

Tarih: 17.02.2023

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ
إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَا الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنَ
آيَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ.
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
وَاللَّهُ فِي عَوْنِ الْعَبْدِ مَا كَانَ الْعَبْدُ فِي عَوْنِ أَخِيهِ.

THE NIGHT OF MI'RAJ: AN OCCASION FOR MERCY AND PEACE

Dear Muslims,

We had a great disaster last week. Our hearts are broken into pieces with the pain of every soul we lost. Words cannot express the pain we feel. Alhamdulillah, we are united as one soul in this trying time, as we were in the past. It is praiseworthy that besides our noble-hearted nation, many countries have mobilized their material and spiritual possibilities since the earthquake by showing sensitivity.

Dear brothers and sisters,

We believe that there is no obstacle we cannot overcome as long as we have the same faith and spirit. As long as our hearts beat as one, there is no difficulty we cannot overcome with the help and grace of Allah. As long as we act in unity and solidarity, there is no wound we cannot heal and no pain we cannot relieve.

Honorable Muslims,

We will experience the night of Mi'raj today as an occasion for divine mercy and peace in our sorrowful hearts. Allah the Almighty comforted the Prophet Muhammad (saw) with the incident of Mi'raj in a very difficult period of his life that is known as the Year of Sorrow. Allah (swt) made the Prophet Muhammad, who is mercy to the worlds, a witness to His (swt) Oneness, Exaltedness, and Infiniteness. This blessed journey is explained in the Holy Qur'an as follows: **"Glory be to the One Who took His servant 'Muhammad' by night from the Sacred Mosque to the Farthest Mosque whose surroundings We have blessed, so that We may show him some of Our signs. Indeed, He alone is the All-Hearing, All-Seeing."**¹

Dear Muslims,

On this blessed night, let us open our hands to the sky, our tongues to prayer, and our hearts to our Lord, and say:

رَبِّ إِنِّي لِمَا أَنْزَلْتَ إِلَيَّ مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَقِيرٌ

"O Lord! We are truly in 'desperate' need of whatever provision You may have in store for us."²

رَبِّ اشْرَحْ لِي صَدْرِي وَيَسِّرْ لِي أَمْرِي

"O Lord! Uplift our heart for us, and make our task easy."³

رَبِّ اغْفِرْ وَارْحَمْ وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الرَّاحِمِينَ

"O Lord! Forgive and have mercy, for You are the best of those who show mercy."⁴

Dear brothers and sisters,

On this blessed night when mercy and forgiveness surround us, we should not be contented with praying only. We should add our actual prayers to our verbal prayers. We should all try to be with those who lost their loved ones, and help those who are in need. We should take care of the people in need, and embrace our orphaned children. We should do our best to relieve the suffering of our brothers and sisters as much as we can. We should reach out and support our earthquake victims who come to our cities as well as those who are in earthquake zones. If we have more than one house, we should offer it to them free of charge as well as all our possibilities. We should warn those who abuse the earthquake victims by overcharging in this difficult time. We should not forget that today is the day of solidarity and helping. It is the time for benevolence and self-sacrifice. It is the time to imprint the following hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (saw) in our minds and hearts: **"Allah helps the servant as long as he helps his brother."**⁵

I would like to conclude my khutbah by wishing the mercy of Allah the Almighty on our brothers and sisters who have passed away, speedy recovery to the wounded, and strength to our beloved nation. May Allah protect us from all kinds of disasters. Have a blessed night of Mi'raj!

¹ Isra, 17/1.

² Qasas, 28/24.

³ Ta-Ha, 20/25-26.

⁴ Mu'minun, 23/118.

⁵ Abu Dawud, Adab, 60.