

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

Rajab 5, 1444 A.H./ January 27, 2023 C.E.

Patriotism between Reality and Claim

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.

The Almighty Allah has created mankind with a natural love for their homelands and implanted within them the affiliation to their lands and defending them. This is our Prophet (PBUH) gives us an example in loving his homeland and longing for it when he migrated from Mecca to Medina. He looked at his homeland Mecca, saying: “By Allah, you are the best land of Allah, and the dearest of the land of Allah to Allah and to me. By Allah, had I not been expelled from you I would never have left.” 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.”

True patriotism is not just words to be said, or slogans to be raised. Rather, it is faithful love, loyalty, giving, and affiliation, and a continuous readiness to sacrifice with one's time, efforts and soul. The Almighty Allah said, **"Allah has purchased the persons and possessions of the believers in return for the Garden- they fight in Allah's way: they kill and are killed- this is a true promise given by Him in the Torah, the Gospel, and the Quran. Who could be more faithful to his promise than Allah? So be happy with the bargain you have made: that is the supreme triumph."** The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Whoever is killed protecting his wealth, he is a martyr. Whoever is killed protecting his family, he is a martyr."

The Prophet (PBUH) conveyed a glad tidings for those who guard their lands and sacrifice themselves defending them, saying: "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." In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said, "Shall I not tell you of a night better than *Laylat al-Qadr*? The one who keeps watch [at night] over the troops, in a land of fear (i.e. war) for that he may not return to his family."

In addition, true patriotism requires solidarity, coherence, and compassion among the people of the country, positive participation in fulfilling the needs of the weak and needy, and to avoid exploiting crises or trading on them. The Almighty Allah said, **"Help one another to do what is right and good; do not help one another towards sin and hostility."** The

Prophet (PBUH) said, "The most beloved people to Allah are those who are most beneficial to people. The most beloved deed to Allah is to make a Muslim happy, or to remove one of his troubles, or to forgive his debt, or to feed his hunger." The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Good works protect from evil fates; and charity in secret extinguishes the wrath of the Lord, and protects against evil death; and maintaining family ties increases life span." The Prophet (PBUH) also said, "When the Ash'arites run short of provisions in the campaigns or run short of food for their children in Medina they collect whatever is with them in the cloth and then partake equally from one vessel. They are from me and I am from them."

One of the foundations of true patriotism is mastery of work and production, and perfection for the purpose of the advancement and progress of the homeland. Our Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah loves someone who when works, he performs it in perfect manner." A person has to be mindful of Allah in all of his actions, as the Almighty Allah said, "**He is with you wherever you are; He sees all that you do.**" In another verse, the Almighty Allah said, "**In whatever matter you [Prophet] may be engaged and whatever part of the Qur'an 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.**"

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 true patriotism requires respect for the nation's flag, its anthem, its symbols, and all its slogans, and representing it in the best manner either at home and abroad, and in all national and international forums, it also requires being keen to raise its flag high, face the challenges, dangers and rumors threatening it, and being alert to the schemes of its enemies and not to believe in the lies of its opponents. Rather, we have to refute them and reveal their falsity.

A true patriot does not lie, betray, deceive, monopolize, conspire, or spread rumors. True patriotism means building, not demolishing; it means construction, not destruction. True patriotism is the art of making life and developing the universe, as the Almighty Allah said, **"It was He who brought you into being from the earth and assigned you to develop it."** Therefore, whenever there is an interest and construction, then this is the command of Allah. However, whenever there are demolition, destruction, and trading on crises, then, the claimed patriotism is false and fake.

We ask Allah to protect Egypt and raise its flag high among all countries of the world!