

The Ahkaam Of Zulm (*Oppression*) ***In Islaam***

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Introduction

These are undoubtedly difficult times through which mankind is passing. The race for leadership of the world and the Arms Race between the superpowers has led to scientists developing advanced technology and nuclear capability. Man has looked to space in order to control and maintain power on earth. Hand in hand with the escalation of war has come occupation of foreign lands, mass destruction, genocide on an unparalleled scale, exploitation, fraud and deceit. With the decline of moral values humans have become no more than commodities. In today's society paedophilia, homosexuality, lesbianism, adultery, fornication and pornography are the norm and they are able to be spread as quickly as the speed of light through the Internet. With these, of course, have come widespread fatal diseases. With prisons being full, millions of criminals walk free and oppressors and oppression has become an aspect of everyday life. Today one cannot walk in the streets or drive one's car without fearing attack.

General anarchy is widespread within all societies today, though it is particularly evident in the western world, although they may attempt to conceal this image under an overall glossy media-centred Hollywood and Bollywood type culture.

Corruption has been established in the whole of our lives: usury, gambling, monopolisation and feudalism have become the pillars of the economy. Divorce, abuse and abortion have become the pillars of the social system. False accusation, fabricating evidence, bribery and media distortion have become the pillars of the judiciary. Colonisation, occupation, exploitation and international terrorism have become the pillars of the foreign policy. Superstition, idol worship, sex, money and intellectual elitism, have become the new gods.

The cause of this corruption is man. He oppresses himself and others and transgresses the bounds set by his creator. Verily the corruption has manifested itself everywhere: in the land and the sea as Allah (swt) has stated clearly in the Qur'an, by what man legislates with his hands. And

Allah (swt) will let man taste some of what he commits so that he may perchance return to his Lord.

The Pillars of Oppression

To understand the topic of oppression, we can divide the subject matter into 5 areas;

1. Al-Zulm: Oppression.
2. Al-Zaalem: the Oppressor
3. Al-Mu'aawin A'la Al-Zulm: the Collaborator
4. Al-Saaket Ala Al-Zulm: The one who is Silent about the oppressors or oppression.
5. Al-Mazloun: the Oppressed.

1) AL-ZULM (OPPRESSION)

The Meaning of Al-Zulm in Arabic:

The word Al-Zulm (oppression) is opposite to the word Al-A'del (justice) and is derived linguistically from the word Zalama which means the following:

Injustice, Darkness, Aggression, Doing the Inappropriate and Preventing a right etc.

The Definition of Al-Zulm or Oppression In Juristic Terminology:

Al-I'tidaa Ala Al-Huquq Bedoun Wajih Shar'ie - Aggression against Rights without a Divine Permit.

Examples of Oppression: Sexual Relationship between a man and a woman is no different to that between a husband and wife except that the former is Sifaah i.e. without a marriage contract meaning that there is no divine permit and it is therefore aggression as far as Islam is concerned, whereas the latter is Nikkah i.e. relationship with a marriage contract and has a divine permit and is therefore submission to God as far as Islam is concerned.

NB: The only One who has the power to define Rights, Obligation, Prohibited, Lawful, Unlawful, Aggression, crime, good, nice, bad or evil is Allah (swt) and not man.

The Types of Rights or Al-Huqouq:

1. Haq ul-Allah or Rights of Allah: e.g. Legislation, Worship, etc.
2. Haq ul-A'bid or Rights of the Servant: e.g. Protection of his/her life, money etc.
3. Haq ul-Ummah or Rights of Muslims: e.g. Unity, Leadership, Authority etc.
4. Haq ul-A'aam or Public Rights: e.g. Protecting the environment, public property, animals, rivers etc.
5. Haq ul-Imaam or Rights of the state: e.g. Obeying the rules and regulations of the state i.e. Khaleef.

NB. For detailed evidences of the above items please contact the cultural committee of Al-Muhajiroun

2) AL-ZAALEM (THE OPPRESSOR)

The Meaning of Al-Zaalem (Oppressor) In Arabic:

Al-Mu'ladi: Aggressor, Al-Jaa'er: Unjust, Al-Ghashim: The one who prevents a right and the one who does the inappropriate etc.

The Definition of Al-Zaalem (Oppressor) In Juristic Terminology:

Al-Mu'tadi A1a Al-Huqouq Bedoun Wajih Shar'ie - The Aggressor against Rights without a Divine Permit

Examples of those who oppress: The UN, IMF and aggressive rulers such as Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Netanyahu of occupied Palestine, Mubarak of Egypt etc.

The Types of Oppressors:

The Oppressor could be of one of the following Categories:

1. Al-Hukkaam Wa Al-U'mara': Rulers & Governors e.g. Fahd, Mubarak, Clinton, Yeltsin, Netanyahu etc.
2. Al-U'lamaa': Scholars e.g. Muftis of Kufr Regimes, Government Preachers etc.

