

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

Shaban 25, 1444 A.H./ March 17, 2023 C.E

Societal Solidarity, the Duty of the Current Time

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“Help one another to do what is right and good; do not help one another towards sin and hostility.”** 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.

Social solidarity is a noble human value that promotes coherence and compassion among human beings. This sublime value brings about stability of nations, as the civilized nations are those which have internal coherence among their members. The Prophet (PBUH) expressed that meaning when he said, “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.” He (PBUH) also said, “The relationship of the believer with another believer is like (the bricks of) a building, each strengthens the other.” On that meaning, a poet said:

When there is a serious matter, sons, unite and avoid being scattered;

Spears never break when they are united, but may be easily broken, once scattered.

Our noble Shari'ah has called us to societal solidarity though calling for competition in doing good deeds and fulfilling people's needs and relieving them under the umbrella of faithful brotherhood, generosity and cooperation in that which benefits humans. The Almighty Allah said, **“Race to do good deeds.”** He (Glory be to Him) also said, **“Hurry towards your Lord’s forgiveness and a Garden as wide as the heavens and earth prepared for the righteous, who give, both in prosperity and adversity, who restrain their anger and pardon people- Allah loves those who do good.”** In another verse, Allah, the Almighty, said, **“There is no good in most of their secret talk, only in commanding charity, or good, or reconciliation between people. To anyone who does these things, seeking to please Allah, We shall give a rich reward.”**

Our Prophet (PBUH) ha called and urged us for societal solidarity saying, **“Whoever has an extra mount should offer it to him who is without it, and whoever has surplus food should give it to him who has nothing.”** The narrator of the Hadith said, **“The Prophet (PBUH) continued mentioning other properties until we thought that none of us had any right to the surplus of his own property.”** The Prophet (PBUH) also gave us an example of solidarity when he praised the Ash‘ari tribe saying, **“When the**

people of Ash‘ari tribe ran short of food during the holy battles, or the food of their families in Medina ran short, they would collect all their remaining food in one sheet and then distribute it among themselves equally. So, these people are from me, and I am from them.” Those people were entitled for the praise from the Prophet (PBUH) due to the spirit of solidarity and cooperation marked with preferring others to oneself.

It goes without saying that fulfilling people's needs is a national and religious value, as the Prophet (PBUH) said, “He is not a believer whose stomach is filled while the neighbor to his side goes hungry.” Our Prophet (PBUH) also 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. That I walk with a brother regarding a need is more beloved to me than that I seclude myself in this mosque for a month.”

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 societal solidarity is the duty of our current time as we are approaching the month of Ramadan, the blessed

month that comes with blessings and goodness. It is on this month that Muslims compete for goodness and seeking Allah's pleasure. Among the best actions to do is to help the needy, feed the poor, provide for the destitute, so that people feel assured and can perform their rituals in this month which is full of spiritual blessings.

Allah, the Almighty, has promised great and multiplied reward for people of goodness who give charities. Allah (the Most High) said, **“Those who spend their wealth in Allah’s cause are like grains of corn that produce seven ears, each bearing a hundred grains. Allah gives multiple increase to whoever He wishes: He is limitless and all knowing. Those who spend their wealth in Allah’s cause, and do not follow their spending with reminders of their benevolence or hurtful words, will have their rewards with their Lord: no fear for them, nor will they grieve.”** The Almighty Allah also said, **“Believe in Allah and His Messenger, and give out of what He has made pass down to you: those of you who believe and give will have a great reward.”** In another verse, Allah said, **“You who believe, give charitably from the good things you have acquired and that We have produced for you from the earth. Do not give away the bad things that you yourself would only accept with your eyes closed: remember that Allah is self-sufficient, worthy of all praise.”** the Prophet (PBUH) said, “Every day two angels descend and one of them says, 'O Allah! Compensate (more) to the person who gives (in charity)';

while the other one says, 'O Allah! Destroy the one who withholds (charity)."

May Allah protect our country and all other countries of the world!