

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Power and Steadfastness in the Face of Challenges

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book to His Prophet, **“You who believe, be steadfast, more steadfast than others; be ready; always be mindful of Allah, so that you may prosper.”** 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

It goes without saying that our Arab nation is facing hard challenges in the current time, and these challenges aim to weaken its identity, and undermine its security and stability. Such situation requires unifying our ranks in the face of these challenges.

A true believer faces challenges with a strong and steadfast heart that can stand against adversities, as our Prophet (PBUH) said, **“A strong believer is better and dearer to Allah than a weak one.”**

A true believer is the one who has great confidence in Allah (Glory be to Him) and then in himself, because he shall have one or both of the two great results: either achieving his goals in this world, or that Allah will keep these goals for him in the Hereafter, or both matters, as Allah, the Almighty, says, **“Do you expect something other than one of the two best things to happen to us?”**

Also, a true believer realizes that life is a test and is based on facing troubles, as Allah, the Almighty, says, **“Say, ‘Do people think they will be left alone after saying ‘We believe’ without being put to the test? We tested those who went before them: Allah will certainly mark out which ones are truthful and which are lying.”** Also, the Almighty Allah says, **“Did you think you would enter Paradise without Allah first proving which of you would struggle for His cause and remain steadfast?”** In another verse, Allah also says, **“Do you suppose that you will enter Paradise without first having suffered like those before you? They were afflicted by misfortune and hardship, and they were so shaken that even [their] messenger and the believers with him cried, ‘When will Allah’s help arrive?’ Truly, Allah’s help is near.”** Allah also says, **“Those whose faith only increased when people said, ‘Fear your enemy: they have amassed a great army against you,’ and who replied, ‘Allah is enough for us: He is the best protector. They returned with grace and bounty from Allah; no harm befell them. They pursued Allah’s good pleasure. Allah’s favour is great indeed.”**

Once a righteous wise man said: whoever seeks to get comfort in this world – i.e. full, complete, permanent and absolute comfort – he seeks to get something that it has never been created, as the Almighty Allah says, **“We have created man for toil and trial.”** Challenges of life and the challenges of countries may change, but they do not end. A poet once said:

Life is trouble,

But you wish it to be free of suffer?!

Wishing life to go against its norms,

Is wishing to get water from fire.

We must always seek strength, power, steadfastness, and make sacrifices for the sake of our religion and our country, trusting in the grace of Allah (Glory be to Him) and His victory for His faithful servants, as the Almighty Allah says: **“Our word has already been given to Our servants the messengers, it is they who will be helped, and the ones who support Our cause will be the winners.”** However, there is a necessary condition which is to make use of all available means of power and steadfastness, as the Almighty Allah says: “Prepare whatever forces you [believers] can muster, including warhorses, to frighten off God’s enemies and yours.”

When faith is firmly established in the heart, it is filled with confidence in Allah and His support. Thus, one gets to resort to Allah and trusts Him, seeking His support, and seeking victory and empowerment from Allah. The almighty Allah says, **“Help comes only from Allah, the Mighty, the Wise.”** Our Prophet (PBUH) used to ask Allah saying, “My Lord, help me and do not give help against me; grant me victory and do not grant victory over me; plan on my behalf and do not plan against me; guide me and make right guidance easy for me; grant me victory over those who act wrongfully towards me.”

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 the grave challenges facing our nation necessitate the unity of our Arab and Islamic ranks, as the Almighty Allah says, **“Hold fast to God’s rope all together; do not split into factions.”** Our Prophet (PBUH) said, “The relationship of the believer with another believer is like (the bricks of) a building, each strengthens the other.” He (PBUH) illustrated this by interlacing the fingers of both his hands.” In another

Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) 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.” 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.*

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