3. Al-Afraad: Individuals e.g. Parents, Teachers, Employers, Employees, Husbands, Wives, etc.

4. Al-Jama'at Wa Al-Ahzaab: Groups & Parties e.g. Nationalistic Groups, Partisanship etc.

3) AL-MU'AAWIN (THE COLLABORATOR)

The Meaning Of Al-Mu'aawin (Collaborator) In Arabic:

AL-Munaaser: Supporter, Al-Musaa'ed: Assistant, Al-Mu'aazer: Helper, Al-Mu'aieed: Propagator, Al-Mumawell: Funder, Az-Zaheer: Back-up, Al-Muta'amer: conspirator Al-Mushajji': Motivator. Etc.

The Meaning Of Al-Mu'aawin A'la Al-Zulm (Collaborator) In Islam:

The Collaborator is with the oppressor in his aggression. In the collection of Ibn Majah in the book of Al-Ahkam, Hadith no.2320, it is narrated upon the authority of Ibn Omar that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: "*Whoever assists, in any dispute, in oppression or collaborates with the oppressor he will continue with the anger of Allah until he perishes (dies).*"

The Types of collaborators:

The collaborator could be in one of the following Categories:

1. As the Voice of the oppressors: e.g. Journalists, Groups, Government preachers and Intellectuals etc.
2. As the Hands of the Oppressors: e.g. Soldiers, assistants, Governors and Ministers etc.
3. As the Eyes of the Oppressors: e.g. intelligence, Spies, Agents and Reporters etc.

4) AL-SAAKET (SILENCE)

The Meaning Of Al-Saaket A'la Al-Zulm (The One Who Is Silent About Oppression & Oppressors) In Arabic:

Al-Muqquer Ala Al-Zulm: The one who consents about Oppression. Al-Muhmel U-Zaalem: The one who Ignores the Oppression and

Oppressors. Al-Lamubaali Lil-Zulm: The one who does not bother about Oppression and Oppressors.

The Meaning Of Al-Saaket A'la Al-Zulm: (The One Who Is Silent About Oppression) In Islam:

It is narrated in the book of Ibn Hibbaan that the Messenger Muhammad (SAW) said: "If anyone of you sees an aggressive oppressive ruler who makes the unlawful lawful, who dishonours Allah Rights, who governs over people not by what Allah (swt) has revealed without rising against him with a word or action, Allah (swt) Will punish him with the oppressor" .

In addition, it is narrated by Al-Mu'jam Al-Kabeer of At-Tabarani that the Messenger Muhammad (SAW) said: "The one who is silent about Haq (rights) is a dumb Shaytaan."

The Types of Those Who Remain Silent:

The types of those who remain silent could be from one of the following Categories:

1. Those Silent about oppressive rulers. e.g. King Fahd, Al-Hasan of Morocco, Bin Ali of Tunisia etc.
2. Those Silent about oppressive rules eg. man-made law, Munkar, homosexuality etc.
3. Those Silent about oppressive individuals e.g. evil doers, corrupted people, criminals etc,
4. Those Silent about oppressive groups and organisations. e.g.. UN, IMF, MWL, OMC etc.
5. Those Silent about oppressive Government Scholars. e.g. Muftis of Kufr regimes etc.

5) AL-MAZLOUM (THE OPPRESSED)

The Meaning of Al-Mazloun (The Oppressed) In Arabic:

The one to whom injustice has been done.

The Definition of Al-Mazloun (The Oppressed) In Juristic Terminology:

The one whose divine rights have been under verbal or physical attack.

For example all mankind, since Islam is not being implemented anywhere.

The Types of Oppressed:

The types of those who are oppressed could be from one of the following Categories:

1. Individuals: e.g. sincere scholars, Mujahid, members of Islamic parties, Kurds, ordinary people etc.
2. Groups: e.g. sincere groups such as Al-Muhajiroun, Hizb ut-Tahrir, Jihadi movements, FIS, Hamas, Taleban etc.
3. People: e.g. The Muslim Ummah, minorities, those colonised prisoners, children of the world etc.
4. Countries: e.g. Palestine, Kashmir, Iraq, Bosnia, Chechnya, Rwanda, Somalia etc.
5. Schools of thought: e.g. Shi'ah of Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and the Sunni of Iran etc.

The Types of Oppression

Allah (swt) has given many examples of oppression and oppressors in the Qur'an. We list below just some of these:

1. Polytheism - Al-Shirk: Allah (swt) says: *"Polytheism or Al-Shirk is great oppression" [EMQ 31:13]*

2. Disbelief - Al-Kufr: Allah (swt) says: *"The Disbelievers are Oppressors" [EMQ 2:254]*

He (swt) also says: *"..Who does more oppression, than he who disbelieves in Allah.." [EMQ 6:21]*

3. Fabrication about God - Al-Kazib A'la Allah: Allah (swt) says: *"..Whosoever fabricates something attributing to Allah they are the oppressors" (e.g. The Kufar, The Jews etc..) [EMQ 3:94]*

4. Ruling by Man made laws - Al-Hukm Bil-Kufr: Allah (swt) says: *"..Whoever does not rule by what Allah has revealed, they are the oppressors.." [EMQ 5:45]*

