



WIFĀQUL 'ULAMĀ (SA)

ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICAN 'ULAMA

**ASPIRING TO PRESERVE THE ESSENCE OF SUNNAH**



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## Don't Close My Masjid!

*Who is a greater oppressor than one who prevents the name of Allah Ta'āla being taken in the Masājid and attempts to keep them desolate. Such people have no right to enter the Masājid except with fear. For them is disgrace and humiliation in this world and they will suffer a tremendous punishment in the hereafter.*

*(al-Baqarah 114)*

We record our disapproval and determined protest against the closure of our Masājid. We note with absolute disdain that while the Masājid are forced to close, life is allowed to go on as normal in many other spheres. This is referred to in the Qur'an Kareem where Allah the Majestic confirms that there can be no greater oppression than preventing the slaves of Allah Ta'āla from the house of Allah Ta'āla.

When the mushrikeen of Makkah prevented Nabi ﷺ from entering the Haram at the time of Hudaibiyah, Allah Ta'āla described them as the most oppressive people and chastised them with disgrace in this world and punishment in the Ākhirah.

Let it not be that we are instrumental in its closure.

Nabi Kareem ﷺ said: He who wishes to meet Allah Ta'āla tomorrow (Qiyāmah) as a Muslim, should perform his Salāh in the places where the Azān is called out (i.e. the masjid). Verily Allah Ta'āla has prescribed for your Nabi ﷺ certain practices which encompass guidance. This is from those practices. If any of you choose to perform your Salāh at home like those who lag behind, then you will be guilty of leaving out a Sunnah of your Nabi ﷺ. And if you leave out the Sunnah of your Nabi ﷺ, you will surely go astray.

*(Muslim 654)*

Our precedent is the manner in which Nabi ﷺ and Sahabah ﷺ dealt with similar situations. The Sahabah ﷺ were faced with infinitely more severe conditions than our own. How did they respond to it?

We refer to two such incidents here that can serve as guidance for us.

### **Plague of Amwās**

During the Khilāfah of Umar ﷺ, a severe plague broke out in the area of Amwās, close to Palestine. A large number of people, estimated at 30,000 perished in this plague, amongst whom were many Sahabah ﷺ. The Sahabah ﷺ however continued to perform Salāh in the Masjid and even tended to the sick themselves.

(Adapted from al-Bidāyah wan Nihāyah 4/77, & Kashful Astār 3042)

### **Epidemic in Madinah Munawwarah**

Sayyidina Anas bin Maalik ﷺ narrates: "When Nabi ﷺ arrived in Madeenah Munawwarah there was a severe fever with which people had been affected. Nabi ﷺ entered the Masjid. People were constrained to perform salāh while sitting (because of being weakened by severe fever). Nabi ﷺ said: "The reward of a person performing salāh while sitting is half of that of a person standing in salāh." Thereafter the people took pains in exerting themselves to perform salāh while standing.

(Musnad Ahmad, 12395)

There is no reason whatsoever to close the Masjid. The Ummah has endured many trials in its history. The Masjid was never closed for any reason.

The ease with which we could visit the Masjid freely is become a fading memory. We have had different levels of restrictions on our Masājid. We should ponder what our response to these restrictions were. Did we feel the same anguish we felt when we were prevented from earning our daily bread?

It is not becoming of a true Muslim to be at ease while the Masjid is closed.

## What should I do?

- Have true remorse in the heart for not appreciating the bounty of the Masjid.
- Make a firm resolution to perform our 5 daily Salāh in the masjid according to Sunnah.
- Turn to Allah Ta'āla in repentance for all our sins.
- Carry out good deeds to draw the mercy of Allah Ta'āla.
- Make dua to Allah Ta'āla to remove the current difficult circumstances, grant us the ability to return to the Masjid and allow us to uphold His Deen like our pious predecessors.
- Abundant recitation of the duā of Yunus Alayhis Salām:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ

Lāilaha illa anta Subhānaka Inni Kuntu minadh dhālimeen

- Excessive recitation of Durūd Tunjīna. (click [HERE](#) for a copy)
- Ensure that we make Tāleem of Fazāil A'māl and Fazāil Sadaqāt in our homes daily.
- Sadaqah cools the anger of Allah Ta'ala. Give Sadaqah daily even if it be a little.
- Support any permissible initiatives like petitions etc. to have our Masājid opened.

O Allah open the doors of your mercy and do not deprive us of the great bounty of performing Salāh in Your house. Āmeen