

A cry for help from the Muslim women of Palestine addressed to the scholars of the Ummah.

In the Name of Allah the Most Gracious the Most Compassionate

To our honorable scholars, who are the best of examples for the God conscious; to the inheritors of the prophets, for you have indeed inherited the book of Allah and its laws and the practices of His prophet for the purpose of guiding all of humankind with this great religion. You take them from the path of deviation to one of guidance, from darkness to light, and from injustice to justice. The ultimate goal is that of survival from the toils of this world as well as the torment of the Hereafter. The Messenger of Allah (saw) said, “The scholars are the inheritors of the Prophets.” Indeed scholars who fulfill their promises to Allah (SWT) are forgiven in return, given great rewards and elevated status among people. In addition, they are preferred and favored over all people by the Lord of the Worlds. The Messenger of Allah (saw) said, “All the creations in the heavens and earth ask forgiveness for the scholar, even the whales in the sea. The superiority of a scholar over a worshipper is like the superiority of the moon over the rest of the planets.” (Narrated by Abu Dawuud and Tirmidhi)

Allah (SWT) has also praised scholars by commending them as having the greatest reverence of Him (SWT). He (SWT) says,

((إِنَّمَا يَخْشَى اللَّهَ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ الْعُلَمَاءُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ غَفُورٌ)) فاطر: 28

“Those truly fear Allah, among His Servants who have knowledge: for Allah is Exalted in Might, Oft-Forgiving” (35:28). This is because of their careful contemplation of the verses of Allah (SWT) and profound understanding thereof; in addition to applying and conveying them to others. Scholars are certain of the fact that all matters are in the command and control of Allah (SWT), and that He (SWT) is the Omnipotent, the Almighty, the All-Powerful and to Him (SWT) we are all destined to return. And Allah (SWT) has elevated the scholars in status and honored them for He (SWT) says,

((يَرْفَعُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ)) المجادلة: 11

“Allah will raise up, to (suitable) ranks (and degrees), those of you who believe and who have been granted Knowledge” (58:11). Allah the Almighty has also elevated your status and rank in that He (SWT) has promoted you to the position of witnesses of His (SWT) oneness, on par with the noble angels who do not disobey Allah’s (SWT) will and do whatever He (SWT) orders them. Allah (SWT) says,

((شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ وَأُولَا الْعِلْمِ قَائِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ)) آل عمران: 18

“There is no god but He: that is the witness of Allah His angels and those endued with knowledge, standing firm on justice. There is no god but He, the Exalted in Power, the Wise” (3: 18).

This great favor and rank that Allah (SWT) has bestowed upon scholars has an expensive price that requires payment in full. Its price is their sincerity to Allah (SWT) in applying what they have acquired from the book of Allah (SWT), and to call people to do the same. Its price is to obey Allah (SWT) and to establish His will on earth; to be upright and guided in religion and extraction of opinions in accordance with the Qur’an and Sunnah of the Prophet (saw) regardless of blame.

Dear Muslim scholars, you have been entrusted with the religion of Allah (SWT) after His Messenger Muhammad (saw). You are obligated to alert all people of the message rather than stifle it. Beware of breaking your promises to Allah (SWT) in either word or action for worldly gains. Allah (SWT) says, ((وَإِذْ أَخَذَ اللَّهُ مِيثَاقَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ لَتُبَيِّنُنَّهُ لِلنَّاسِ وَلَا تَكْتُمُونَهُ فَنَبَذُوهُ وَرَاءَ ظُهُورِهِمْ وَاشْتَرَوْا بِهِ تَمَنَّا قَلِيلًا فَبُئِسَ مَا يَشْتَرُونَ)) آل عمران: 187

“And remember Allah took a Covenant from the People of the Book, to make it known and clear to mankind, and not to hide it; but they threw it away behind their backs, and purchased with it some miserable gain! and vile was the bargain they made!” (3:187). Do not betray your covenant with Allah (SWT) by hiding the truth and misguiding people for the sake of a part of this world. In the eyes of Allah (SWT) this world is not worth the wing of a mosquito. So, do not sell your covenant with Allah (SWT) and His religion for such a meager price.