5. Misquoting intentionally - Tabdeel Al-Qawol: Allah (swt) says: *"..The oppressors among them intentionally misquoted what has been sent to them so we sent to them punishment from heaven because they oppressed by misquoting.." [EMQ 2:59]*

6. Transgressing the limits Allah has set - Ta'addi Hudoud ul Allah: Allah (swt) says: *"..This is the limit of Allah and whoever transgresses the limit of Allah he oppresses himself.." [EMQ65:1]*

7. Sin - Ithem: Allah (swt) says: *"..We did not send a messenger but to be obeyed in accordance to the will of Allah, if only they had come to you to ask forgiveness because of their oppression i.e. Sin of disobeying you.." [EMQ 4:64]*

8. Inclining towards, supporting or accompanying Oppressors - Al-Rukoun: Allah (swt) says: *"..And do not incline towards nor support or accompany the oppressor or hell-fire will seize you.."* [EMQ 11:113]

9. Living amongst Oppressors - Al-Sakan fi Manazelhim: Allah (swt) says: *"..And you lived amongst or in the houses of the oppressors and we showed you what we dealt them, so take heed.."* [EMQ 14:45]

10. Taking Disbelievers as friends - Tawali Al-Kufaar: Allah (swt) says: *"..Do not take for protectors your brothers and fathers if they are Kaafir, and if any of you do you commit oppression."* [EMQ 9.23] and also *"Whoever takes Kufar as friends are oppressors."* [EMQ 60:9]

11. Misusing the property of Orphans - Aakil Ma'al Al-Yateem. Allah (swt) says: *"..Those who unjustly misuse the property of orphans, consume fire into their bodies.."* [EMQ 4:10]

12. Rejecting revelation - Al-Juhud Bil-Ayaat: Allah (swt) says: *"None but the oppressors reject our revelation.."* [EMQ 29:49]

13. Mocking, Slandering and using offensive Nicknames - A'dam Al-Tawuba: Allah (swt) says: *"..Do not make mockery of each other whether women to women or men to men, nor slander each other or use offensive nicknames, the evil action is to call someone a Kafir after he has believed; those who do no desist are oppressors.."* [EMQ 49:11]

14. Preventing remembrance of Allah in the Mosque - Mani' Al-I'Im Fil-Masaajid: Allah (swt) says: *"Who is a greater oppressor than he who forbids Zikr (i.e. studying, culturing, teaching and preaching) in the mosque.."* [EMQ 2:114]

15. Giving false Testimony - Katem Al-Shahadah: Allah (swt) says: *"..Who are more oppressive than those who hide the testimony."* [EMQ 2:140]

16. Lying about Revelation - Iddi'aa Al-Wahi: Allah (swt) says: *"..Who is more of an oppressor than the one who lies about Allah or says: 'I have received revelation' when he has received none.."* [EMQ 6:93]

17. Misguiding the People -Tadhlell Al-Naas: Allah (swt) says: "*..Who does more oppression than he who leads the people astray.*"[EMQ 6:144]

18. Murdering - Al-Qatel: Allah (swt) says: "*..If anyone is killed unlawfully the oppressed's family will have the right to forgive or ask for blood money.*" [EMQ 17:33]

Punishment of Oppressors

The punishment for those who commit oppression will be severe, unrelenting and without mitigation. The list below shows some of the verses from the Qur'an where Allah (swt) mentions such punishment:

1. Allah's promise of punishment - Al-Wa'eed Bil-A'zaab: Allah (swt) says: *"Whoever oppresses we shall punish and when he returns to his Lord He will punish him with a punishment unheard of (Before).."* [EMQ 18:87]

Allah (swt) also says: *"If only the Oppressors could see the punishment; that to Allah belongs All power and that He will punish severely"* [EMQ 2:165]

2. Punishment from heaven - Al-Rijz Mina-Al-Samaa: Allah (swt) says: *"So we sent to the Oppressors Punishment from heaven, for they infringed (Our command) repeatedly"* [EMQ 2:59]

3. Severe punishment - Azaab Ba'ees: Allah (swt) says: *"When they disregarded the warnings that had been given to them. we rescued those who forbade evil; but we visited the oppressors with a grievous punishment, because they were given to transgression"* [EMQ 7:165]

4. Complete annihilation - As-Saihah: Allah (swt) says: *"The (mighty) blast overtook the oppressors, and they lay prostrate in their homes before the morning"* [EMQ 11:67]

Allah (swt) also says: *"When our decree issued, we saved Shu'aib and those who believed with him, by (special) mercy form ourselves but the (mighty) blast did seize the oppressors, and they lay prostrate in their homes by the morning"* [EMQ 11:94]

5. No support or intercession on the Day of Judgement - La Takhfeef Lil-Azaab: Allah (swt) says: *"When the oppressors (actually) see the penalty, then will it in no way be mitigated, nor will they receive respite"* [EMQ 16:85]

6. Drowning - Al-Gharaq: Allah (swt) says: *“And address Me not in favour of the oppressors; for they shall be drowned (in the flood)”* [EMQ 23:27]

7. Destruction of houses - Damaar Buyutihim: Allah (swt) says: *“Now such were their houses in utter ruin, because they practiced oppression”* [EMQ 27:52]

