

A request to all imams: Please dedicate a khutba to talking about Masjid al-Aqsa and Palestine, so that your congregations can be reminded of the struggle in Palestine.

From Shaykh Raed Salaah, Jerusalem



In the name of Allah the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى
الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَا الَّذِي بَنَّا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ إِنَّهُ هُوَ
السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ

Alhamdulillah. May prayers and blessings be upon the Messenger of Allah. Ashadu anna la ilaha illa Allah, wa ashadu ana Mohammad rasul Allah.

I would like to begin by sending a greeting of love and passion from the holy land of Jerusalem, its people, and the Al-Aqsa Masjid to every Muslim and Muslima in the world (Old and young, men and women alike). I assure you that every stone in the holy land of Jerusalem and every grain of earth in the Al-Aqsa Masjid calls on you and cries out to you saying: “where are you O! Muslim”. Why? Because Jerusalem is in danger! Because the Holy Al-Aqsa Masjid is in danger” They are both in danger because they are occupied and suffering the suppression of the Israeli occupation.

As long as they are occupied and as long as they are prisoners, they are in danger. The danger is increasing by the day, and the threats will not cease until the Israeli occupation and imprisonment is stopped and they are back to the way they were, precious and protected. Who is there to help Masjid al-Aqsa now, when they are in pain, sorrow, and lament?

Oh Fellow Muslims

The holy land of Jerusalem was liberated by Al-Faruq Omar Bin Al-Khattab, liberated from the Crusaders by Salahiddine Al-Ayoubi , and protected from the dangers of the Tatars by the Ayyubi Sultanat, but who does it have now? Who will support Jerusalem now? Who will respond to Jerusalem’s cries now? Who will defy the suppression of the Israeli occupation and scream, even from the ends of the Earth: We are coming Jerusalem... We are at your beck and call Jerusalem... We hear your cry and are here to help.

Oh Fellow Muslims

Will we allow ourselves to let down the Blessed land of Jerusalem while the Israeli occupation works to Judaize it, while they expel Muslims out of it, while they destroy our homes, while they seize its land and restrict the entry to Masjid al-Aqsa

Oh Fellow Muslims

عن أبي ذر رضي الله عنه قال قال رسول الله أي مسجد وضع في الأرض أول قال المسجد الحرام قال قلت ثم أي قال المسجد الأقصى قلت كم كان بينهما قال أربعون سنة ثم أينما أدركتكم الصلاة بعد فصله فإن الفضل فيه (البخاري)

The Al-Aqsa Masjid is the first of the two Kiblah's because the Prophet (peace be upon him) and his companions (May Allah be pleased with them) adopted the Al-Aqsa Masjid as their first kiblah . they prayed towards Al-Aqsa for many months until Allah ordered them to pray towards the Ka'abah. Who will allow the first of the two kiblahs to remain occupied and imprisoned?

Oh Fellow Muslims

Al-Aqsa Masjid is the second Masjid in the history of mankind. The first Masjid built on Earth was the Masjid Al-Haram, then 40 years later, Al-Aqsa was built. This means the Al-Aqsa Masjid was built during the time of Adam, father of mankind, before the existence of Israeli people. Who will allow the Israeli occupation to steal the Al-Aqsa Masjid and make false claims that the Al-Aqsa Masjid belongs to the Israelis? Who will allow the Al-Aqsa Masjid, the first of the two kiblahs, to remain stolen from us?

Oh Fellow Muslims

عن أبي الدرداء رضي الله عنه قال : قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم : الصلاة في المسجد الحرام بمائة ألف صلاة ، والصلاة في مسجدي بألف صلاة ، والصلاة في بيت المقدس بخمسمائة صلاة (الطبراني في الكبير وابن خزيمة في صحيحه)

Al-Aqsa Masjid is the third holiest Masjid. Prayer at the Al-Masjid Al-Haram equals 100,000 prayers in any other Masjid, prayer at the Prophet's Masjid in Madinah equals 1,000 prayers in any other Masjid except Al-Masjid Al-Haram, and prayer at the Al-Aqsa Masjid equals 500 prayers in any other Masjid except for Al-Masjid Al-Haram and the Prophet's Masjid. Will we allow ourselves to give up Al-masjid Al-Haram? The answer is clear: No and a thousand no's! Will we allow ourselves to give up the Prophet's Masjid? The answer is clear: No and a thousand no's! Then why... why... why do we allow ourselves today to give up the Al-Aqsa Masjid, the third holiest Masjid?

Oh Fellow Muslims

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِنَ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى
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السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ ﴿١٧٠﴾

The Holy Al-Aqsa Masjid is a sign in Allah's book and mentioned in the Holy Quran in the beginning of Surat Al-Isra'a (Exalted is He who took His Servant by night from al-Masjid al-Haram to al-Masjid al- Aqsa, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him of Our signs. Indeed, He is the Hearing, the Seeing.) This Quranic verse is evidence that the Masjid Al-Haram and Al-Aqsa are twins, and that

Al-Masjid Al-Haram and Al-Aqsa are siblings, meaning that their fates are equal and that they must be equally supported. Who of you is for the support of Al-Aqsa Masjid along with Al-Masjid Al-Haram, who is for the reconstruction of Al-Aqsa Masjid along with Al-Masjid Al-Haram, who will hurry and go to the Al-Aqsa Masjid as we go today to Al-Masjid Al-Haram safe and assured fearing no one but Allah?

