

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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## **The Blessed Land of Sinai: Place and Status**

### **The Land of Goodness, Development and Sacrifice**

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book to His Prophet, **“You who believe! If you help God, He will help you and make you stand firm.”** 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

Sinai is a very blessed land; it was watered with the blood of our fathers and forefathers throughout history. It is a land of goodness, growth and sacrifice. It is a holy land whose soil bears traces of Prophets and Messengers of Allah. Our master Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) walked on it along with his wife Sarah, and our master Prophet Yusuf son of Ya’qub (peace be upon them) passed by it, and our master Prophet Musa (peace be upon him) lived in it.

The Glorious Qur'an has spoken about it in a great manner that calls for reflection. This emphasizes its importance and its religious and historical status. Such discourse makes us think very deeply about the need to preserve and care for this land, develop it, invest its natural resources, and its tourist sites: including the religious, natural, and therapeutic ones.

The Almighty Allah has sworn in His Glorious Book with the Mount Sinai, when He said, **“By Mount *Tur!* And by the Book written, on open pages [for all to read]! And by the ‘Sacred’ House frequently visited!**

**And by the canopy raised [high]! And by the seas set on fire!"** The verse starts with Mount Tur before other things that Allah swore with. Moreover, a whole Chapter in the Qr'an is given the name of "*Al-Tur*".

In another *Sura*, the Almighty Allah also swore with the Mount Sinai, when He said, "**By the fig, by the olive! by Mount Sinai! by this safe town,**" giving precedence to the Mount Sinai over the blessed City of Mecca in spite of its great status.

The Glorious Qur'an referred to some of the good things and blessings in Sinai, when the Almighty Allah said, "**A tree, growing out of Mount Sinai, that produces oil and seasoning for your food.**" Regarding this tree, our Prophet (PBUH) said, "Eat olive and use its oil, for indeed it is a blessed tree."

One of the most sacred places in Sinai is "the Mount of the Divine Appearance" which witnessed God's revealing Himself, as well as it witnessed the divine revelation to Prophet Musa (PBUH), as the Almighty Allah said, "**When he came to the fire, he was summoned, 'Moses. I am your Lord. Take off your shoes: you are in the sacred valley of Tuwa. I have chosen you, so listen to what is being revealed. I am Allah; there is no god but Me. So worship Me and keep up the prayer so that you remember Me.**" The Almighty Allah also said, "**When he reached the fire, a voice called: 'Blessed is the person near this fire and those around it; may Allah be exalted, the Lord of the Worlds. O Moses, I am God, the Mighty, the Wise.'**"

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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:

There is no doubt that this status that Allah has given solely to the blessed land of Sinai encourages all of us to love it from the bottom of our hearts, and to protect it and sacrifice everything we have for its sake. This is what our wise leadership and our brave armed forces do, as they have presented, and still present, great sacrifices to preserve this homeland in general, and to preserve Sinai in particular, which is worthy of our appreciation on the one hand, and drives us to line up strongly behind it on the other hand.

However, we affirm that Egypt is keen on preserving peace, and it fosters and calls for it, as the Almighty Allah commanded us saying, "**But if they incline towards peace, you [Prophet] must also incline towards it, and put your trust in Allah: He is the All Hearing, the All Knowing.**" However, the peace we are looking for is the peace of strong and brave people; it is the peace that is based on truth, justice, fairness, and respecting the Egyptian sovereignty over every inch of the dear land of Egypt. Whoever wishes to have a spot of foothold in Sinai is deluded. A strong army, and more than a hundred million Egyptian citizens are ready to defend it and support the their great army.

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