8. Making them dumb - Al-Kharass: Allah (swt) says: *“And the word will be fulfilled because of their oppression, and then they will be unable to speak (in plea)”* [EMQ 27:85]

9. Hell-Fire-A'zaab Al-Naar: Allah (swt) says: *“And we shall say to the Oppressors: Taste ye the punishment of the fire”* [EMQ 34:42]

10. Punishing their wives - Hashrihim ma' Azwajahum: Allah (swt) says: *“Bring ye up, it shall be said, the oppressors and their wives and the things they worshipped besides Allah, and lead them to the path of the fire”* [EMQ 37:22]

11. No compensation will be accepted - Al-Fidyyah Bil-Kul Al-A'rdh: Allah (swt) says: *“Even if the oppressors had all that there is on Earth, and as much more (in vain) would they offer it for ransom from the pain of the punishment on the Day of Judgement”* [EMQ 39:47]

12. No mercy - Hirmaan ar-Rahmah: Allah (swt) says: *“My Mercy will not extend to the oppressors”* [EMQ 2:124]

13. Animosity towards oppressors - Al-U'dwaan A'la Al-Zaalemeen: Allah (swt) says: *“And fight them on until there is no more tumult or oppression, and there prevail justice and faith in Allah; But if they cease, let there be no hostility except to those oppressors”* [EMQ 2:193]

14. Hell-fire forever - Al-Naar: Allah (swt) says: *“Their abode will be the fire; and evil is the home of the oppressors”* [EMQ 3:151]

A Warning to the Oppressors

Those who transgress the limits set by Allah (swt) have been given clear warning of punishment in the Qur'an:

1. Warning to Sects - Al-Wa'eed: Allah (swt) says: *"But sects from among themselves fell into disagreement.. Then woe to the oppressors, from the penalty of a grievous day"* [EMQ 43:65]

2. Admonishment - Al-Nazeer: Allah (swt) says: *"And before this, was the book of Moses as a guide and a mercy; and this book confirms (it) in the Arabic tongue; to admonish the oppressors, and as glad tidings to those who do right"* [EMQ 46:12]

3. Holding back Wives - Al-Muallakkah: Allah (swt) says: *"Either take them back (i.e. divorced women) on equitable terms or set them free on equitable terms; but do not take them back to injure them or to take undue advantage; if anyone does that, he does oppression to his soul"* [EMQ 2:231]

4. Right over oppressors - Al-Sabeel Ala Al-Zalamah: Allah (swt) says: *"The blame is only against those who oppress men with oppression and insolently transgress beyond bounds through the land, defying right and Justice"* [EMQ 42:42]

5. Do not take oppressors as friends - Al-A'adh Ala Al-Assabi': Allah (swt) says: *"The day that the oppressor will bite at his hands, he will say 'Oh! Would that I had taken a (straight) path with the Messenger! Ah! Woe is me! Would that I had never taken such a one for a Friend!'"* [EMQ 25:27-8]

6. Speak against them - Al-Jaher: Allah (swt) says: *"Allah does not like people to speak bad openly about anyone, except where there has been oppression"* [EMQ 4:148]

7. No Intercession - Laa Shaa'ah: Allah (swt) says: *"No intercessors will the oppressors have, who could be listened to"* [EMQ 40:18]

8. In the Musnad of Imam Ahmed, vol.5, p.72, It is narrated by Abu Hara Al-Raqashi that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said "*Listen to me and you will be saved, do not oppress! Do not oppress! Do not oppress!*"

9. In the collection of Tabarani, in his book Al-Musnad Al-Kabir, it is narrated upon the authority of Ummamah that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: "*My intercession will never reach two kinds of people from my Ummah: an Oppressive, aggressive ruler and one who lies about the rules of Allah but does not comply with his fabrications himself*".

10. In the collection of Bukhari, it is narrated upon the authority of Abu Musa that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: "*Allah will delay punishment of the oppressor but when He (swt) punishes him he will never escape*" and He (saw) quoted from the Qur'an: "***Verily the punishment of Allah is severe for the people of a city whose residents are oppressors***" [EMQ 11:103]

11. In the collection of Muslim, it is narrated upon the authority of Ibnu Hisham that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: "*Allah will punish those who torture people.*"

A Warning to the Silent

It is a mercy from Allah that He (swt) sent to all nations a messenger to warn their people not to oppress each other and He (swt) sent Muhammad (saw) to all of mankind as a mercy and guidance to destroy all kufr and to make the Deen of Islam dominant. Since no messenger will come after Muhammad (saw) it is our responsibility to forbid evil (munkar) and to enjoin good (maoruf). If we do not do this wherever we are i.e. if we remain silent about the oppression we have been warned of punishment by Allah (swt). The oppressor, his assistant and the one who is silent about the oppression are equal in their oppression and will all be subject to punishment in the hereafter. Some verses from the Qur'an warning those who remain silent or assist in oppression are listed below:

