

## PALESTINE! WHAT SHOULD I DO?

"Allāh has promised those of you who have Imaan and who do good actions that He will definitely make them successors (of the rulers) on earth just as He had made those before them successors. And He will certainly grant (great) strength to the Deen that He has chosen for them and will certainly replace their fear with peace (on condition that) they worship Me and do not ascribe any partner to Me." (Al-Nur)

Rasūlullāh asid: "The believers are like a single human body. If the head is in pain, the whole-body experiences sleeplessness and fever."

From this Hadīth, we learn that every believer is connected in a special way. The fibre of Imān is woven into the Ummah in such a way that we are all connected and if any one of us suffers any difficulty we all become restless with the discomfort.

The pain felt by our fellow Muslims upon being torn away from loved ones, upon being deprived of their civil liberties as Human Beings, upon being deprived of Basic Human Rights, upon being beaten and tear gassed while in Salaah and many more atrocities causes a pain that we all share. We cannot rest in peace oblivious to the plight of our fellow brethren.

1. The unfolding situation in Palestine and its escalation to unprecedented levels of abuse is a matter of very serious concern. Islam's third Holiest site is being defended with the blood and souls of our families in Palestine.

The anguish and pain of our brothers, sisters and children cannot go unnoticed. We cannot continue our lives as normal without contributing in our little way to bring this oppression to a halt.

2. In China, the cry of our Uighur Muslim community is going unheard. Daily reports highlight their desperate plight to just hold onto Īmān after being subjected to inhumane atrocities aimed at removing them from Islām.

3. The list would not be complete without mention of our fellow brothers and sisters in Africa and the Middle East, in particular Syria and Yemen. In short Our brothers and sisters have been subjected to years and years of ruthless tyranny and inhumane living conditions.

Can we sit by and unwittingly contribute to their misery? Our actions collectively determine these conditions.

## How are WE different?

Let the extent of our concern not be confined to posting forbidden pictures on social media or participating in mass demonstrations. Fund-raising campaigns may provide temporary relief to those they reach, but these will certainly not alleviate their suffering totally. Non-Muslims are limited to daily posts, chatting on social media, raising awareness, signing petitions, demonstrating and wearing t-shirts!

But WE can stand in front of our Rabb in the middle of the night and really make a difference.

## What should I do to really make a difference?

1. Wake up for Tahajjud Salaat. If we really desire something, then it will be easy to wake up for tahajjud to obtain it. Our brethren desperately Need Allah Ta'ālā's help. Our Dua at Tahajjud is an arrow that will not miss its target.

2. Make dua to Allah seeking His forgiveness from our sins and the sins of the Ummah. Cry and plead with Allāh Ta'ālā to forgive and overlook the faults of the Ummah of Nabi <sup>see</sup> and grant relief.

3. Sincerely ask Allah Ta'ālā to aid our brothers, to alleviate their suffering and to keep them steadfast upon Imaan.

4. Make sincere Taubah, i.e. repent to Allāh Ta'ālā, and mend our ways. We cannot continue committing Harām and inviting the wrath of Allah Ta'ālā. Sinning weakens our Duā. It is our collective doing that invites these conditions and we should realise that we are contributing to the misery of our fellow brethren by persisting in disobedience. As an ummah we have a collective responsibility.

- 5. Perform our five daily Salāh diligently and refrain from all Harām.
- 6. Give Sadaqah daily, even if it be a little. Sadaqah cools the anger of Allāh Ta'ālā. (Tirmidhī)
- 7. Make an effort to recite HasbunAllaahu wa ni'mal wakeel at least 300 times daily.
- 8. Pedal Jamaats should be sent out as they draw the mercy of Allah Ta'ālā.

اللَّهُمَّ أَلِّفْ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِنَا، وَأَصْلِحْ ذَاتَ بَيْنِنَا، وَاهْدِنَا سُبُلَ السَّلَامِ، وَنَجِّنَا مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَجْعَلُكَ فِي نُحُورِهِمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شُرُورِهِمْ

O Allah, unite our hearts, mend our mutual relationships, guide us to the path of righteousness and protect us from darkness by guiding us towards the light.

O Allah, we call upon You to defend us against them and we seek Your protection against their evil. Aameen

6 Shawwāl 1442 / 19 May 2021 A0017