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Dear Muslim scholars do not take lightly what Allah (SWT) has entrusted you with out of fear of being tortured or killed. For the Messenger of Allah (saw) brings you glad tidings in that matter. He (saw) says that whoever of you is killed in the way of Allah (SWT) and His religion, is in the same rank as the chief of martyrs Hamza bin Abdulmutallib (raa). The Messenger of Allah (saw) said, “A man reaches the level of the chief of martyrs Hamza when he is killed while standing up to and advising an unjust leader to enjoin good and forbid evil.” Allah (SWT) deserves that you fear Him (SWT) above all, and take as examples in this the Prophets before you who held steadfast to what Allah (SWT) entrusted them and faced all kinds of torture on account thereof. They sacrificed the joys of life and peace of mind as a result, yea even some were killed in its way. Are you o’ scholars better than the Prophets who were killed for the sake of the religion of Allah (SWT)? Do not forget that every soul shall taste death, and we are but inflicted with that that has been decreed by Allah (SWT).

Dear Scholars, does not Allah (SWT) warn you against misguiding people through the mixing of truth with falsehood, suppressing truth, and exposing and camouflaging falsehood. Opinions such as those that accuse Muslims of terrorism when they defend their faith, honor and wealth are misguiding, because they do not touch upon what harm and terrorism Muslims face in their very own homes at the hands of the Jews and their allies. Allah (SWT) says,

((ولا تلبسوا الحق بالباطل وتكتموا الحق وأنتم تعلمون)) البقرة: 42

“And cover not Truth with falsehood, nor conceal the Truth when ye know (what it is)” (2:42)

Dear Scholars, Allah (SWT) threatens you with curse, damnation, and exclusions from His Ever Encompassing Mercy. Furthermore, He (SWT) warns of great torment on the Day of Judgment if you suppress what Allah has revealed to his Prophet (saw). Allah (SWT) the Omnipotent, the Almighty, the All-Powerful says,

((إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَكْتُمُونَ مَا أَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ الْبَيِّنَاتِ وَالْهُدَىٰ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا بَيَّنَّاهُ لِلنَّاسِ فِي الْكِتَابِ أُولَٰئِكَ يَلْعَنُهُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَلْعَنُهُمُ النَّاعُونَ)) البقرة: 159

“Those who conceal the clear (Signs) We have sent down, and the Guidance, after We have made it clear for the people in the Book — on them shall be Allah's curse and the curse — of those entitled to curse” (2: 159). Is there severe punishment than damnation which translates into exclusion and expulsion from Allah’s (SWT) Mercy?

Evidently these verses are a warning from the Creator (SWT) for those scholars who conceal what the Prophets have conveyed by deceiving and misguiding others through the corruption of their religion. Those who flattered the enemies of Allah (SWT) and his Prophet (saw) and flocked to meet their bishops and priests during interfaith conferences whose objectives are obscuring and merging religions, at the expense of the religion Islam. Yes dear scholars, yes our religion calls for compassion and forgiveness in the form of mercy to humankind, but only in condition that our holy sites are not violated, our honor not debased, and are not oppressed as we are by them today.

Dear scholars, this religion is in your trust until the Day of Judgment; a day when wealth, status and children will not be beneficial. What will be of benefit is upholding what you have entrusted with, giving its dues and rights and following the example of the prophets whose voices reverberated and publicized the truth without fear of being blamed, or oppressed by an unjust ruler, or threatened by an envious disbeliever.

Dear scholars, we are the women of Palestine; the women of the Holy Land; your sisters in the land of Masjid Al-Aqsa. We ask you in the name of what Allah (SWT) has entrusted you with to fulfill your duties towards us. We appeal to you for aid. We are calling for help. Please fulfill the will of Allah (SWT) by rising up wholeheartedly to advocate for Palestine and its people. This is your responsibility towards us, and it is our right preserved in you through Allah (SWT). This neither a favor nor a grace that you have over us, but an obligation that you will be held accountable for in front of the Lord of the worlds should you fail. Allah (SWT) says,

((وَإِنْ اسْتَنْصَرُوكُمْ فِي الدِّينِ فَعَلَيْكُمُ النَّصْرُ إِلَّا عَلَىٰ قَوْمٍ بَيْنَكُمْ وَبَيْنَهُم مِّيثَاقٌ وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ)) الأنفال: 72

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“If they seek your aid in religion it is your duty to help them, except against a people with whom ye have a treaty of mutual alliance: and (remember) Allah seeth all that ye do” (8:72). Are we the people of Palestine not your brothers and sisters in faith? Are we not the sons and daughters of Islam? Are we not part of the Islamic nation? Is not our blood your blood? Our honor your honor? And our land your land? Isn't Jerusalem where our Prophet (saw) journeyed to, and ascended from to the highest heaven? Isn't it the source of blessings for its precincts? Allah (SWT) says,

1. (سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَى الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنْ آيَاتِنَا إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ) الإسراء: 1.