1. Sharing the punishment - Al-Musharakah Bil-A'zaab: Allah (swt) says: *"When Ye have done oppression, it will avail you nothing that day and ye shall be partners (with the evil companion or oppressor) in punishment"* [EMQ 43:39]. Allah (swt) also says: *"For the oppressors their portion is like unto the portion of their fellows (of earlier generations)"* [EMQ 51:59]

2. The family of the oppressor - Azwaj Al-Zalamah: Allah (swt) says: *"Bring ye up, it shall be said, the oppressors and their wives, and the things they worshipped besides Allah"* [EMQ 37:221]

3. Punishment - Al-Fitnah Wa All-A'zaab: Allah (swt) says: *"And fear tumult or punishment, which affecteth not in particular (only) those of you who do oppression and know that Allah is strict in punishment"* [EMQ 8:25]

4. Inclining towards the Oppressor - Al-Rukun ila Al-Zalamah: Allah (swt) says: *"And incline not to those who do oppression, or the fire will seize you"* [EMQ 11:113]

5. Living among oppressors - Al-Sakan fi Manazelhum: Allah (swt) says: *"And ye dwelt in the houses of men who oppressed their own soul; ye were clearly shown how we dealt with them"* [EMQ 14:45]

6. Removing Baraqah - Al-Zulm Yahjub Al-Tayeibaat: Allah (swt) says: *"For the oppression of the Jews we made unlawful for them certain (foods) good and wholesome"* [EMQ 4:160]

7. Removing security - Al-Zulm Yahjub Al-Aamin: Allah (swt) says: *"It is those who believe and confuse not their beliefs with oppression - that are (truly) in security"* [EMQ 6:82]

8. Destruction of Nations - Damar Al-Qura bi-Sabab Al-Zulm: Allah (swt) says: *"How many populations did I give respite which were given to oppression? In the end I punished them. To me is the destination (of all)"* [EMQ 22:48]

9. Similar punishment as those who oppressed in the past - Halak Al-Zaallemoun; Allah (swt) says: *"Think ye, if the punishment of Allah comes to you (as it did to the oppressors before) Whether suddenly or openly, will any be destroyed except those who do wrong"* [EMQ 6:47]

10. Destruction of cities - Halak Al-Qura: Allah (swt) says: *"Nor was thy Lord the one to destroy a city until He had sent to its centre a messenger rehearsing to them our signs: nor are we going to destroy a city except when its members practice oppression"* [EMQ 28:59]

11. Sitting with oppressors - Al-Jullus Ma': Allah (swt) says: *"Sit not thou in the company of the oppressors"* [EMQ 6:68]

12. Oppressors appointed over us - Tawuliyat ul Zaalimeen A'la Al-Saakiteen: Allah (swt) says: *"Thus do we make the oppressors turn to each other because of what they earn"* [EMQ 6:129] and Allah (swt) says: *"it is only oppressors (that stand as) protectors, one to another"* [EMQ 45:19]

13. Oppressors with those who are silent - A'azaab Al-Zatim Al-Saakit: Allah (swt) says: *"They treated as false the signs of their Lord so we destroyed them for their crimes, and we drowned the people of Pharaoh: for they were all oppressors"* [EMQ 8:54]

14. Listening to oppressors - Al-Sama' Lil-Zaalimeen: Allah (swt) says: *"And there would have been some among you who would have listened to them but Allah knoweth well those who oppress"* [EMQ 9:47]

In addition there are many ahadith which warn those who do not address the oppressors or ensure the rights of the oppressed. We list some of these below:

1. In the collections of Tirmizi, Abu Daoud and in the Musnad of Imam Ahmed. vol.1, p.7, it is narrated upon the authority of Ismael bin Qais that Abu Bakr Siddique (ra) delivered a sermon in which he said: *'Oh people, you may recite this verse: "Oh believers watch out but you will not be accounted for the misguidance of others" but I heard the Messenger Muhammad say: 'if people see an oppressor and do not stop him Allah will punish them all''*

2. In the collections of Abu Daoud and Baihaqi it is narrated upon the authority of Urss Bin Umayra Al-Kindi that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: "If the oppression or evil becomes widespread on Earth, the one who witnesses it and rejects it will be as if he were absent and whoever is absent at the time of the oppression but consents to it or is silent about it, it will be as if he witnessed it (i.e. participated in it)".

3. In the collections of Tabarani, Ibnu Hibban and Baihaqi it is narrated upon the authority of Jabir that the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: *"How could Allah bless people who do not ensure the rights of the weak (oppressed) from the harsh (oppressors)"*.

