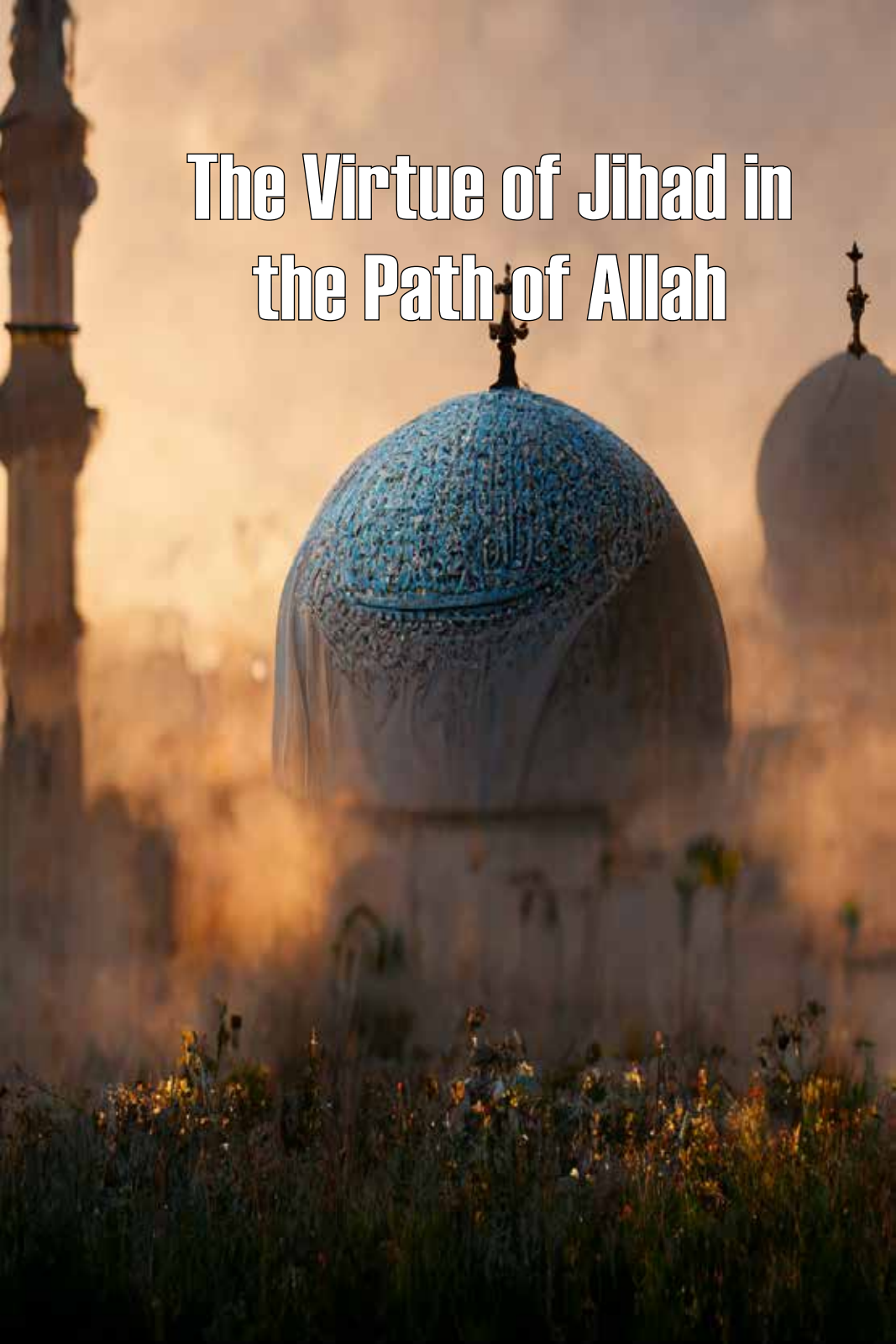


# The Virtue of Jihad in the Path of Allah



## The Virtue of *Jihâd* in the Path of Allâh

All praise is for Allâh, Who ordered the Muslims to perform *Jihâd* (fighting for the sake of Allâh) to purge the earth of infidelity, disbelief, and aberration. I bear witness that there is no god worthy of worship save Allâh Alone having no partners, and that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger, who fought and struggled rightly and piously with all means of struggle. He performed *Jihâd* at every level throughout his life and called the people to Islam using the signs and proofs given to him by Allâh ﷻ. He further fought, abiding by the commandments of Allâh ﷻ, to establish the religion of Islam on earth. His entire life was dedicated to that cause. His days, hours, and minutes were committed to achieving that goal. May peace and prayers be upon him, his family and his Companions who dedicated their lives and their wealth for *Jihâd* in the path of Allâh ﷻ in order to please Allâh ﷻ and be rewarded by Him.

