

Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Awqaf
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A Craftsman Perfecting His Work

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“Do good, for Allah loves those who do good”** 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.

Industry has a great significance and a high status. It is the basis of the renaissance and development of nations. With the prosperity of industry, employment opportunities increases, economic progress is achieved and living conditions becomes better. When contemplating the Glorious Qur’an, one finds clear references to many industries, emphasizing their value and importance. The Almighty Allah said, **“Do good, for Allah loves those who do good.”** Allah also said, **“Children of Adam, We have given you garments to cover your nakedness and as adornment for you.”** In another verse, Allah said, **“It is Allah Who has given you ... garments to protect you from the heat, and garments to protect you in your wars.”** Allah also said, **“They made for him whatever he wanted: palaces, statues, basins as large as water troughs, fixed**

cauldrons.” Allah also said, **“And Allah has made your homes a place to rest, and has given you tents from the hide of animals, light to handle when you travel and when you camp. And out of their wool, fur, and hair He has given you furnishings and goods for a while.”**

It was out of the significance and value of industry that some of the Prophets and Messengers, who are the best of mankind, were people of crafts, and they were examples in skill and mastery of their crafts. Prophet Noah (Peace be upon him) was working in shipbuilding. Allah (Glory be to Him) said, **“Build the Ark under Our [watchful] eyes and with Our inspiration.”** Prophet David (Peace be upon him) was a blacksmith. The Almighty Allah said, **“We taught him how to make coats of mail for the benefit of you [people], to protect you in your wars, but are you grateful for this.”** Also, Prophet Zakaria (Peace be upon him) was a carpenter, as our Prophet (Peace be upon him) said, **“Zakaria was a carpenter.”**

Excellence, quality and perfection are the most important qualities that a manufacturer must have. The Almighty Allah draws our attention to perfection of work, as He, the Most High, has created everything with the best perfection. Allah says, **“(That is) the design of Allah, Who has perfected everything He created.”** Allah made it obligatory for us to perform everything in the best way saying, **“Do good, for Allah loves those who do good.”** Our Prophet (PBUH) said, **“Verily Allah has prescribed *Ihsan* (proficiency, perfection) in all things.”**

During the time of our Prophet (PBUH) there have been a number of crafts and industries, part of which were recorded by Abu Hassan al-Khuza'i in his book: *Takhrijal-Dalalaat al-Sam'iyah ala ma kana fi 'Ahd Rsoull Allah Min al-Hiraf wa al-Sana'i' wa - 'Imalaat al-Shar'iyah* (The Evidence for Crafts, Industries and Professions During the Time of the Messenger of Allah (PBUH)). These crafts include: Those who were specialized in medicine during the time of the Prophet (peace be upon him), tailors, carpenters, blacksmiths, Jewelers, builders and traders. The book consists of two chapters, one for crafts and the other for industries.

An excellent manufacturer is motivated by his faith in the Almighty Allah to improve his work and to excel in it. Allah (Glory be to Him) said, **"In whatever matter you [Prophet] may be engaged and whatever part of the Quran you are reciting, whatever work you [people] are doing, We witness you when you are engaged in it. Not even the weight of a speck of dust in the earth or sky escapes your Lord, nor anything lesser or greater: it is all written in a clear record."** Allah also said, **"Say [Prophet], 'Take action! God will see your actions- as will His Messenger and the believers- and then you will be returned to Him who knows what is seen and unseen, and He will tell you what you have been doing.'" The Prophet (BUH) said, "Allah loves when someone performs an act to perfect it."**

One of the signs of mastery of A manufacturer is the speed of completing his work to deliver it on time. This is the case of makers in civilized societies. The fulfillment of the manufacturer' work on time is a good quality that indicates self-honor and determination. The Almighty Allah says, "**Honour your pledges: you will be questioned about your pledges.**" Allah commanded us to fulfill our pledges and praised the believers for this characteristic saying, "**You who believe, honor your obligations.**"

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:

We affirm that such as an excellent manufacturer is motivated by his religious sense, he must be also motivated by the national sense as well. His love for his homeland and his fiath in the necessity of advancing it should drive him to perfect his work and achieve excellence. Our precious homeland, Egypt, faces a critical stage of its history and this requires all of us to work diligently and sincerely for the renaissance of the homeland and its progress. Everyone has to work hard and perfect their work for the sake of Allah, and our nation will only adavnce through the work of everyone.

We also Affirm that that people will not respect our religion unless we excel in the affairs of our world. When we achieve progress in our worldly affairs, others will respect our religion and world life. A strong economy means having a prestigious country that is respected and self-sufficient, and this is what our dear Egypt is doing in our new republic.

We ask Allah to save our country, Egypt and all other countries of the world!