Glory to (Allah) Who did take His Servant for Journey by night from the Sacred Mosque to the Farthest Mosque whose precincts We did bless— in order that We might show him some of Our Signs: for He is the one Who heareth and seeth (all things)” (17:1).

Isn't Jerusalem your first Qiblah (direction to which Muslims turn to in prayer)? Allah (SWT) says,

(وَمَا جَعَلْنَا الْقِبْلَةَ الَّتِي كُنْتَ عَلَيْهَا إِلَّا لِنُعَلِّمَ مَنْ يَتَّبِعُ الرَّسُولَ مِمَّنْ يَنْقَلِبُ عَلَى عَقْبَيْهِ) البقرة: 143

“. . . and We appointed the Qiblah to which thou was used to, only to test those who followed the Messenger from those who would turn on their heels (from the faith)” (2:143).

Isn't the Aqsa the third mosque on earth that should be journeyed to? The Messenger of Allah (saw): “There are only three mosques that travelling specifically to them is recommended: The Holy Masjid -in Makkah - and the Masjid of Rassulul-Allah (saw) (the Prophet's Mosque) and the Farthest Masjid (Al-Aqsa) in Jerusalem” (Narrated by Al-Bukhari 1189, and Muslim 1397, in the words of Al-Bukhari).

Isn't the Aqsa the second mosque that was established on earth so Allah (SWT) may be remembered and worshipped in, after the sacred mosque in Mecca? As narrated by the companion Abu Dhar who asked Prophet Muhammad (saw):

“O Messenger of Allah! Which mosque was built first?” He replied, “Al-Masjid al-Haram.” I asked, “Which (was built) next?” He replied, “Al-Masjid al-Aqsa.” I said, “What was the period of construction between the two?” He said, “Forty years” (Al-Bukhari).

Nowadays, too often the remembrance of Allah (SWT) and prayer in the Masjed Al-Aqsa are prohibited. Rather it is insulted and trodden upon on a daily basis by the Jews whose aim is to destroy it so as to build their so called Solomon's Temple on its ruins. Al-Aqsa's doors are shut in the face of unarmed Palestinian Muslims, their blood is shed at its doors in broad daylight in public view and within it Muslims are violated at the hands of the unjust Jews with no savior in sight. Allah (SWT) says,

(وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ مَنَعَ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ أَنْ يُذَكَّرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ وَسَعَى فِي خَرَابِهَا) البقرة: 114

“And who is more unjust than he who forbids that in places for the worship of Allah His name should be celebrated? —Whose zeal is (in fact) to ruin them?” (2:114). Is it not a great injustice, in the eyes of Allah (SWT), to prevent Muslims from their places of worship? So, imagine Muslims if that mosque is the blessed Aqsa mosque.

Is not the Holy Rock, housed in the blessed Aqsa Mosque (The Dome of the Holy Rock), the source of the shout on Day of Judgment, after which the Angle Israfeel who will be perched on top of it will call out, “Flock to the reckoning O servants of Allah. Allah (SWT) says,

((وَأَسْمِعْ يَوْمَ يُنَادِي الْمُنَادِي مِنْ مَكَانٍ قَرِيبٍ ﴿٤٢﴾ يَوْمَ يَسْمَعُونَ الصَّيْحَةَ بِالْحَقِّ ذَلِكَ يَوْمُ الْخُرُوجِ)) سورة ق: 41 - 42

“. . .and listen for the Day when the Caller will call out from a place quite near. The Day when they will hear a (mighty) Blast in (very) Truth: that will be the Day of Resurrection.” (50:41 - 42).