O servants of Allâh! Fear Allâh and be aware of the fact that Allâh ﷻ with His great wisdom tests the believers. He tests them with the existence of the disbelievers and hypocrites. The truthfulness of the believers is tested in this way and they thereby earn their rank and status in the Hereafter. Indeed Allâh ﷻ is able to ruin and destroy the disbelievers completely, but He wants to test the believers through their confrontation with them. Allâh ﷻ says:

﴿ ذَٰلِكَ وَلَوْ يَشَاءُ اللَّهُ لَانْتَصَرَ مِنْهُمْ وَلَكِنْ لِيَبْلُوَ بَعْضَكُمْ بِبَعْضٍ وَالَّذِينَ قُتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ قُلْنَا يُضِلُّ أَعْمَالَهُمْ ۝ سَيَجِدُهُمُ الْيَوْمَ عَرَفًا لَمْ يَكُنْ لَهُمُ الْآزِيدُ ۝ إِن نَّصُرُوا اللَّهَ يَنْصُرْهُمُ وَيُلَيِّتْ أَقْدَامَهُمْ ۝ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَتَعَسَا لَهُمُ الْآصَلُ أَعْمَالُهُمْ ﴾

“But if it had been Allâh’s Will, He Himself could certainly have punished them (without you). But (He lets you fight) in order to test some of you with others. But those who are killed in the way of Allâh, He will never let their deeds be lost. He will guide them and set right their state. And admit them to Paradise which He has made known to them (i.e., they will know their

places in Paradise better than they used to know their homes in the world). O you who believe! If you help (in the cause of) Allâh, He will help you, and make your foothold firm. But those who disbelieve (in the Oneness of Allâh — Islâmic Monotheism), for them is destruction, and (Allâh) will make their deeds vain.” (47:4-8)

O believers! *Jihâd* is the peak of Islam, and those who perform *Jihâd* occupy the highest ranks in Paradise as well as in this life. Allâh ﷻ said:

﴿لَا يَسْتَوِي الْقَاعِدُونَ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ غَيْرُ أُولِي الضَّرَرِ وَالْمُجَاهِدُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ الْمُجَاهِدِينَ بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ عَلَى الْقَاعِدِينَ دَرَجَةً وَلَا وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الْخَائِفِينَ وَفَضَّلَ اللَّهُ الْمُجَاهِدِينَ عَلَى الْقَاعِدِينَ أَجْرًا عَظِيمًا ۝ دَرَجَاتٍ مِنْهُ وَمَغْفِرَةً وَرَحْمَةً ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا﴾

“Not equal are those of the believers who sit (at home), except those who are disabled (by injury or are blind or lame), and those who strive hard and fight in the Cause of Allâh with their wealth and their lives. Allâh has preferred in grades those who strive hard and fight with their wealth and their lives above those who sit (at home). Unto each, Allâh has promised good (Paradise), but Allâh has preferred those who strive hard and fight, above those who sit (at home) by a huge reward. Degrees of (higher) grades from Him, and forgiveness and mercy. And Allâh is Ever Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.” (4:95,96)

Allâh ﷻ ordered the believers to perform *Jihâd* against the disbelievers and hypocrites. This is to be accomplished in four ways: with the heart, with the spoken word, with money and with their bodies. Fighting the disbelievers is to be accomplished with money and weapons, whereas performing *Jihâd* against the hypocrites is to be accomplished with proofs and reasoning. Allâh ﷻ has decreed *Jihâd* to make Allâh’s word superior and to establish the worship of Allâh ﷻ alone, without partners. In this regard Allâh ﷻ says:

﴿ وَفِي أَلْوَاهِمَ حَتَّىٰ لَا تَكُونَ فِتْنَةٌ وَيَكُونَ لِلدِّينِ كُلِّهِ لِلَّهِ ﴾

“And fight them until there is no more *Fitnah* (disbelief and polytheism, i.e., worshipping others besides Allâh), and the religion (worship) will all be for Allâh Alone [in the whole of the world].” (8:39)

Allâh has further decreed this obligation to defeat the disbelievers and the *Mushrikeen* (those who take partners with Allâh ﷻ) to protect the believers from their harm. Allâh ﷻ said:

﴿ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا يُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا يُقَاتِلُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ الطَّاغُوتِ فَقَاتِلُوا أَوْلِيَاءَ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّ كَيْدَ الشَّيْطَانِ كَانَ ضَعِيفًا ﴾

“Those who believe, fight in the Cause of Allâh, and those who disbelieve, fight in the cause of *Tâghût* (Satan). So fight you against the friends of *Shaitân* (Satan); ever feeble indeed is the plot of *Shaitân* (Satan).” (4:76)

Ibn Al-Qayyim said: “The fact of the matter is that *Jihâd* in general is an obligation upon every Muslim. It can be established at different levels by different means. These means are the heart, the speech, the wealth and the body. It is incumbent upon every Muslim to establish *Jihâd* by one of these means.” Imam Ahmad narrated a *Hadith* in which a man asked the Prophet ﷺ to advise him, upon which he said: “I advise you to fear Allâh, for fearing Allâh is everything. Establish *Jihâd*, for it is the monasticism of Islam. Keep mentioning Allâh and reciting the Qur’ân for they are your soul in the heavens and your fame on earth.” In this regard the Prophet ﷺ said:

«ذُرْوَةٌ سَنَامِ الْإِسْلَامِ الْجِهَادُ»

“*Jihâd* is the utmost part of Islam.”

