

Dated: 4 Muharram 1448 AH —19 June 2026 CE

Reflections at the Beginning of the Hijri New Year

All praise is due to Allah, the Sovereign, the Most Holy, the Source of Peace; the One who causes the nights and days to pass and renews the months and years. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone, with no partner, who made the sacred month of Muharram the opening of the months of the year. I bear witness that our Prophet Muhammad is the servant of Allah and His Messenger, the master of all mankind, the full moon of perfection, and the seal of noble fragrance. May Allah's prayers, peace, and blessings be upon him, upon his noble family, his righteous and distinguished Companions, and upon those who follow them in excellence, as long as light and darkness continue to alternate.

To proceed,

I advise you, O servants of Allah, and myself to fear Allah, for it is the most profitable of gains, the greatest of gifts, and the highest of aspirations. Allah, the Exalted, says:

“And whoever obeys Allah and His Messenger, fears Allah, and is mindful of Him—then it is they who are the successful.” (An-Nur 24:52)

Know that the best speech is the Book of Allah, the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad ﷺ, and the worst of matters are newly invented matters. Every innovation is misguidance.

O Muslims!

These days, the Muslim Ummah welcomes the dawn of a new Hijri year after the sun of a passing year has set, carrying with it many sorrows and many joys. It has departed as a witness to our deeds and has carried away records of our actions. How swiftly the nights and days pass, and how rapidly the months and years come to an end!

Yet the truly successful person—may Allah protect you—is the one who takes lessons and admonitions from the events of time, and derives warnings and wisdom from its occurrences, as Allah, the Exalted, says:

“And there has certainly come to them of the narratives that which contains a sufficient deterrent.” (Al-Qamar 54:4)

O believers!

Fourteen centuries ago, the migration of the Master of the Prophets and the chosen of Allah's creation, Muhammad ﷺ, took place. It illuminated the world with the lights of dignity and beauty and revealed within its pages scenes of greatness and majesty. Thus, it became a precious prophetic treasure, a firm practical methodology, and a magnificent historical source that strengthens the Ummah's honor and dignity and inspires its generations with guidance and success.

Today, we reflect with you upon the blessed event of Hijrah and the examples of generosity, sacrifice, devotion, and selflessness that it contained, so that we may draw from it the true meaning of patience, cooperation, and loyalty.

After our trustworthy Messenger ﷺ had spent thirteen years calling his people with wisdom and courage, varying his message between warning and glad tidings, visiting their gatherings and approaching their assemblies without concern for the hardships and suffering he faced, despite their various schemes of deception and temptation and their ridicule and abuse toward him, their hostility eventually reached the point where they conspired to kill him and gathered with their weapons around his home.

But Allah saved His beloved from their hands and turned their plots back against them. Allah, the Most-High, says: **“And (remember) when those who disbelieved plotted against you to restrain you, kill you, or expel you. They plotted, and Allah planned; and Allah is the best of planners.”** (Al-Anfal 8:30)

When this trial intensified and the hardship upon the believers became severe, Allah—Majestic and Exalted is He—granted His Prophet ﷺ permission to migrate to the blessed city of Madinah, so that he might live among the believers, remain safe from the schemes of the polytheists, and spread the religion that the Lord of the worlds had chosen for him.

His migration became a ray of hope, the beginning of victory, and the roadmap that would ultimately lead the emigrant Companions back to Makkah as triumphant conquerors. Allah, the Exalted, says: **“Indeed, He who has imposed upon you the Qur’an will surely return you to a place of return.”** (Al-Qaṣaṣ 28:85)

Through the Hijrah, Allah strengthened Islam, brought an end to an era of suffering and pain, and made the migration a decisive separation between the lights of truth and the darkness and loneliness of disbelief. After it, authority and dominance came to Islam, as Allah says: **“And say: Truth has come, and falsehood has vanished. Indeed, falsehood is ever bound to perish.”** (Al-Isra' 17:81)

O people of Tawhid!

Whoever reflects upon the event of the Prophetic Hijrah, and the divine guidance and extraordinary signs contained within it realizes clearly that honor and empowerment can only be attained through true monotheism, certainty of faith, migration to the Lord of the worlds, and adherence to the guidance of His trustworthy Messenger. As our Lord says in His Book:

“So flee to Allah. Indeed, I am to you from Him a clear warner.” (Adh-Dhariyat 51:50)

Migration is of Two Kinds

The first is a **physical migration**, from lands of disbelief to lands of Islam, when a person is unable to worship the Lord, the Sovereign, the All-Knowing, or is prevented from establishing the acts of worship such as prayer, zakāh, and fasting. In such a case, the believer is compelled to migrate to protect his religion and preserve his faith and certainty. Allah says:

“Whoever leaves his home, migrating for the sake of Allah and His Messenger, and then death overtakes him, his reward has already become incumbent upon Allah. And Allah is Ever-Forgiving, Most Merciful.” (An-Nisa' 4:100)

The second is a **spiritual migration of the heart**, which is to turn to Allah, the Most Majestic, through sincere devotion to Him, seeking His pleasure, abandoning acts of disobedience and everything that incurs His anger, and adhering to His laws and obligations. The Prophet ﷺ said:

“The emigrant is the one who abandons what Allah has forbidden him from.” (Narrated by Al-Bukhari from the hadith of `Abdullah ibn `Amr, may Allah be pleased with them both)

This migration is the foundation of the soundness of faith and the purity of its origin. It remains obligatory upon the Muslim throughout his entire life and should never be abandoned until the moment of death.

