

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَهَاجَرُوا وَجَاهَدُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ أَكْثَرُ
دَرَجَةً عِنْدَ اللَّهِ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْفَائِزُونَ

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: الْمُسْلِمُ مَنْ سَلِمَ الْمُسْلِمُونَ مِنْ لِسَانِهِ وَيَدِهِ، وَالْمُهَاجِرُ مَنْ
هَجَرَ مَا نَهَى اللَّهُ عَنْهُ

Esteemed Muslims!

Yesterday, on Thursday evening, June 26th, we entered the new Hijri year 1447. Exactly 1446 years ago, our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, in 622 CE, migrated from Mecca to Yathrib with Abu Bakr (may Allah be pleased with him) under the command of Allah ﷻ, due to the oppression and torture inflicted by the Meccan polytheists.

The city, known as Yathrib at that time, gained honor with the arrival of our Prophet ﷺ and was given the title of Al-Medinatul Munawwarah (the Enlightened City). This year, in which the migration (Hijra) took place, is also accepted as the beginning of the Hijri calendar.

Dear Believers!

The Hijra is not merely an event that occurred and ended in the Age of Felicity (Asr-i Saadet). Even today, many Muslims are tearfully leaving their homelands due to oppression and injustice, seeking refuge with people who are embodiments of goodness, just like the Ansar. Therefore, our duty is to remember this bitter truth on the anniversary of the Hijra and to exert every effort to bring an end to oppression, injustice, and unfairness.

Furthermore, the Hijra is not just a change of place; it is also a turning towards goodness, virtue, and morality, by moving away from all kinds of evil, sins, and forbidden acts. Our beloved Prophet ﷺ expressed this deep and inner aspect of the Hijra as follows: **"A Muslim is one from whose hand and tongue other Muslims are safe. And a Muhajir (emigrant) is one who abandons what Allah has forbidden."** (Bukhari, Iman, 4)

Our Master ﷺ and his loyal friend Abu Bakr (may Allah be pleased with him) began their difficult and arduous journey by taking shelter in the Cave of Thawr, continuing their path by hiding during the day and traveling at night. Afterward, they reached Quba, stayed there for a while, built the first mosque, and led the first Friday prayer. In his first Friday khutbah, he said: **"O believers! Repent to Allah before you die. Draw closer to Allah by doing good deeds before an**

obstacle comes. Know that Allah has made the Friday prayer obligatory for you on this day, in this place where I stand. May Allah not unite the affairs of anyone who denies it, belittles it, and abandons it; may He not make their work prosper. Even if the imam is just or unjust, whoever finds an opportunity to perform the Friday prayer has no other prayer [that takes its place]. Those who repent are an exception. Whoever repents, Allah accepts their repentance." (İbn-i Mâce, İkamê, 78)

"O people! Prepare for your afterlife while you are healthy. Know that on the Day of Judgment, a person will be struck on the head and will be questioned even about the sheep he left without a shepherd. Then Allah will say to him – but how? There will be no translator, no veil – He will personally say: 'Did My Prophet not come to you and convey [My message]? I gave you wealth, I bestowed blessings upon you. So, what did you prepare for yourself?' That person will look to his right and left, and will see nothing. When he looks forward, he will see nothing but Hellfire."

"So, whoever can do a good deed, even with half a date, to protect himself from the fire of Hell, let him do it. And whoever cannot find that, let him save himself with a good word. The true Muslim is one from whose hand and tongue others are safe. Allah gives reward from ten times to seven hundred times for a good deed." (İbn-i Hişâm, I, 118-119, Beyhakî, *Delâil*, II, 524)

Esteemed Believers!

Let's move away from forbidden acts and sins, and migrate towards a lawful and pure life. Let's consider today a turning point for this change.

On this occasion, I congratulate you on the Hijri New Year, and I pray to Allah Almighty that the new year brings goodness, peace, and blessings to our brothers in Palestine and other places under oppression.