

Ramadan

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Ramadan comes every year like a reminder. Muslims wake before dawn, fast through the day, and gather at night to pray. But for us, this month carries a weight that goes beyond personal devotion. It carries the weight of Palestine, East-Turkistan, Sudan, Yemen and places we don't even know.

When the Muslim in the west sits at the Iftar table and reaches for his first sip of water, somewhere in Gaza a family is doing the same, if they are lucky enough to have food at all. This reality does not leave the conscience of the fasting believer. It sits with him through hunger, through prayer, through the long nights of Ramadan. Palestine is always there.

And so the question rises, as it does every year: where is the protection? Where is the power that once stood for this land and its people?

Allah said in the Quran:

وَٱعْتَصِمُوا۟ بِحَبْلِ ٱللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا۟ ۚ وَٱذْكُرُوا۟ نِعْمَتَ ٱللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ إِذْ كُنتُمْ أَعْدَآءً فَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِكُمْ فَأَصْبَحْتُم بِنِعْمَتِهِۦٓ إِخْوَٰنًا وَكُنتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِّنَ ٱلنَّارِ فَأَنقَذَكُم مِّنْهَا ۗ كَذَٰلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ ٱللَّهُ لَكُمْ ءَايَٰتِهِۦ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ

And hold firmly together to the rope of Allah and do not be divided. Remember Allah's favour upon you when you were enemies, then He united your hearts, so you—by His grace—became brothers. And you were at the brink of a fiery pit and He saved you from it. This is how Allah makes His revelations clear to you, so that you may be ˹rightly˺ guided.[1]

This verse was not revealed for one generation. It is a command that stands over every era, including ours. And yet the Muslim world today is split into over fifty nation-states, each with its own flag, its own borders, its own interests. Palestine pays the price of that division every single day.

The Ottoman Khilafah governed Palestine for centuries. It was not a perfect system, as no human institution is, but it was a shield. When the Khilafah fell in 1924, Palestine was left exposed. Within decades, the Nakba came. Hundreds of thousands of Palestinians were displaced, their villages erased, their keys kept as a memory of a home they have never stopped waiting to return to.

The absence of the Khilafah and the suffering of Palestine are bound together. The Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him, made the bond between Muslims impossible

[1] Surah Al-Imran, 3:103

to ignore, and he said: *"The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion and sympathy are just like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever".*[2]

If the Ummah is one body, **then Palestine is an open wound**. And a body does not heal a wound by looking away from it. It heals by responding, by mobilizing, by refusing to rest until the pain is gone.

Ramadan is the month of conviction. It is the month when the believer strips away comfort and confronts truth. The Prophet, peace be upon him, also said: "*Verily, the leader is only a shield behind whom they fight, and he protects them. If he commands the fear of Allah Almighty and justice, he will have a reward. If he commands something else, it will be held against him.*"[3]

There is no Imam today standing between Palestine and its oppressors. There is no Khilafah raising an army in defense of Al-Aqsa. The Muslims pray, donate, and weep, and all of that matters, but it is not enough when the cause demands a political and military body capable of acting.

The call for the Khilafah is a vision for a future where no Muslim land is left without defense, where no Muslim people are left without a voice, and where the crescent rising over Ramadan also rises over a free Jerusalem.

Allah promised in the Quran:

وَعَدَ ٱللَّهُ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُواْ ٱلصَّٰلِحَٰتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِى ٱلْأَرْضِ كَمَا ٱسْتَخْلَفَ ٱلَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ ٱلَّذِى ٱرْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُم مِّنۢ بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا ۚ يَعْبُدُونَنِى لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِى شَيْـًٔا ۚ وَمَن كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَٰلِكَ فَأُوْلَٰٓئِكَ هُمُ ٱلْفَٰسِقُونَ

Allah has promised those of you who believe and do good that He will certainly make them successors in the land, as He did with those before them; and will surely establish for them their faith which He has chosen for them; and will indeed change their fear into security—˹provided that˺ they worship Me, associating nothing with Me. But whoever disbelieves after this ˹promise˺, it is they who will be the rebellious. [4]

The promise is there. The obligation is clear. Ramadan is the time to remember both.

[2] Riyad as-Salihin 224
[3] Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim 1841
[4] Surah An-Nur, 24:55

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