4. In the collection of Tabarani it is narrated upon the authority of Ibn Abbas (ra) that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: *"Allah will never forgive those who are not ruled over in accordance to what Allah has revealed and who do not ensure the rights of the weak (oppressed) which have been taken by the oppressors."*

5. In the collection of Ibn Hibban, Tabarani and Baihaqi, it is narrated upon the authority of Abu Said Al-Kidri that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: *"No one of you should keep silent about the truth (if he sees or hears falsehood) out of fear of the people"* and in other narration's collected by Baihaqi and Ibn Najar, it is narrated upon the authority of Ibn Abbas (ra) that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *"No one of you should fear the people when he speaks the truth or addresses the oppression because his saying will never make him near rto his Ajal (lifespan) nor will it distant him from his Rizq (provision)."*

6. In the collections of Al-Hakim, Al-Tabarani and in the Musnad of Imam Ahmed, it is narrated upon the authority of Abdullah Ibn Omar (ra) that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *"If you see my Ummah afraid to say to the oppressors, 'You are oppressors' Allah will desert them."*

7. In the collection of Ibn Hibban, it is narrated upon the authority of Abdullah bin Khabbab that his father said: *"We were sitting outside the Prophet's house and he emerged and said: "Listen to me" and we said "We are listening" and He said "Listen to me" and we said "We are listening" and then He said, 'There will be after me rulers, they will tell lies and they will oppress, do not believe their lies nor help them in their oppression. Whoever does so I am free of him and he will never come to my Hawodh (place) of intercession.'"*

8. In the Musnad of Imam Ahmed, Vol.2, p.96, It is narrated upon the authority of Abdullah Ibn Omar that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *"Do not enter houses or cities of the oppressors except if you are keen to get what they will get."*

9. In the Musnad of Imam Ahmed, Vol.1, p.449, it is narrated upon the authority of Abdullah bin Abdul Rahman that his father said the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: *"Whoever assists his own Qawm (i.e. groups, tribe, people) in oppression he is like the animal who has fallen down from a mountain suffering because of his sin (i.e. Because of his collaboration)."*

10. In the collection of Ibn Majah in the book of Al-Ahkam, Hadith no.2320, it is narrated upon the authority of Ibn Omar that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *"Whoever assists, in any dispute, in oppression or collaborates with the oppressor he will continue with the anger of Allah until he perishes (dies)."*

11. In the collection of Ibn Hibban, it is narrated upon the authority of Ibn Masood that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *"Allah ordered the angels to lash a servant 100 times in his grave. He supplicated to Allah until only one lash remained ordered and then his grave filled with fire. When he was called (on the day of Judgement) he asked why he suffered and the angels said: you prayed without purity and you passed by the oppressed without supporting him".*

12. In the collection of Imam al Munzari, it is narrated upon the authority of Ibn Abbas that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *'Allah said "By my dignity and holiness I will punish the oppressor sooner or later and I will punish with him whosoever saw the oppressed and did nothing.'*"

Resisting & Rejecting Oppressors

Allah (swt) has given those who enjoin righteousness and forbid evil wherever they may be, his promise of forgiveness. Even if they live in the midst of all types of oppression and are surrounded by all types of transgression against Allah's (swt) laws those who address the oppression will be as if they were absent whilst those who remain silent, even if they were far away at the time, will be counted among the oppressors:

1. Preventing Punishment -Yarma' Al-A'zaab: Allah (swt) says: "*The Messengers were sent) thus, for the Lord would not destroy the towns unjustly whilst their occupants were unwarned*" [EMQ 6:131]. And Allah (swt) also says: "*Nor would thy Lord be the one to destroy the towns unjustly while their people are righteous*" [EMQ 11:117]

2. Preventing fear - Yamna' Al-Khawouf: Allah (swt) says: "*But he who works deeds of righteousness, and has faith, will have no fear of harm nor of any curtailment (of what is his due)*" [EMQ 20:112]

3. Listening to them - Al-Samaa' Lil Zaalem: Allah (swt) says: "*And there would have been some among you who would have listened to them. But Allah knoweth well those who do oppression*" [EMQ 9:47]

4. Safe from the fire - Al-Najaat: Allah (swt) says: "*And we shall save those who guarded against evil, and we shall leave the oppressors therein, (humbled) to their knees*" [EMQ 19:72]

5. In the Musnad of Imam Ahmed, vol. 4, p.14, upon the authority of Abbas Bin Mirdas it is narrated that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) supplicated to Allah on the day of Arafat for his Ummah for forgiveness and mercy and Allah responded: "*I have granted forgiveness for your Ummah except for those who oppress each other*".

6. In the collection of Tirmizi, it is narrated upon the authority of Jabir that the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said: "*The master of martyrs is*

Hamza Bin Abdul Mu'talib and a man who is killed because he stands against a tyrant ruler commanding him good and forbidding him evil."

7. In the collections of Ibn Majah and Imam Ahmed, it is narrated upon the authority of Abu Umayyah that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said to a man who asked him: "*Which type of Jilhad is the best? That He (saw) said "A word of truth against a tyrant ruler."*

8. In the Musnad of Imam Ahmed, Vol.2, p.305, it is narrated upon the authority of Abu Hurairah that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) used to make du'a (supplication) and say: "*Oh my Lord I seek refuge in you from poverty, shortage of money, humiliation and I seek refuge in you from being oppressed or an oppressor."*

9. In the collection of Ibn Majah in the book of Al-Fitan, Hadith No. 4004, it is narrated upon the authority of Aisha (ra) that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: "*Command good and forbid evil otherwise you will supplicate and Allah will never respond to you."*

10. And in another narration, it is narrated upon the authority of Abu Ubaida that the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: "*Except if you stand against the oppressors and force them to the truth."*

