

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَاطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَا تَنَازَعُوا فَتَفْشَلُوا وَتَذْهَبَ رِيحُكُمْ

وَاصْبِرُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

وَلَا تَحَاسِدُوا، وَلَا تَبَاغَضُوا، وَلَا تَدَابَرُوا، وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ

إِخْوَانًا.

WITH THE LOVE OF HOMELAND AND NATION,
FOR MANY CENTURIES TO COME

Honorable Muslims!

We are in the centenary year of the crowning of our National Struggle with victory, the rebirth of the sun of independence over our country and the proclamation of our Republic. May Allah the Almighty (swt) help our great nation to do deeds in accordance with His will for many centuries to come. May He (swt) let our state last forever and make our nation happy.

Dear Believers!

For a hundred years, we have overcome all difficulties with the help and grace of our Lord (swt) and the wisdom and prudence of our nation. We have made great progress towards becoming a powerful state. As required by the verse, **“Do not falter or grieve, for you will have the upper hand, if you are true believers.”**¹, we did not give up, and we did not fall down with the power we took from our faith. We have never lost our hope in our Lord (swt). We followed the

verse, **“Hold firmly together to the rope of Allah.”**² We have made no compromise on our unity and solidarity. We have become a home for each other, with the consciousness of being brothers and sisters. We have trusted each other and relied on each other in accordance with the hadith of our Prophet (saw), **“Do not hate one another, and do not be jealous of one another. Do not desert each other. O, Allah’s worshipers! Be brothers.”**³ We have reached these days hand-in-hand, heart-to-heart.

Dear Muslims!

Our heavenly homeland holds more than mere territorial significance for us. These lands are our homeland, where we aspire to live in peace and security until the Day of Judgment. It is a lofty entrustment left to us through the lives of our great martyrs, the blood of our heroic veterans, and the perseverance, diligence and determination of our state leaders who led our National Struggle. It is an entrustment more precious than any of our own lives. If need be, we will sacrifice our lives, our loved ones, and everything we have, but we will never give up our homeland, the heritage of our ancestors, as expressed in our National Anthem:

View not the soil you tread on as mere Earth – recognize it!

And think about the shroudless thousands who lie so nobly beneath you.

You are the glorious son of a martyr – take shame, grieve not your ancestors!

Unhand not, even when you are promised worlds, this heavenly homeland.

Dear Muslims!

It is a pity that our Palestinian brothers and sisters have been suffering for years, similar to the suffering that we as a nation collectively eradicated during our national struggle a hundred years ago. Israel, which has lost its sense of mercy and conscience, and has become a captive of hate and rage, commits all kinds of atrocities with the most brutal attacks in front of the eyes of the whole world. The lands of Palestine have been yearning for peace and calm for almost a century. The cries of little babies and the wails of wounded mothers make the heavens tremble. Fathers are burying with their own hands their victimized children whom they treasured. Humanity actually loses its conscience while watching the lives lost in the rubble of bombed buildings. Under these circumstances, the responsibility of our nation and of all Muslims is greater than ever.

Honorable Muslims!

Let us continue to stand by the side of the oppressed and against the oppressor, as we have done for centuries. In accordance with the verse, **“Do not**

be inclined to the wrongdoers...”⁴, let us not support the oppressor and tolerate oppression with our words and behavior, with what we eat and drink, with what we wear and use. Let us strive with all our strength in every field to prevent such atrocities from happening again. Let us endeavor to do our work and our profession to the best of our ability. Let us raise our future generations as people who are endowed with national and moral values, loyal to their state and nation, and beneficial to society and humanity. Let us uphold our sense of being brothers and sisters and an ‘ummah as required by the divine decree of our Lord (swt), **“The believers are but one brotherhood.”**⁵ It is then that these lands, where we live in peace and tranquility, will continue to be our homeland for centuries to come.

Dear Believers!

I would like to take this opportunity to commemorate with mercy and gratitude our great martyrs and heroic veterans who made this land we are living on a homeland for us and reinforced our independence with their valiant struggles a hundred years ago. May our Lord (swt) grant us and our generations the ability to take care of all that they have entrusted to us.

I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with the following verse: **“Obey Allah and His Messenger and do not dispute with one another. Or you would be discouraged and weakened. Persevere! Surely Allah is with those who persevere.”**⁶

1 Al-i ‘Imran, 3/139.

2 Ali ‘Imran, 3/103.

3 Muslim, Birr, 28.

4 Hud, 11/113.

5 Hujurat, 49/10.

6 Anfal, 8/46