For this reason, the Hijrah held a great place in the hearts of the noble Companions. They exerted effort to demonstrate its virtue and establish its significance among people, making it the reference point for dating the beginning of every year and the approved measure for calculating months and days—out of pride in the history of the Ummah, appreciation of the glory of its civilization, remembrance of its struggle and the nobility of its cause, and affirmation of its independence and distinct identity.

So, renew, O servants of Allah, your repentance at the beginning of this new year, and equip yourselves with righteous deeds in your migration toward your Lord. Rejoice in the praiseworthy outcome, the assured happiness, and the abundant rewards.

By the One who sent Muhammad ﷺ with the truth, the condition of the Muslim will never be rectified except through adherence to the religion, nor will honor and dignity ever be attained except by returning to the Lord of the worlds and following the path of the Prophets and Messengers.

The Commander of the Believers, `Umar ibn Al-Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him), said:

“We are a people whom Allah honored through Islam. Whenever we seek honor through anything other than that by which Allah honored us, Allah will humiliate us.” (Reported by Al-Hakim in his Al-Mustadrak and authenticated by Al-Albani.)

O Allah, make the best of our deeds their endings, the best of our lives their final years, and the best of our days the day we meet You. Indeed, You are the best One to be asked and the most generous One in whom hope is placed.

May Allah bless me and you through the Glorious Qur'an and benefit me and you through its verses and wise remembrance. I say these words of mine, and I seek Allah's forgiveness for myself and for you from every sin, and I repent to Him. Indeed, He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

The Second Sermon

All praise is due to Allah for the rectification of our affairs and the goodness of our final outcomes. I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone, with no partner; His command always prevails. And I bear witness that our Master Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) is His Servant and Messenger, the one chosen and distinguished with the noblest virtues. May Allah send His prayers upon him, his family, and his Companions who attained the highest ranks and stations and grant them abundant peace.

To proceed,

Fear Allah, O servants of Allah, for fear of Allah is the cause of your victory, the protection of your affairs, the crown of your honor, and the symbol of your strength.

O believing servants of Allah!

Among the events that we recall at the beginning of the year and continually remember for their profound lessons is Allah's support for His allies and His punishment of His enemies. It is the tremendous and momentous event that remains immortal throughout the passing ages and the succession of nations: when Allah granted victory to His great Messenger Musa ibn `Imran, the one who spoke directly with Allah, peace be upon him, drowned the tyrant Pharaoh, defeated his army, saved the Children of Israel, and parted the sea for them.

After they had been oppressed and enslaved, they were granted triumph, security, and establishment. This teaches us that tyranny, harm, and injustice—no matter how severe or prolonged they may become—the ultimate outcome belongs to Allah's support for His righteous servants. What a powerful lesson it is for everyone who follows the path of oppressive tyrants: that Allah's warning will inevitably reach them, even if it is delayed.

Thus, the event of the Hijrah and the Day of `Ashura' are among the eternal days of victory. Let the eyes of the people of faith rejoice in this and let tyrants and the callers to falsehood desist from their misguidance before it is too late. Allah, the Exalted, says:

“Indeed, in that is a reminder for whoever has a heart or listens while being present in mind.” (Qaf 50:37)

O believers!

Among the virtuous deeds of the sacred month of Allah, Muharram, is the recommendation to increase one's voluntary fasting. Abu Hurairah (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“The best fasting after the month of Ramadan is the fasting of Allah's month, Muharram.” (Muslim)

Especially the tenth day, the Day of Ashura, for fasting it expiates the sins of a complete previous year. Abu Qatada (may Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ was asked about fasting on the Day of `Ashura', and he said:

“I hope from Allah that it will expiate the sins of the year before it. (Muslim)

The Prophet ﷺ also intended to fast the day before it, in order to differ from the People of the Scripture and to increase in goodness and reward. He said:

“If I remain until the coming year, I will surely fast the ninth day.” (Muslim from the narration of Ibn `Abbas, may Allah be pleased with them)

Therefore, respond, O successful ones, to the call of your Prophet ﷺ, and hasten to fast these two days seeking the pleasure of your Lord. How great is this deed: a small action for which an immense reward has been prepared.

The wise person is the one who takes advantage of these blessed seasons by performing righteous deeds and begins the new year with virtuous acts of devotion and obedience, thereby attaining the highest ranks and stations.

Know—may Allah have mercy upon you—that among the greatest deeds in reward is increasing your prayers and salutations upon the best of the children of Adam in mention and rank, the bearer of clear signs and miracles, and the possessor of the most splendid qualities. Your Lord has commanded you with this noble instruction, saying:

“Indeed, Allah and His angels send blessings upon the Prophet. O you who believe, send blessings and peace upon him abundantly.” (Al-Ahzab 33:56)

O Allah, send Your prayers and peace upon him, his family, and all his Companions.



O Allah, forgive the believing men and women, the living among them and the deceased. Our Lord, remove from us afflictions, epidemics, hardship, and adversity. Continue Your blessings upon us, avert from us Your punishments, and purify our souls, for You are the best of those who purify them.

Our Lord, grant us goodness in this world and goodness in the Hereafter, and protect us from the punishment of the Fire.

O Allah, protect Kuwait and its people from every evil and harm. Make this country secure and peaceful, and likewise all the lands of the Muslims. Strengthen the ground beneath the feet of those who protect its security and stability.

O Allah, grant success to our Amir and his Crown Prince in all that You love and are pleased with and guide them to righteousness and piety.

And the conclusion of our supplication is: All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all the worlds.

(Committee for preparing the model sermon for Friday Prayer.)