Is not Jerusalem the land of congregation and resurrection? Is not prayer in the Aqsa mosque equivalent to one thousand prayers offered elsewhere? Maymunah Bint Sa'd (raa) reports that she asked the Prophet (saw), “O Messenger of Allah, give us a pronouncement about Al-Quds (Jerusalem)”. The Prophet (saw) replied, "It is the land where they will be gathered (Al-Mahshar) and resurrected (Al-Manshar). Journey and pray in it for a prayer in it is equivalent to one thousand prayers offered elsewhere" (Ahmad, Tabarani).

Is it not permissible for an individual to leave Jerusalem with the intention for pilgrimage or smaller pilgrimage (Umrah) to the Sacred Mosque, and if done so Paradise becomes compulsory on him and his past and future sins are forgiven? The Messenger of Allah (saw) said, “Whoever sets forth for pilgrimage or lesser pilgrimage (Umrah) from the Mosque of Aqsa to the Sacred Mosque Allah forgives his previous and future sins;” and in another narration “Paradise becomes compulsory on him” (Narrated by Abu Dawud).

Isn't the Aqsa Mosque where the Prophet (saw) advised his companions to be close to after his death? As mentioned by Ahmed on the authority of Dhee Al-Asabe'e, “I said O Messenger of Allah, if we are tested by living after your death, so where do you order us to go? He said, ‘Head to the land of Al Aqssa Mosque (Jerusalem) for Allah may grant you offspring who go and come to the mosque there?’”

Isn't Jerusalem the land in which Allah's (SWT) prophets resided? Isn't it the blessed land that the Prophets and their sincere believers who followed them inherited from Allah (SWT)? Even our Prophet Muhammad (saw) inherited it from the Prophets on the day of Al-Israa and Mi'raaj (the Night Journey and Ascension to the heavens) on the day when he led in prayer all the Messengers and Prophets from the beginning of time. The Messenger of Allah (saw) said, “A man is not led in prayer in his property except by his permission” (Imam Muslim). There is in this prophetic saying clear evidence that our Prophet of Allah (saw) has sovereignty on the land of Jerusalem after the Prophets, for he led them all in the blessed prayer. Aren't you Muslims the heirs of this great religion of Islam and this blessed land from the Seal of all Prophets and Messengers? If so, then how can you allow your rightful inheritance--Al-Aqsa-- to be disgraced and humiliated? O Muslims how can you accept it when you are the best of nations brought to all people. Allah (SWT) says,

((كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ)) آل عمران: 110

“Ye are the best of peoples, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong, and believing in Allah” (3:110).

Have you forgotten the famous words of Salahuddin Al-Ayoubi: “How can I smile while the Aqsa Mosque is in captivity?” A statement he made at a time when Al- Aqsa was under the oppression of Christian occupation (The crusaders). He was neither appeased nor pleased until he freed the Aqsa and its people from the clutches of the unjust Christians and returned it to its rightful owners—the Muslims.

Have you forgotten the conquest of the Prince of the Believers (Amir Al-Mu'Meneen) Umar Ibn Al-Khattab when he stood by the Aqsa Mosque and requested that Bilal bin Rabah stand on an elevated place? Accordingly, Bilal and the whole of the Muslim army stood on a mountain that looked down on the Aqsa mosque. Then Umar said to Bilal, “Call out for prayer O Bilal.’ Bilal responded, ‘O Prince of the believers I do not do so for anyone after the Messenger of Allah.’ So Umar said, ‘This is a day that pleases the Messenger of Allah.’ Is there among you O dear Scholars anyone who wants to please the Messenger of Allah today by working towards liberating the land of Al-Aqsa and its people? To work for the Mosque to regain its deserved esteemed status on earth? Isn't there among you those who yearn for the Aqsa Mosque to be returned to the possession of Muslims? Would the Messenger of Allah (saw) be pleased with the state of affairs today? Does our condition please you O dear scholars? Have you forgotten O dear Scholars Allah's words,

((والمؤمنون والمؤمنات بعضهم أولياء بعض)) التوبة: 71

“The Believers men and women, are protectors one of another” (9:71). Have you forgotten the saying of the Messenger of Allah (saw): “A Muslim is a brother of a Muslim. He neither oppresses him nor disgraces him, nor does he hand him over to one who does him wrong.” (Narrated by Muslim)

And the saying of the Prophet (saw),

“If a Muslim is being insulted and degraded and his honor besmirched somewhere and another Muslim leaves him helpless, Allah would leave the latter helpless on occasions when he would need help. And if any Muslim helps him in when he is insulted and degraded, Allah shall help him when he would need help” (Abu Da'ud on the authority of Ahmed).

