

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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**Religion is Ease**  
**“Facilitation in the Matters of Rituals and Tolerance in**  
**Transactions”**

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“Allah wants ease for you, not hardship.”** 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 manifestations of the glory of our pure religion are countless. Among the greatest of these manifestations are easiness and tolerance. Our religion is all about justice, mercy, facilitation, tolerance and humanness. Therefore, anything that achieves these high values is a core part of Islam, and anything that contradicts these values is contrary to Islam itself and to its higher purposes and objectives. The Almighty Allah says, **“He has placed no hardship in your religion, the faith of your forefather Abraham. Allah has called you Muslims--both in the past and in this [message]--so that the Messenger can bear witness about you and so that you can bear witness about other people.”** Allah also said, **“Allah does burden any soul with more than it can bear.”** The Prophet (PBUH) said,

“This religion (of Islam) is very easy and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way. So you should not be extremists, but try to be near to perfection and receive the good tidings that you will be rewarded; and gain strength by worshiping in the mornings, the afternoons, and during the last hours of the nights.” The Prophet (PBUH) also said, “The best of your religion is the easiest of it.” The Prophet (PBUH) also said, “Allah has accepted easiness for this nation, and has disliked difficulty for them.” In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said, “Indeed I was sent with the tolerant pure faith.”

When contemplating the life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), one realizes that he was the best example for his followers and for all humanity in his tolerance and facilitation. He (PBUH) said, “Allah did not send me to be harsh, or cause harm, but He has sent me to teach and make things easy.” A’isha (May Allah be pleased with her) said about the Prophet that “Whenever the Prophet (PBUH) was given an option between two things, he used to select the easier of the two as long as it was not sinful; but if it was sinful, he would remain far from it.” The Prophet (PBUH) also said, “When I begin the prayer, I intend to make it long, but I hear a boy crying and shorten my prayer, being aware of his mother’s emotion because of his crying.”

Tolerance and facilitation in our religion are a comprehensive and prevalent features. Regarding Prayer, the Prophet (PBUH) said, “Some of

you make people dislike good deeds (i.e. the prayer). So whoever among you leads the people in prayer should shorten it because among them are the weak, the old and people of needs.” The Prophet (PBUH) instructed ‘Umran Ibn Husayn how to pray when he was ill, saying, “Pray while standing and if you cannot, pray while sitting and if you cannot do even that, then pray lying on your side.” One of the examples of facilitation in performing acts of worship is the permissibility not to fast during the month of Ramadan in case one is travelling. One of the features of tolerance in the Pilgrimage is the instruction to help weak people in performing *al-Ramy* (stoning of the Devil), and the permissibility of throwing on behalf of those who are unable to do it. Perhaps, Pilgrimage is the most act of worship that includes manifestations of facilitation as the Prophet (PBUH) used to tell people whenever they did something in Pilgrimage, “Do it, for no harm is done.”

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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:

It goes without saying that the Islamic Shari’ah is marked with facilitation and tolerance in its rulings on transactions. It has removed hardship in buying, selling and demanding rights. The Almighty Allah

said, **“You who believe, do not wrongfully consume each other’s wealth but trade by mutual consent. Do not kill each other, for Allah is merciful to you.”** Allah (Glory be to Him) also said, **“If the debtor is in difficulty, then delay things until matters become easier for him; still, if you were to write it off as an act of charity, that would be better for you, if only you knew.”** The Prophet (PBUH) said, **“May Allah show mercy to a man who adopts a kind attitude when he sells, buys and demands for the repayment of loans.”**

Tolerance in selling and buying requires that the buyer has to avoid exaggeration in prices, monopoly, cheating in measurement, and exploiting people’s crises. It also requires that the buyer has to be kind with the seller, and do not underrate the commodity. Tolerance in asking for payment of debts requires that the person has to be kind in his demand, and show leniency.

Our Prophet (PBUH) told us that easiness and tolerance in transactions are causes of salvation on the Day of Judgment. He (PBUH) said, **“A person from amongst the people who lived before you was called to account by Allah on the Day of Resurrection. No good deeds were found in his credit except that he being a rich man had (financial) dealings with people and had commanded his servants to show leniency to those who were in straitened circumstances. Upon this Allah, the Exalted, and Majestic said: 'I am more entitled to this attribute, so waive (his faults).’”**

The Prophet (PBUH) also said, “He who gives respite to someone who is in straitened circumstances, or grants him remission, Allah will shelter him in the shade of His Throne, on the Day of Resurrection, when there will be no shade except its shade.” This applies to tolerance with people in all matters of transactions.

How much do we need awareness of the greatness of Islam, as it is the religion of tolerance and easiness, without crookedness, sophistication, or arrogance, either verbally or physically.

May Allah protect Egypt and raise its flag high among all countries of the world!