



...وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ
وَالْعُدْوَانِ...

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

إِذَا مَاتَ الْإِنْسَانُ انْقَطَعَ عَنْهُ عَمَلُهُ إِلَّا مِنْ ثَلَاثَةٍ: إِلَّا مِنْ
صَدَقَةٍ جَارِيَةٍ أَوْ عِلْمٍ يُنْتَفَعُ بِهِ أَوْ وَلَدٍ صَالِحٍ يَدْعُو لَهُ.

OURS IS A CIVILIZATION BUILT ON A TRADITION OF ENDOWMENTS

Honorable Muslims!

One of the lasting gifts our sublime religion, Islam, has given humanity is the institution of endowments. The purpose of an endowment is to offer our resources, for the pleasure of Allah (swt) only, to the service and benefit of all humanity and all creation. An endowment is one of the ways that allows the resources entrusted to us by our Lord (swt) to become the key to paradise. An endowment is a movement of goodness built on the principle that 'The best of people is the one who is beneficial to others.' It is a wellspring of continuous charity.

Dear Believers!

Endowments are among the institutions that sustain and strengthen nations. Endowments play a crucial role in reinforcing the sense of unity and solidarity within a society. They promote acts of sharing, mutual support, and solidarity. They build a safe and peaceful society. Endowments cultivate the seeds of compassion and mercy in the world of existence. They contribute to the development and dissemination of knowledge and wisdom, as well as culture and arts. They build bridges of charity and goodness between the rich and the poor. They contribute to the dominance of a kind of civilization in the world that will ensure justice, equality, truth, and a humane life.

Dear Muslims!

Endowments have always been encouraged in Islam, and those who pioneer and support these charitable institutions are highly praised. Our ancestors, aware of the importance of this truth, built mosques, madrasas, hospitals, soup kitchens, libraries, caravanserais, bridges, and fountains. From the past to the present, endowments have been a refuge for those in need, including the orphan and the elderly. They have offered a lifeline to those in need, those struggling with problems and troubles, and those young people bound for marriage. The importance of endowments culture has been so deeply ingrained in our history that endowments were established even for migratory birds.

Dear Believers!

In one of his hadiths, our Prophet (saw) says, "When a man dies all his good deeds come to an end except three: Ongoing charity, beneficial knowledge, and a righteous son who prays for him."¹ Our great nation, steadfast in its adherence to the above hadith of the Messenger of Allah (saw), continues to play a pivotal role in numerous commendable initiatives both domestically and internationally, facilitated by the establishment of various endowments. May Allah the Almighty (swt) shower His mercy upon all our brothers and sisters who, as pioneers and supporters of endowments, have departed from this world, and grant health and well-being to those who are still among us.

Dear Muslims!

Among the myriad of charitable institutions dedicated to serving the greater good in our nation stands the Türkiye Diyanet Foundation. For close to half a century, our Foundation has tirelessly strived to spread goodness worldwide, guided by the motto "**Brotherhood knows no borders**". With its outreach spanning our nation and across the globe, it offers hope to oppressed individuals universally, without regard to religion, language, or skin color. It strives to nurture our youth into individuals who cherish their national and spiritual heritage, contributing positively to their communities, society, and the broader humanity. It extends the aid of our nation to numerous individuals affected by poverty, natural disasters, violence, and war.

Dear Believers!

Ours Is a civilization built on a tradition of endowments. Endowments have been in existence since the time of our Prophet (saw). It is incumbent upon us all to collectively safeguard this civilization. Our duty is to effectively utilize endowed property for its designated purpose. We must refrain from any attitudes or behaviors that could jeopardize the integrity of endowment properties.

Dear Muslims!

In the Holy Qur'an, our Lord Almighty (swt) states, "**Cooperate with one another in goodness and righteousness, and do not cooperate in sin and transgression.**"² The pinnacle of goodness lies in aiding the oppressed and vulnerable, shielding them from oppressors. As Muslims, we must mobilize all our resources to save the innocents, babies and women of Gaza from the hands of the cruel occupiers who are committing massacre and genocide before the eyes of the world today.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with our beloved Prophet's (saw) following warning: "**When people see an oppressor but do not prevent him from (doing evil), it is likely that Allah will punish them all.**"³

¹ Muslim, Wasiyah, 14.

² Ma'idah, 5/2.

³ Tirmidhi, Tafsir al-Qur'an, 5.