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## Reflecting on Gaza, the Example of Ibrahim (as) and the Urgent Call for Nusrah Today

As the Ummah enters the sacred days of Tashreeq, amidst the rituals of Hajj, we are reminded that this noble pillar of Islam is a spiritual journey, a divine obligation (fard) demonstrating pure devotion to Allah (swt). The rites of Hajj embody the tradition of the honourable Prophet Ibrahim (as), his noble wife Hajar (as), and his son Ismail (as), a family whose trials taught the Ummah the essence of tawakkul, unwavering trust in Allah (swt), and total submission to His divine command, even when that command defied worldly logic.

In the very same days of Tashreeq, centuries later, the noble believers of Aws and Khazraj met secretly with the Messenger of Allah (saw) at al-'Aqabah. Their pledge this time was not for personal salvation, but to support the Deen with power, to offer nusrah (military and political support), to establish the authority of Islam. This Bay'ah al-Harb (Pledge of War) transformed Islam from a persecuted call into an organised, state-bearing mission. It led to the Hijrah, the establishment of the first Islamic State in Madinah, and the dawn of Islam as a political force in the world.

Today, the Ummah finds itself in dire straits, not for lack of belief, nor for lack of numbers or wealth, but for lack of power. We are scattered and brutalised, from Gaza to Kashmir, from East Turkestan to Sudan, while tyrants rule us and our enemies manipulate us. The armies of the Muslims, the sons of Khalid ibn al-Walid and Salahuddin, remain silent, shackled by regimes who fear Western capitals more than they fear Allah (swt).

Gaza stands as the most acute symbol of our abandonment, a bleeding wound on the body of the Ummah, and it reminds us of our vulnerability when the Ummah's immense capabilities are suffocated by hostile enemies and puppet rulers. The cries of the children of Palestine are not just for aid or slogans, but they are cries for nusrah, for real support backed by strength and action.

The lessons of Hajj and the second Pledge of al-'Aqabah are divine guidance for action. Just as the Ansar of Madinah took a bold stand to support the Prophet (saw) and gave him the means to establish Allah's (swt) rule on earth, the time has come for our armies to follow in their footsteps. We call upon the Muslim Ummah - its scholars, its leaders, its common folk- to demand from the armies of the Muslim world that they turn their allegiance to Islam alone. Let them shun the thrones of treachery and trample the borders and orders of the disbelievers, and instead offer their support for the re-establishment of the Khilafah on the method of Prophethood.

In these blessed days, as we recall the sacrifices of Ibrahim (as) and the courage of the Ansar, we must rise once more with trust in Allah (swt), obedience to His command, and a firm resolve to end the suffering of the Muslims of Gaza once and for all. This requires us all to amplify the call to those with real power to respond to Allah (swt) and His Messenger (saw) and grant the Ummah the Nusrah, just as the Ansar did with their words: "We pledge ourselves to obey in well and woe, in ease and hardship, and, speak the truth at all times, and that in Allah's service we would fear the censure of none."

﴿ يَا لَيُهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱسْتَجِيبُواْ لِلَّهِ وَلِلرَّسُولِ إِذَا دَعَاكُمْ لِمَا يُحْيِيكُمْ ﴾

"O you who believe, respond to Allah and His Messenger when He calls you to that which gives you life," (Surah Al-Anfal: 24)

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