

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Preservation and Development of Homelands

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.

Homeland is considered one of the six major principles that the Islamic Shari’ah has fostered and protected with due means. It goes without saying that loving one’s homeland is a natural instinct that the Almighty Allah has created humans with. Our Prophet (PBUH) has embodied the meaning of patriotism in his statement when his people forced him to leave Mecca. He (PBUH) said, “How good you are as a land and how dear you are to my heart! Had your people not forced me out of you, I would have never come out and would have never resided in any other city but you.”

The homeland is one of the greatest blessings that the Almighty Allah has given us, and therefore, we have to thank Him for such blessing with

our words and actions. However, patriotism is not just words to be said, or slogans to be raised. Rather, it is a behavior and action, which are carried out through certain duties that must be performed, including: working to achieve the security and stability of the homeland. Security is a blessing from the Almighty Allah, as we understand from the supplication of Prophet Abraham (PBUH) when he asked Allah saying, **“Lord, make this town safe!”** Our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) gave the blessing of security precedence over the blessings of food and drink when he said, “Whosoever begins the day feeling family security, good health and possessing provision for his day is as though he possessed the whole world.”

Among the most important factors for the preservation of homelands are: depending on the means of strength, knowledge and work together, as a poet once said:

*By science and money people build their kingship,
No kingship was built on ignorance and reduction.*

Our religion is the religion of work and excellence. The Almighty Allah said, **“It is He who has made the earth manageable for you--travel its regions; eat His provision- and to Him you will be resurrected.”** Allah (Glory be to Him) also said, **“Say [Prophet], ‘Take action! Allah will see your actions.’** The Prophet (PBUH) said, “No food is better to man than that which he earns through his manual work. Dawud (PBUH), the Prophet of Allah, ate only out of his earnings from his manual work.” Our

Prophet (PBUH) also said, “Allah loves someone who when works, he performs it in perfect manner.”

Preservation of homelands requires upholding the general interest of the homeland, away from all forms of individualism, selfishness and passivity. The homeland needs truthfulness and faithful giving, as well as the solidarity and compassion among citizens. The Prophet (PBUH) gave us a wonderful example for the compassion among the nation, saying, “The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion and sympathy are just like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever.” It is said, “Hewho lives just for his own intersts, deserves not to be a human.”

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:

Among the means of preserving the homeland is: having good loyalty, affiliation, and willingness to sacrifice for the sake of the homeland and defend its frontiers and secure its borders, and deter all enemies who want to attack it or undermine its security, safety and capabilities. A poet said:

*A country whose youth died defending its life,
And passed away to let their people survive.*

Our religion is a religion of construction and development. True religiousness is the art of making life and making advancement. Our religion is the religion of civilization and progress. It is a religion that believes in science, encourages work, urges us to have perfection, and forbids all forms of destruction.

In addition, we affirm that preserving the homeland is a task that should be carried by all its citizens. The homeland is for all its sons, and it cannot advance except with their hard work and striving, each one in his field and specialization: soldiers and policemen in the preservation of the homeland's security and safety; doctors in their hospitals; farmers in their fields; workers in their factories; and students through their diligence in acquiring knowledge, etc. In general, the homeland is the responsibility of all of us before the Almighty Allah. All the citizens should cooperate to save and secure their homeland. Prophet (PBUH) said, "The likeness of the man who observes the limits prescribed by Allah and that of the man who transgresses them is like the people who get on board a ship after casting lots. Some of them are in its lower deck and some of them in its upper (part). Those who are in its lower (part), when they require water, go to the occupants of the upper deck, and say to them: "If we make a hole in the

bottom of the ship, we shall not harm you.” If they (the occupants of the upper deck) leave them to carry out their design, they all will be drowned. But if they do not let them go ahead (with their plan), all of them will remain safe.”

O Allah! Protect our country Egypt and all other countries of the worlds!