human being on earth. Moreover, the cries of anguish rising from Gaza to the heavens pierce the hearts of all those who uphold justice, fairness, and compassion as guiding principles. The growing voices of protest and calls for an end to the massacres, the protection of civilians, and the delivery of humanitarian aid across the world demonstrate that consciences have not become numb and that humanity has not perished.

#### Esteemed Muslims!

Throughout history, all oppressors have fallen into the same delusion, believing themselves to be invincible. Yet there have always been those who have risen to proclaim that truth will ultimately prevail. As one of the precious little children in Gaza so courageously declared: “If you destroy our home, we will build another. If you destroy our school, we will build another. We are not going anywhere!”

Indeed, humanity has witnessed time and again that oppression can never last forever and that it will inevitably come to an end. For no matter how powerful the oppressors may be, the decree of Allah the Almighty is unequivocal: “...How many times has a small force vanquished a mighty army by the Will of Allah! And Allah is ‘always’ with the steadfast.”<sup>1</sup>

#### Esteemed Muslims!

Gaza is the embodiment of a historic resistance that raises the banner of human dignity high into the heavens. While our brothers and sisters in Gaza are being tested through the anguish of losing their children, the fear for their lives, and the destruction of their homeland, we, too, are being tested through our stance and sense of responsibility. If their test is to remain patient, ours is to never forget. If their test is to resist, ours is to remain mindful of their suffering. If their test is to struggle against deprivation, ours is to share our resources with them. Furthermore, we must not underestimate the power we wield as consumers. We must regard boycotting not as a fleeting reaction but as a conscious and ethical stance against oppression. The warning of Allah the Almighty is perfectly clear: “And what is it with you? You do not fight in the cause of Allah and for oppressed men, women, and children who cry out, ‘Our Lord! Deliver us from this land of oppressors! Appoint for us a savior; appoint for us a helper—all by Your grace.’”<sup>2</sup>

#### Dear Brothers and Sisters!

When Muslims heed the verse, “And who enforce justice when wronged,”<sup>3</sup> and come to one another’s aid in solidarity, the oppressors who desecrate al-Aqsa Mosque and the Ibrahimi Mosque will be defeated, and all the oppressed people across the world, especially our brothers and sisters in Gaza and East Turkistan, will find deliverance.

We conclude this week’s khutbah with the following hadith of our beloved Prophet (saw): “...Muslims are united as one hand against others. Those who are strong protect those who are weak, and those who advance ahead look after those who remain behind...”<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Baqarah, 2/249.

<sup>2</sup> Nisa, 4/75.

<sup>3</sup> Shura, 42/39.

<sup>4</sup> Abu Dawud, Jihad, 147; Nasa’i, Qasamah, 9–10.

