

Palestine, a new onslaught!

Can I make a difference?

Many years ago, on the 17th of Ramadhān, a decisive moment in Islamic history unfolded. Our beloved Nabī Muhammad Sallallāhu ‘Alayhi Wa Sallam and his noble companions Radhiyallāhu ‘Anhum arrived at Badr to face a formidable army from Makkah. Outnumbered and ill-equipped, with approximately 300 Sahābah Radhiyallāhu ‘Anhum, Sayyiduna Rasūlullāh sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam sought assistance from Allāh Ta’ālā, the Controller of the worlds.

As the battle loomed, Sayyidunā Rasūlullāh sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam retreated to a small tent overlooking the battlefield, where he Sallallāhu ‘Alayhi Wa Sallam engaged in fervent Du’ā, imploring Allāh Ta’ālā for divine intervention and assistance.

Hadrat ‘Ali radhiyallāhu ‘anhu relates: “On the day of Badr, I faced the enemy for a little while and then hurried back to check on Rasūlullāh sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam. I found him sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam prostrating before Allāh Ta’ālā, repeating the words ‘Yā Hayyu Yā Qayyūm! (‘O The Living, O The Controller,’) and nothing more. I returned to the battlefield, engaging in battle once more. Then I went back again to check on him and he was still in the state of Sajdah, saying the same words. I returned to the battlefield once again, then came back to him and found him again in Sajdah, saying the same. He continued in this state, repeating these words until Allāh Ta’ālā had bestowed the Muslims with victory” (Hākim, 904)

Many years later, in the blessed month of Ramadhān, a Palestinian family, on the verge of starvation, wakes up to partake of whatever meagre provisions they have for Sehri. Abruptly, the tranquility is shattered by the deafening roar of jets and bombs, leaving devastation in their wake. Families are shattered, innocent children torn away from their mothers, and wives from their husbands. The Sehri left unfinished; they spend the day in hunger and thirst, searching for the remains of their loved ones. The cowardly Israeli army, backed by the ‘supposed superpowers’ of the world, in desperation, has returned to callously attack our Palestinian brothers and sisters.

Where is the Ummah of Nabī Sallallāhu ‘Alayhi Wa Sallam?

Let alone coming to their aid physically, financially or even in support, is there anyone to even make Du’ā for them?

How many minutes, let alone hours, have we devoted to Du’ā? More than half of

Ramadhān has passed, and many special moments for Du’ā have elapsed. Will we continue to ignore their suffering, as if we share no bond with them? Will our Sehri and Ifṭār remain unchanged by their struggles? Will our Eid celebrations continue with indifference and even sins like inappropriate dressing, intermingling, etc, unaffected by their plight?

Will we continue to ignore their suffering, as if we share no bond with them?

Ultimately, the promise of Allāh Ta’ālā is with us: “Verily Allāh Ta’ālā is with those who believe.” (Al-Qur’ān 8:19), “If Allāh Ta’ālā helps you, no one will ever overpower you! (Al-Qur’ān 3:160)”

The month of Ramadhān offers many opportunities for the acceptance of Du’ā. We should resolve to make every attempt to make sincere Du’ā for all our brethren in Palestine, Syria and wherever else they may be.

In one Hadith, we are taught that the Du’ā of a fasting person is never rejected! (Tirmidhī, 3598). The few minutes before Ifṭār should be dedicated to Du’ā. Nabī sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam said: “The fasting person’s du’a at the time of iftar is not rejected.” (Sunan Ibn Majah, 1753)

Similarly, the time of Sehri, which coincides with the last third of the night, is another time for the definite acceptance of Du’ā. (Bukharī, 1145)

Alhamdulillah, many young and innocent children in our homes are observing fasts. Let us encourage them to make Du’ā, for their pure and unblemished Du’ā is sure to gain favour with Allāh Ta’ālā.

We owe it to them to act. A few days of Ramadhān remain; let us not waste this opportunity. Let’s make the most of it and take a decision from Allāh Ta’ālā in their favour. Every passing moment is a chance to make a difference.

May Allah, the Almighty, allow us not to remain indifferent to their anguish and grant us Taufiq to emulate the Du’ā of the Nabī Muhammad sallallāhu ‘alayhi wa sallam at Badr.

May Allāh Ta’ālā free Al Aqsa and the Holy Lands from the clutches of these oppressors. Āmīn.

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