

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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## **Rights of the Homeland and Making Sacrifices for Its Sake**

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“Hold fast to Allah’s rope all together; do not split into factions.”** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

Every homeland has a lofty status in their hearts of its citizens. Their affiliation their homeland is a natural distinct they are created with. Al-Asma‘i said, “If you want to know how faithful someone is, observe his tenderness to his homeland, and his longing for his brothers and for his past.”

To love your homeland and belong to it is a religious duty. Therefore, the Islamic Shari’ah pays much attention to deepen this affiliation and develop it. For example, when the Prophet (PBUH) emigrated from Mecca to Medina, he looked at his homeland Mecca, saying: “What a sweet town you are, and how dear you are to me! Had your people not expelled me out of you, I would never have left you.” When the Prophet reached Medina, he asked the Almighty Allah saying, “O Allah! Make Medina dear to our hearts just like you made Mecca dear to our hearts, and even more so.”

However, patriotism is not just words to be said, or slogans to be raised. Rather, it is conduct, and sacrifice with everything that one owns. True patriotism means good loyalty, belonging to the homeland, and

keeping its security, stability, progress and development. It means also the full commitment to its rights and duties.

One of the most important rights of the nation is sacrifice for its sake. It goes without saying that self-sacrifice is one of the highest levels of sacrifice, as the Almighty Allah said, **“There are men among the believers who honored their pledge to Allah: some of them have fulfilled it by death, and some are still waiting. They have not changed in the least.”** The Prophet (PBUH) promised those who defend their nation and sacrifice themselves for its sake that they will be saved from the Hellfire when he (PBUH) said, **“There are two eyes which will never be touched by hell, an eye which weeps from fear of Allah and an eye which spends the night on guard in Allah’s path.”** Therefore, those who make these sacrifices deserve to be chosen by Allah to be in the company of Prophets, the faithful, and the righteous people. Allah, the Most High, said, **“For Allah to find out who truly believes, for Him to choose martyrs from among you.”** Allah also said, **“Whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger will be among those He has blessed: the messengers, the truthful, those who bear witness to the truth, and the righteous- what excellent companions these are.”**

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All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), his companions and followers:

One of the rights of the homeland that its citizen should defend it with all means available as the interest of their nation requires. If it is their responsibility to defend it with their lives in case of necessity, it is their duty also to positively participate in developing their homeland, and this is the least thing they can offer to their nation to prove their loyalty and sincerity.

The responsibilities of the homeland are not carried by one generation, or by some of its children away from the others. Rather, they are a shared process among all successive generations.

Among the most important rights of the nation is diligence and hard work. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah loves when someone works, he performs it in perfect manner."

These duties also include: fulfilling job duties. Public jobs are a great responsibility and it is a religious and national duty to fulfil one's responsibilities in his work. Negligence in performing one's duties is one of the most dangerous forms of corruption. A person should always be mindful of Allah in his work as Allah, the most High, said, "**Allah is with you wherever you are.**"

These duties also include: respecting the country's flag, national anthem, symbols and all national slogans. The flag is the emblem of the state and its image, which wraps all its children at home and abroad. It is under this flag, they make their achievements and successes. Thus, to respect it is a form of the pillars of nation-building.

Another duty is to represent the homeland in the best manner in all events inside and outside the country in order to raise it among all other nations and countries.

These duties also include: not to allow any attack against its lands and capabilities, and to combat its enemies by all means either verbally or through self-sacrifice.

We Ask Allah to protect our country, Egypt and all other countries of the world.