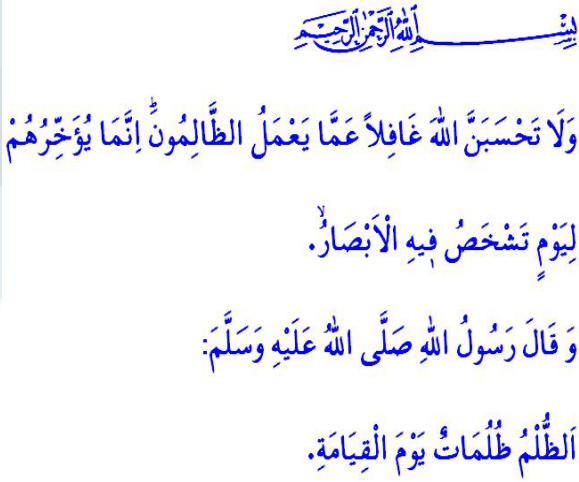


Oppression and Wrongdoing Cannot Go Unpunished



Honorable Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, our Lord Almighty (swt) states as follows, **“And never think that Allah is unaware of what the wrongdoers do. He only delays them [i.e., their account] for a Day when eyes will stare [in horror].”**¹

This verse is a hope and consolation for the oppressed, and a warning and threat for the oppressors. The oppressors who ignore this threat will find no peace either in this world or in the Hereafter. They will taste disgrace in worldly life, and a greater punishment in the Hereafter. As in the words of the Prophet Muhammad (saw), **“Oppression will be a darkness for oppressors on the Day of Resurrection.”**²

Dear Believers!

We are living at a time when feelings of mercy, conscience, and compassion are missing, oppression is second nature, and oppressors have all the support. The persecutors who recognize no rights or laws are raining bombs on the oppressed people of Palestine, without any distinction as to the children, the elderly, and the women. The raving murderers are massacring

our innocent Palestinian brothers and sisters before the eyes of the international community. But we believe that there is no barrier between the oppressed and Allah (swt).³ Our Lord, al-Qahhar, will vanquish the oppressors, leaving them miserable.

Dear Muslims!

Believers do not take side with or laud oppression. They do not remain silent in the face of oppression or be the voice of oppressors. A believer's heart is never content with oppression. A believer stands by the truth and justice, always firmly against oppression. A believer is the enemy of oppressors and the hope of the oppressed. No matter where on the face of the earth, a believer's heart aches in the face of a bleeding wound. For a believer is submitted to Allah (swt) and a walker of the path to Him (swt). A believer knows that the grace and help of Allah (swt) will be with them as long as they are in the service of the truth and justice.

Those who target peace and order are going to have their punishment sooner or later.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with our Prophet's (saw) following hadith that instructs us to remain vigilant and cautious against evil, wickedness, oppression, and oppressors at all times: **“Whoever of you sees something evil, let him change it with his hand; and if he is not able, then with his tongue; and if he is not able, then with his heart, and that is the weakest of faith.”**⁴

¹ Surah Ibrahim, ayat 42.

² Sahih Bukhari, Mazalim, 8.

³ Sahih Bukhari, Zakat, 63.

⁴ Sahih Muslim, Iman, 78.