REJECTION OF THE CALL AGAINST OPPRESSORS

The Ummah of Muhammad (SAW) is suffering today not only because of the lack of an Islamic authority or because Muslims do not do their duty but also because Muslim individuals and Muslim groups do not co-operate. The collective action usually merits more reward than the individual action however we find that Islamic groups and parties today spend much time, effort and resources either backbiting and boycotting each other or attacking each other in their literature and circles. It is time that we co-operated on good deeds and worked together for the revival of the Ummah whether as individuals, groups, parties or organisations as required by Allah (swt) in the Qur'an. Those who reject the call to do good have been warned by Allah (swt):

1. Co-operation - Al-Ta'aawun A'la Al-Birr: Allah (swt) says: "***Co-operate in good deeds (Fard, Mandoub, Mubaah) and piety and not in sin (Haram)***

and transgression; and fear Allah for Allah is strict in punishment" [EMQ 5:2]

2. They will not be guided - Dhalalah: Allah (swt) says: *"Who doth greater oppression than one who forges falsehood against Allah, even as he is being invited to Islam? And Allah guides not those who do oppression" [EMQ 61:7]*

3. Turning away from the truth - Al-I'raadh Ann Al-Haq: Allah (swt) says: *"And who doth more oppression than one who is reminded of the signs of his lord but turns away from them" [EMQ 18:57]*

THE ENEMY - AL-A'DWU:

When one is engaged in the struggle against oppression, one should be aware of those who are his enemies or who may divert him from the straight path. Allah has warned us:

1. The Disbelievers - Al-Kaafireen: Allah (swt) says: *"The disbelievers are unto you open enemies" [EMQ 4:101].*

2. Satan - Al-Shaitan: Allah (swt) says: *"Satan is to man an avowed enemy"[EMQ 17:53].* Allah (swt) says: *"Verily Satan is an enemy to you" [EMQ 35:6]*

3. Some wives and children - Al-Azwaaj Al Awlaad: Allah (swt) says: *"Among your wives and your children are (some that are) enemies to yourselves" [EMQ 64:14]*

4. Jews and Mushriks - Al-Yahud Wal Mushrikeen: Allah (swt) says: *"Strongest among men in enmity to the believers wiltthou find the Jews and Pagans" [EMQ 5:82]*

Conclusion

The Way For Revival: Allah (swt) says: *“You have indeed in the Messenger of Allah an excellent example”* [EMQ 33:21]. Surely by following our Messenger Muhammad's (saw) method, styles and means, since he (saw) is our excellent example to follow, we will gain success in this life and in the hereafter.

The method used by our beloved Prophet to change society involved calling society to Islam i.e. engaging in culturizing society in order for it to embrace Islam as a belief and system of life. Today this would involve addressing the beliefs of the masses and their transactions through debates and seminars etc.

The Messenger Muhammad (saw) challenged and exposed man-made law in society by engaging with the society in an ideological struggle by commanding (Al-Amer bil Ma'rouf) society to function in accordance with Islam and to reject (Al-Nahi an Al-Munkar) anything else. Today this would involve addressing the non-Islamic way of life directly, challenging and exposing it, attacking the non-Islamic regime and the non-Islamic relationship between the people and between them and the state. This must address the problems which affect the interests of the people because of the corruption and oppression of man-made law and the style of the call must be radical, open, direct, clear, offensive, without ambiguity or compromise and without reservation or relaxation to the masses in the public places.

Finally, the Messenger Muhammad (saw) established an Islamic authority through motivating the people to rebel against their regime under which they were living (in conjunction with the above activities). This can be manifested through conferences and lectures to expose and condemn the regime and its systems and by demonstrations, marches, strikes, rallies, and civil disobedience in addition to the military action of the Muslims in the army who had pledged their support beforehand to hand the authority to Muslims to appoint a leader (Khalifah) to implement the whole of Islam immediately, comprehensively and exclusively.

The above stages will lead us, Insha'Allah, to the establishment of Al-Khilafah whose foreign policy is to conquer the whole world by Jihad. The evidences for the obligation of the domination of Islam worldwide (i.e. Izhar ul Deen) upon the Ummah are many. In addition the Messenger Muhammad (saw) clearly informed us that the Muslims are going to conquer many countries such as Jordan, Syria, Palestine, Egypt. Iraq. Iran. Constantinople (Istanbul), Rome (Italy) and that they will lose Palestine but will gain it back.

A Warm Call to the Muslims

O' Muslims: The situation of the Muslim Ummah today with its decline, its divisions and humiliation obliges us to respond in accordance with what Islam requires. The Muslims world wide and in particular the intellectuals and scholars are required to exhaust their utmost effort and energy in expounding the divine rules in a clear, open, succinct and radical manner. They must be brave in calling for the implementation of Islam and must struggle for it as a matter of life and death making this struggle the basis of their existence and Islam the only reference for their affairs. And if Muslims today do not support the oppressed nor prevent the false in order that the truth may prevail nor command good and forbid evil nor account the oppressive rulers then what is the purpose of their existence? It would be better for them to be buried beneath the earth than to be walking upon it. And as for those scholars who have failed Islam and neglected their duties having been defeated in the battlefield of Islam-v-Kufr, they should fear Allah (swt) and look to the example of the Salef (the classical scholars from the Sahaba and Tabieen) and those who came after; those mujahid who despite being surrounded by such people nevertheless look for victory in order to return Islam to its rightful position by establishing the Islamic authority and implementing its systems dignifying thereby the Deen and the Muslims and defeating thereby the kuffar and their soldiers.

