

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ قَالُوا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ مُصْلِحُونَ.  
أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ الْمُفْسِدُونَ وَلَكِنْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ.  
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
بِعَسِّ الْعَبْدِ عَبْدٌ يَخْتَلُ الدُّنْيَا بِالدِّينِ... بِعَسِّ الْعَبْدِ عَبْدٌ هَوَى  
يُضِلُّهُ.

## JULY 15: OUR NATION'S EPIC VICTORY

### Dear Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, Allah the Almighty states as follows: **“When they are told, ‘Do not spread corruption in the land,’ they reply, ‘We are only peace-makers!’ Indeed, it is they who are the corruptors, but they fail to perceive it.”**<sup>1</sup>

In the hadith I have read, the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: **“What an evil servant is the one who seeks the world through the religion! ... What an evil servant is the worshipper who is misled by his desire!”**<sup>2</sup>

### Dear Believers!

Next Monday marks the eighth anniversary of our epic victory against global evil forces and their collaborator FETO, achieved with the help of Allah the Almighty, the determination of our state, and the courage of our nation. As in every period of history, on the night of July 15, we stood shoulder to shoulder with our women and men, young and old. Accompanied by the echoing sounds of sala from the minarets, we all flocked to the squares together with the spirit of unity, solidarity, and cooperation. As our National Poet expressed in the lines, “Asım’s generation... I was saying... is a glorious generation: / See, it did not allow its honor to be trampled, and will not allow it to be trampled”, we thwarted the dirty games played on our homeland and nation together. July 15 is the latest example of the fact that our noble nation will never submit to anyone’s yoke and never bow down to the oppressor. July 15 is a glorious resistance where determination and courage triumphed over disgrace and cowardice.

### Dear Believers!

The FETO, which carried out the July 15 betrayal, exploited our faith, worship, and national and spiritual values, and targeted our independence and future. By appearing to be righteous, it aimed at the indivisible integrity of our homeland, the survival of our state, and the lives of our people. It has used the most essential concepts of our noble religion, Islam, for its own interests. It has resorted to all kinds of deceit and traps to tear our youth away from their families and to uproot from their hearts the love for their country, the consciousness of being a nation, and the awareness of being part of the ‘ummah.

### Dear Muslims!

Next Wednesday is the Muharram 10th, the Day of ‘Ashura. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) recommended that we fast for two days, including the day of ‘Ashura, with either the previous day or the day after it.<sup>3</sup> ‘Ashura is also the day on which our Master Hussain (ra), the grandson of the Prophet Muhammad (saw), whom he loved as his flower and his sweet basil,<sup>4</sup> and whom he praised as the Master of the Youth of Paradise,<sup>5</sup> was martyred in Karbala along with more than 70 Muslims, most of whom were from the Ahl al-Bayt of the Prophet (saw). Even though centuries have passed, the pain of this tragic event remains fresh and still resides in our hearts. Those who inflicted this injustice upon the beloved ones of ‘Ali (ra) and Fatima (ra) are condemned in the collective conscience of the ‘ummah of Prophet Muhammad (saw), and will continue to be condemned.

### Dear Believers!

Those who have designs on our heavenly homeland, who sow seeds of discord among us to disrupt our love and brotherhood, have not abandoned their treacherous ambitions, just as they did not in the past. Therefore, let us strive to learn authentic religious knowledge from qualified and trustworthy individuals, so that we do not fall into these treacherous traps again. Let us provide our children, who are the apple of our eye, and our youth, who are the guarantee of our future, together with a healthy, balanced, and clear religious education guided by the Qur’an and Sunnah. Let us be vigilant against those who seek to foment discord and turmoil, and those who desire to see new Karbala tragedies unfold in the lands of our ‘ummah. We should make no compromise on our unity and solidarity. We should uphold the wisdom of Anatolian culture, which forms the essence of our nation and sustains our religious life.

On this occasion, I remember with gratitude and wish mercy upon our noble martyrs, including our Master Hussain (ra) and the Ahl al-Bayt of the Prophet (saw), as well as those who were honored with martyrdom from Badr to Manzikert, from Gallipoli to the War of Independence, from July 15 to the present day, for the sake of religion, homeland, and sacred values. I also remember with respect our heroic veterans who have passed away. I would like to wish our living veterans good health, well-being, and a good life. May our Almighty Lord (swt) let our state last forever and grant our nation enduring happiness. May Allah give no opportunity to those who intend to harm our unity and togetherness, our peace and security. May Allah grant our security forces victory in the struggle for justice and truth at all times.

<sup>1</sup> Baqarah, 2/11-12.

<sup>2</sup> Tirmidhi, Sifat al-Qiyamah, 17.

<sup>3</sup> Ibn Hanbal, I, 240.

<sup>4</sup> Tirmidhi, Birr, 11.

<sup>5</sup> Tirmidhi, Manaqib, 30.