

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

Rajab 14, 1445 A.H./ January 26, 2024 C.E

Defending Homelands as a Collective and Individual Obligation, and the Great Reward Thereof

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.

Preservation of homelands is regarded as one of the major principles that the Islamic Shari’ah has fostered and protected with due means. The preservation of homelands is a basic purpose of religion, and defending homelands is the path of honorable people, and loyal great patriots who sacrifice themselves and their wealth for the sake of their homelands.

It goes without saying that strengthening and defending the national state is a religious and national duty, and that each one amongst us must defend his homeland, whether he is a soldier, a policeman, a writer, an intellectual, a media figure, a teacher, a craftsman or a farmer. Defending homelands in every field is one of the collective duties that all people share. Homelands shall only be stable and secured through the endeavor and striving of their sons. The Almighty Allah says, **“Help one another to**

do what is right and good; do not help one another towards sin and hostility.” A poet said:

Every noble person owes his homeland,

great favors and rights to provide.

Who shall struggle and sacrifice,

if the free ones did not strive?!

A country whose youth died defending its life,

And passed away to let their people survive.

We recall, with all appreciation, the role of our brave armed forces, and our national police in defending our homeland, in an integrated and cooperative manner to maintain its security and safety. If our brave armed forces are vigilant in protecting the homeland, securing its borders and interests, and deterring those who seek to harm or weaken it, our national police stands side by side with our brave armed forces in the field of defending the homeland. Preserving the homeland requires protecting its borders from the enemies, and protecting its interior from traitors, drug dealers, organized crime gangs, and all evils that undermine the security and safety of the homeland.

There is no doubt that the status of these heroes is great and their beneficial work is general, as our Prophet (PBUH) peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “Two eyes will never be touched by the fire of Hell; an eye which weeps out of Fear of Allah and an eye which spends the night in guarding in the Cause of Allah.” He (PBUH) also said, “Shall I not tell you of a night better than *Laylat al-Qadr*? [It is the night of a person] who keeps watching over the troops, in a land of fear (i.e. war) for that he may not return to his family.” In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said, “Observing *Ribat* (e.g., guarding the frontier for the sake of Allah) for a

single day is far better than the world and all that it contains. A place in the Paradise as small as the whip of your horse is far better than the world and all that it contains. An endeavor (fighting) in the Cause of Allah in the evening or in the morning is far better than the world and all that it contains.”

We emphasize that defending the homelands becomes an individual duty upon those assigned to this duty, and in the case that the homeland faces a threat. In such case, defending the homeland becomes an obligation upon all citizens to defend it with their lives and properties and with everything in their possession, whether they are men or women, young or elderly, even if they are all killed. The Prophet (PBUH) said, “Whoever is killed protecting his wealth, he is a martyr. Whoever is killed protecting his family, he is a martyr. Whoever is killed protecting his religion, he is a martyr. Whoever is killed protecting himself, he is a martyr.”

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:

The virtue of defending homelands is great in the Sight of the Almighty Allah. Can we imagine the virtue of those who sacrifice themselves in supporting the religion of Allah, the Almighty, and in defense of the homeland and honor?! The Almighty Allah says, **“Do not think of those who have been killed in Allah’s way as dead. They are alive with their Lord, well provided for; happy with what Allah has given them of His favor; rejoicing that for those they have left behind who have yet to join them there is no fear, nor will they grieve; [rejoicing] in Allah’s blessing and favor, and that Allah will not let the reward of the believers be lost.”** The Almighty Allah also says, **“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."

Our Prophet (PBUH) said, "By Him in Whose Hands my soul is! Whoever is wounded in Allah's Cause...and Allah knows well who gets wounded in His Cause...will come on the Day of Resurrection with his wound having the color of blood but the scent of musk." Also, the Prophet (PBUH) said, "The dust raised on account of fighting in the path of Allah and the smoke of Hell will never exist together." In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said: "The deeds of everyone who dies are sealed. Except for the one who dies guarding the frontier from the enemy, in the cause of Allah. For indeed his actions are increased for him until the Day of Judgement, and he is secure from the tribulation of the grave."

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