O' Muslims: Let us turn to Allah (swt), for with him lies the victory and let us purify our intention to please Him (swt) only. Let us put all our trust in Him (swt) alone and spend all our effort in carrying the banner of Islam so that we may establish the Khilafah and implement the Qur'an and Sunnah. Let us sacrifice for this task all we hold of value to us whether it be expensive, rare or dear sincerely for the sake of Allah (swt) even though the disbelievers, oppressors and sinners dislike it. Let us also refrain from complacency and ensure we do not incline towards those oppressors and their corruption. We must learn to thrust aside our love of security, enjoyment, relaxation, selfishness, envy, compromise and hypocrisy and concentrate our effort against kufr and oppression. Our scholars must be the true inheritors of Prophethood, they must declare on behalf of the Ummah that on the day of Judgement, on the scales of divine justice, there will be no oppression or oppressed.

O' Scholars of the Ummah: Our history is full of lessons. Active scholars in the past stood firm and struggled for Islam. Sa'eed bin Al-Musayab, Sa'eed bin Jubair, Jafar Al Sadiq, Abu Hanifa, Malik bin Anas, Ahmed Ibn Hanbal, Imam Shafi, Bukhari, Al-Izz bin Abdul Salaam, Imam al Sarkhasi, Ibn Taymiah, Imam Ahmed Al-Sirhandi, Hassan al Banna, Sayed Qutb, Sheikh Taqiudinne an-Nabhani, Sheikh Murwan Hadeed and Muhammad Bakir Saader are among many others who have been decorated with the attribute of not only possessing knowledge but of engaging in action. They have shown both piety and devotion, being brave with the truth and steadfast in implementing the Shari'ah. They carried Da'wah in order to establish Islam on earth and stood firm against the rulers of their time. For the sake of Allah rise and carry the crown of Islam properly over your heads by implementing Islam comprehensively and do not treat Islam as merely a hobby.

O' Scholars of Islam: Islam obliges you to fear no leader or oppressor and not to refrain from speaking the truth. Do not hide the divine rules on any matter from anyone whether they relate to the affairs of the people or the state, the ruler or the whole world and remember that fire is the only place for those who hide knowledge and Allah (swt) says: *"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."* [EMQ 2:159].

And the Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: *"Whoever hides knowledge, Allah will seal his mouth with fire"*

O' Muslim Soldiers: It is about time for you to realise your responsibility towards the establishment of the Islamic authority (Al-Khilafah) in order to declare that supremacy belongs to none but Allah (swt) and to give power to a sincere Muslim as the leader (Khaleefah) for the Muslims worldwide, who will implement the Shari'ah and carry Islam to the World as a system and a way of life. Therefore for Allah's sake do not become the shield of the oppressors or the donkey of the Kufr regimes: those who make cowards out of you and make you fight against the scholars and sincere Islamic movements instead of fighting against the infidel occupiers e.g. Israelis or American soldiers etc.

O' Muslim Soldiers: Obey none but Allah (swt), support none but the Muslims, be the protectors of the Ummah and Islamic groups the way the

Ansaar were in the time of the Messenger Muhammad (SAW) and do not become tools in the hands of murderers and oppressors.

O' Muslim Soldiers: Be brave and fear none but Allah the only Provider and the only One who gives life and takes life. Rise from your deep sleep and sin and become the hands of the Ummah, which will dismantle the Rulers and their Kufr regimes.

O' Islamic Groups: It is about time for you to stop thinking as individuals or members of groups rather as the Ummah and one body. For Allah's sake do not call for Islam as partisan leadership rather as an intellectual leadership.

O' Islamic Groups: Let Islam lead you in your life not the name of your group. If you see an Islamic book or leaflet calling to what you believe but signed by a group or party different to yours do not discard or reject the book or leaflet for this is a sign of Jahiliyyah and of partisanship which Islam has forbidden. It does not matter who calls for Islam or Khilafah (as long they are Muslims), you must support each other and cooperate in good deeds as Allah (swt) obliged. Allah (swt) says: *“Co-operate in good deeds (Fard, Mandoub, Mubaah) and piety and not in sin (Haram) and transgression; and fear Allah for Allah is strict in punishment”* [EMQ 5:2].

O' Islamic Groups: For Allah's sake stop being selfish envious and jealous of each other, support one another, participate and co-operate in those matters in agreement among you. And debate the disputed matters between you (with the etiquette of agreement and disagreement in Islam).

May Allah protect all the Muslim Ummah's Deen, life, Wealth, land, property, health, soldiers and Islamic Groups. Ameen.Ameen.Ameen.

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