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O dear scholars, if you are unaware of our current condition here is a letter from us detailing it. We want to tell you that our sanctities have been violated; so has our honor and that of our men, children and even seniors have been downtrodden. Our blood has been shed for no reason, our houses demolished over our heads, our mosques destroyed in front of our very own eyes and yours, and our sacred places at the hands of the occupying haters have been transgressed and violated. This blessed land of Islam is now full of thousands and thousands of widows and orphans, homeless families who are housed out in the open, and many an innocent soul has been thrown in prison. Let's not forget the tens and thousands of wounded, disabled and sick who have been deprived of basic medical care. Even trees, thousands of them uprooted. Many lands have been stolen and burned down, and livelihoods cut off, terrible massacres of innocents committed and the list can go on and on.

O scholars since the dissolving of the Caliphate State and Islamic leadership, the land of Palestine to this day is suffering of bloodshed with no savior in sight. Does it not suffice you, O scholars and Muslims, all these souls that have been lost, and this blood that has been shed? This sacred land is soaked with blood. Does it not suffice you that the Aqsa suffers from blatant enmity, and its very foundations are being shaken by the tunnels that are being dug beneath it? Does it not suffice you the state of Al-Aqsa as it is now-- broken and sad? By Allah (SWT) the Aqsa today is lonely and sad. It is a stranger to its own people who do not respond to its calls for help. Allah (SWT) is sufficient for us and He is the best Trustee.

I ask you O scholars, by Allah (SWT) under whose care do you leave us? To whom do you leave us? To whom do you leave us? To an oppressive, hateful, arrogant, tyrannical enemy who is passionate about shedding our blood. An enemy whose aim is to wipe us off of the face of the blessed land of Al-Aqsa? Has not the Qur'an made it clear to you who the Jews are? Has not the Qur'an told you that they are the strongest among men in enmity to the believers? Allah (SWT) says,

((لَتَجِدَنَّ أَشَدَّ النَّاسِ عَدَاوَةً لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا الْيَهُودَ وَالَّذِينَ أَشْرَكُوا)) المائدة: 82

“Strongest among men in enmity to the Believers wilt thou find the Jews and Pagans” (5:82).

Who are you leaving us to? Are you leaving us to rulers with hearts of stone or harder than stones? Or to rulers who are strongest in enmity to the believers, merciful to disbelievers who destroy us and our religion? In whose care are you leaving us?

Dear scholars this is news of our condition that we now place in your hands. We bear witness in front of Allah (SWT), ourselves and you that we have conveyed our condition to you. Should you choose to respond then there is no fear for you on the day YOU meet Allah (SWT), but if you languor and neglect this duty that you owe us you harm but yourselves and not Allah. It will not protect you from the punishment of Allah (SWT), for He (SWT) is not heedless of what the hypocrites and oppressors perpetrate. Remember O scholars that if you refuse, you commit sin and betray your religion and your promise to Allah (SWT). Know that Allah (SWT) will bring forth other scholars who love Him (SWT) and He (SWT) loves them, and who fear nothing in the way of Allah (SWT) but solely seek his pleasure. Allah (SWT) says,

((يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مَنْ يَرْتَدَّ مِنْكُمْ عَنْ دِينِهِ فَسَوْفَ يَأْتِي اللَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ يُحِبُّهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَهُ أَذِلَّةٌ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَعِزَّةٌ عَلَى الْكَافِرِينَ يُجَاهِدُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَا يَخَافُونَ لَوْمَةَ لَائِمٍ ذَلِكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ يُؤْتِيهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ)) المائدة: 54

“O ye who believe! if any from among you turn back from his Faith, soon will Allah produce a people whom He will love as they will love Him,— lowly with the Believers, mighty against the rejecters, fighting in the Way of Allah, and never afraid of the reproaches of such as find fault. That is the Grace of Allah, which He will bestow on whom He pleaseth: and Allah encompasseth all and He knoweth all things” (5:54).

O Allah bear witness that we have conveyed the message.

O Allah You are the Helper in all that we have faced. We place our trust in You, for to You all things return. You are sufficient for us and You are the best Trustee.

The Muslim Women of Palestine.

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