Oh Fellow Muslims

Al-Aqsa Masjid is a sign in the book of Allah and a Quranic cause. As every Muslim and Muslima must memorize the Holy Quran, we must also preserve the Al-Aqsa Masjid.

Who is protecting the Al-Aqsa Masjid today while the Israeli occupation continues to dig tunnels beneath it?

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today when the Israeli occupation has built a synagogue in the tunnels under Al-Aqsa and a museum they called “Convoy of Generations”?

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today when the Israeli occupation converted one of Al-Aqsa’s prayer rooms into an Israeli police station?

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today when the Israeli occupation took control of all the Al-Aqsa gates by armed force and permits access to whomever they please and deny access to whomever they please? Today, the Israeli occupation denies access to over 3 million Palestinian Muslims living in the West bank and Gaza Strip. They prevent them from entering Al-Aqsa Masjid!

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today while the Israeli occupation’s army, intelligence, and police storm Al-Aqsa Masjid daily and desecrate its pure grounds with their shoes?! Even some of the Israeli politicians, religious figures, judges, and hundreds of Israeli community members storm Al-Aqsa on a weekly basis and perform their Talmudic prayers in our holy Al-Aqsa Masjid during each incursion.

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today while some Israeli occupation officials call for dividing Al-Aqsa unacceptably between the Muslims and Jews, as it imposed the division of the Ibrahimi Masjid in Hebron?

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today while some Israeli occupation officials demand speeding up the construction of a mythical structure under Al-Aqsa Masjid?

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today while the Israeli occupation claim that Al-Aqsa’s interior grounds are only public grounds and should be subject to the Hebrew Jerusalem Municipality and that it has the right to do with it what it pleases?

Who will support Al-Aqsa Masjid today while the Israeli occupation have killed dozens and injured hundreds of worshippers in Al-Aqsa in past years? The blood of these martyrs and the wounded poured onto the embracing grounds of Al-Aqsa and complained to Allah of the brutality of the Israeli occupation.

Oh Fellow Muslims

Al-Aqsa Masjid is place where the Prophet (peace be upon him) travelled. Allah sent his Prophet Mohammad peace be upon him to it, and there he led the prayer with all the prophets and messengers. Will we abandon Al-Aqsa?

Oh Fellow Muslims

Al-Aqsa is the gate from where the Prophet (peace be upon him) ascended, Allah ascended his prophet to the 7 heavens and Sidrat al-Muntaha. Will we ignore this remarkable prophetic legacy?

Oh Fellow Muslims

عَنْ أَبِي أُمَامَةَ الْبَاهِلِيِّ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، قَالَ: "لَا تَزَالُ طَائِفَةٌ مِنْ أُمَّتِي عَلَى الْحَقِّ ظَاهِرِينَ عَلَى مَنْ يَغْزُوهُمْ، قَاهِرِينَ لَا يَضُرُّهُمْ مَنْ نَاوَاهُمْ، حَتَّى يَأْتِيَهُمْ أَمْرُ اللَّهِ، وَهُمْ كَذَلِكَ"، قِيلَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، وَأَيْنَ هُمْ؟ قَالَ: "بَيْتِ الْمَقْدِسِ". (الطبراني)

Al-Aqsa Masjid and all that surrounds it is a holy site and the land of **ribat**. The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him assured us in a number of Hadiths that it will continue to carry a group of Mohammad's (peace be upon him) nation that will remain victorious until Judgement Day, and that this nation will not be harmed by the suffering it faces, nor will they be harmed by those who have violated, disappointed, or abandoned them. Let us be supportive of this victorious nation who lives today in Jerusalem because the perseverance and determination of this nation in Jerusalem means everlasting preservation of the Muslim Ummah's right to the holy land of Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Masjid until the end of time.

Oh Fellow Muslims

Based on all that I have reminded myself and you of, the holy land of Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Masjid has been entrusted to us, and the least we must do to support them is what the Prophet (peace be upon him) said (If you cannot go for prayer then send some oil to be used for its lamps, it will be as if he has prayed in it).

عن ميمونة مولاة النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم قالت: "قلت يا رسول الله: أفتنا في بيت المقدس"، قال: "أرض المحشر والمنشر، انثوه فصلوا فيه، فإن صلاة فيه كآلف صلاة في غيره، قلت: أرايت إن لم أستطع أن أتحمّل إليه؟ قال: فنهدي له زيتا يسرج فيه، فمن فعل فهو كمن أتاه." (أحمد وأبو داود)

May Allah bless you all.