

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَلَا تَحْسَبَنَّ اللَّهَ غَافِلًا عَمَّا يَعْمَلُ الظَّالِمُونَ إِنَّمَا يُؤَخِّرُهُمْ لِيَوْمٍ تَشْخَصُ فِيهِ الْأَبْصَارُ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

لَا حَتَّى تَأْخُذُوا عَلَى يَدَيِ الظَّالِمِ فَتَأْطِرُوهُ عَلَى الْحَقِّ أَطْرًا.

OPPRESSION CAN NEVER PREVAIL

Dear Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, our Almighty Lord (swt) states, **“Do not think, o Prophet, that Allah is unaware of what the wrongdoers do. He only delays them until a Day when their eyes will stare in horror—rushing forth.”**¹

In the hadith I have read, our Prophet (saw) says, **“If you do not stand against the oppression of the oppressor, there will also be no salvation for you.”**²

Dear Believers!

One of the sins prohibited by our sublime religion, Islam, is oppression. Oppression means disregarding justice and not recognizing the rights and the rule of law. It is an attack on people's lives, property, honor, and dignity. Oppression is a crime committed by people against their Lord (swt), themselves, and their environment. It is a great threat and danger to the peace and tranquility of the world, as well as the future of humanity. Oppression is one of the primary causes behind the downfall and destruction of societies.

Dear Muslims!

Allah the Almighty (swt) has commanded the establishment of justice on earth and the eradication of oppression. He (swt) has entrusted all the prophets He has sent with the duty of fighting against oppression and oppressors for the truth to prevail, and warned those who refrain from standing against oppression and oppressors.³ Therefore, just as oppression is a great sin, consenting to it is also a grave sin and a heavy responsibility. It is a fundamental requirement of faith to stand with the oppressed and to mobilize both material and spiritual resources on their behalf. For whatever reason, supporting the oppressor, inclining towards them, or ignoring their oppression makes one an accomplice to every crime they commit. Our Almighty Lord (swt) warns us in this regard as follows, **وَلَا تَرْكَبُوا إِلَى الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا فَتَمَسَّكُمُ النَّارُ** **“Do not be inclined to the wrongdoers or you will be touched by the Fire.”**⁴

Dear Believers!

The oppression that has been committed in Palestine for years has escalated into an unprecedented genocide over the past year. A nation is being systematically erased from history before the eyes of the world. The Zionist

oppressors have massacred and continue to massacre tens of thousands of innocent people, regardless of children, women and the elderly, in Gaza. Now, together with their global accomplices, they seek to turn the world into a war zone by extending the same massacres to other Islamic countries. However, it should not be overlooked that the primary reason Islamic countries are increasingly becoming lands of blood and tears is the weakening of the sense of ummah and the bonds of brotherhood among Muslims. It is the loss of the believers' superiority in the fields of science, knowledge, and technology. Allah the Almighty (swt), however, has commanded,

“Hold firmly together to the rope of Allah. Do not be divided.”⁵ and urges us to maintain our unity and solidarity at all times and to steer clear of any form of division. With the verse,

وَأَعِدُّوا لَهُمْ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ مِنْ قُوَّةٍ **“Prepare against them what you believers can of military power and cavalry to deter Allah's enemies and your enemies as well as other enemies unknown to you but known to Allah.”**⁶, he (swt) commands us to be strong in every field against our enemies.

Dear Muslims!

Oppression can never prevail. Oppressors will not be able to achieve their heinous goals. Allah (swt) will certainly perfect His light, even to the dismay of the disbelievers. Our duty, on the other hand, is to set aside all forms of disputes and conflicts and to ground ourselves in the brotherhood of Islam. It is to keep the ummah consciousness alive and to protect our unity and solidarity. It is to be strong in every material and spiritual field and to endeavor to ensure peace and tranquility. It is to stand resolutely against those who support oppression and those who have a hand in the blood of thousands of innocent people in every field. It is not to remain indifferent to the activities and events held against oppression and oppressors. Let us not forget that every step we take, every word we speak, and every action we undertake against the oppressors will contribute to restoring peace and tranquility in Islamic countries and alleviating the suffering of the oppressed.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with our Prophet's (saw) following hadith that instructs us to remain vigilant and cautious against evil, wickedness, oppression, and oppressors at all times: **“Whoever of you sees something evil, let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able, then with his tongue; and if he is not able, then with his heart, and that is the weakest of faith.”**⁷

¹Ibrahim, 14/42.

²Ibn Majah, Fitan, 20.

³Taha, 20/24, 43; Sad, 38/26; Nazi'at, 79/17; Anfal, 8/15.

⁴Hud, 11/113.

⁵Ali 'Imran, 3/103.

⁶Anfal, 8/60.

⁷Muslim, Iman, 78.