

Arab Republic of Egypt
Ministry of Awqaf
Safar 10, 1443 A.H./ September 17, 2021 C.E

Rights of the Homeland and Participation in its Building

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“Enter Egypt, Allah willing, you will be safe here.”** 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.

The rights of one’s homeland are among the most basic and vital rights, and the participation in its construction and progress is one of the greatest and most honorable deeds. Homeland is one of the six major principles that the Islamic Shari’ah has fostered and protected with due means, and the noble man defends his homeland with whatever he has. What a great verse that a poet said:

Every noble person owes his homeland,
great favors and rights to be fulfilled

It goes without saying that he who correctly understands his religion will realize that the relationship between religion and the state is not a

relationship of hostility and it will not be so. The genuine understanding religion contributes strongly to building and stabilizing a modern state based on solid patriotic foundations, just as a rational state cannot collide with human nature that searches for the right rational faith.

Our Prophet (PBUH) has embodied the meaning of patriotism in his statement when his people forced him to leave Mecca. He (PBUH) said, "How good you are as a land and how dear you are to my heart! Had your people not forced me out of you, I would have never come out and would have never resided in any other city but you."

However, patriotism is not just words to be said, or slogans to be raised. Rather, it is a conduct, sacrifices, and rights to be fulfilled. Among the loftiest and most important of these rights are: Sacrifices for the sake of one's homeland and protecting it from any danger that threatens it, threatens its stability or terrorizes its citizen. Protecting homelands is one of the higher purposes of religions, and it is the path of the noble and honorable people. Real patriotism means sacrifice and loving the homeland, respecting its flag, national anthem and all of its capabilities and institutions.

True patriotism entails the preservation of public money, which is a basic pillar for the state in order to manage its affairs, establish its institutions, provide services, improve the status of its citizens, and contribute to the making of its civilization. Our Prophet (PBUH) said, "Some people will unjustly acquire for themselves property which belongs to God, and on the

day of resurrection they will go to hell.” Thus, the public money ought to be protected.

True, patriotism requires supporting the nation’s products in the fields of industry, agriculture, trade and marketing, in a way that fosters the value of loyalty and affiliation to the homeland, and achieves the economic prosperity of its people. The more we work and strive perfectly for our nation, the more we leverage our country’s economic capabilities; and the more we buy and sell the country’s products, the more we give producers and manufacturers the opportunity to raise competitiveness edge, and contribute to providing more job opportunities for our youth.

Patriotism also requires respecting the public order and adhering to laws. Every group that lives in one society must have some fair systems and rules that control individuals’ behavior, preserve people’s rights, and oblige them to perform their duties. Without the order, people will not attain their rights, and justice will not be achieved. Adherence to the laws is a religious and civilized behavior, and an indispensable pillar for preserving the state’s entity, security, stability and development.

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:

True patriotism requires sincere participation in building the nation which is to be done through the perfect work and the high quality of production. This leads to the progress and prosperity of the nation. Our true religion does not require people to simply work, but rather to perfect their work. Our Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah loves someone who when works, he performs it in perfect manner." It is also said: "If you want to know one's loyalty, nobility, and his good manners, then watch how much he is loyal to his homeland, how much he is affiliated to it, how much he yearns for it, and how much he works for its sake.

How much do we need the collective efforts of the whole society for building our homeland? The homeland is for all its sons, and it cannot advance except with their hard work and striving, each one in his field and specialization: soldiers and policemen in the preservation of the homeland's security and safety; doctors in their hospitals; farmers in their fields; workers in their factories; and students through their diligence in acquiring knowledge, etc. The Almighty says, "Help one another to do what is right and good; do not help one another towards sin and hostility."

O Allah! Protect our country Egypt and all other countries of the worlds!