«ثَلَاثَةٌ حَقٌّ عَلَى اللَّهِ عَوْنُهُمْ: الْمُجَاهِدُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ، وَالْمُكَاتَبُ الَّذِي يُرِيدُ الْأَدَاءَ، وَالتَّائِبُ الَّذِي يُرِيدُ الْعَفَاةَ.»

“Allâh vowed to help three persons: the one who fights in the path of Allâh, the slave who wants to pay for his freedom, and

the man who wants to get married to keep himself away from the temptation of women.”

«مَنْ مَاتَ وَلَمْ يَغْزُ وَلَمْ يُحَدِّثْ بِهِ نَفْسَهُ، مَاتَ عَلَى شُعْبَةٍ مِنْ نِفَاقٍ» .

“He who dies without having fought for the sake of Allâh or having intended to do so, will die with one of the characteristics of hypocrisy.”

«مَنْ لَمْ يَغْزُ أَوْ يُجَهِّزْ غَازِيًا أَوْ يَخْلُفْ غَازِيًا فِي أَهْلِهِ بِخَيْرٍ، أَصَابَهُ اللهُ سُبْحَانَهُ بِقَارِعَةٍ قَبْلَ يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ» .

“He who neither takes part in fighting, nor equips a fighter, nor looks after a fighter’s family will be afflicted by severe disaster before the Day of Resurrection.”

He ﷺ also said:

«إِذَا ضَنَّ النَّاسُ - أَيْ بَخِلُوا - بِالذِّينَارِ وَالذَّرْهَمِ وَتَبَايَعُوا لِبِالْعَيْنَتِ - وَهِيَ نَوْعٌ مِنَ الرَّبَا - وَاتَّبَعُوا أَذْنَابَ الْبُقَرِ وَتَرَكُوا الْجِهَادَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللهِ أَنْزَلَ اللهُ بِهِمْ بَلَاءً، فَلَمْ يَرْفَعْهُ عَنْهُمْ حَتَّى يُرَاجِعُوا دِينَهُمْ» .

“If people become stingy in giving charity, deal with *Ina* (a form of business based on usury), follow the tails of cows (to resort totally to life activities like farming), and cease to establish *Jihâd* in the cause of Allâh, soon Allâh ﷻ will afflict them with a great tribulation which will never be alleviated until they return to their religion.”

Ibn Mâjah narrated that the Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

«مَنْ لَقِيَ اللهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ وَلَيْسَ لَهُ أَثَرٌ فِي سَبِيلِ اللهِ لَقِيَ اللهُ وَفِيهِ تُلْمَةٌ» .

“He who meets Allâh ﷻ without having showed a sign that he fought on the path of Allâh ﷻ will meet Him with a deficiency.”

O servants of Allâh, *Jihâd* in the cause of Allâh can be fighting in the path of Allâh or offering money in support of those who fight. However, establishing *Jihâd* through offering money has been mentioned in the Qur’ân before establishing *Jihâd* physically, as Allâh

ﷺ said:

﴿ أَنْفِرُوا خِفَافًا وَثِقَالًا وَجَاهِدُوا بِأَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنْفُسِكُمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴾

“March forth, whether you are light (being healthy, young and wealthy) or heavy (being ill, old and poor), and strive hard with your wealth and your lives in the Cause of Allâh. This is better for you, if you but knew.”(9:41)

Furthermore, Allâh made forgiveness, deliverance from the torment of the Fire and entering Paradise conditional upon performing *Jihâd* physically and financially. In this regard Allâh ﷻ said:

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا هَلْ أَدُلُّكُمْ عَلَى تَجَرَّةٍ تُنَجِّكُمْ مِنْ عَذَابِ الْهِمِّ ۖ تُوْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَتُجَاهِدُونَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ بِأَمْوَالِكُمْ وَأَنْفُسِكُمْ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ۖ يَغْفِرَ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَيُدْخِلْكُمْ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرَى مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ وَمَسَاكِنَ طَيِّبَةً فِي جَنَّاتٍ عَدْنٍ ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ ﴾

“O you who believe! Shall I guide you to a trade that will save you from a painful torment?. That you believe in Allâh and His Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ), and that you strive hard and fight in the Cause of Allâh with your wealth and your lives, that will be better for you, if you but know! (If you do so) He will forgive you your sins, and admit you into Gardens under which rivers flow, and pleasant dwellings in ‘*Adn* (Eden) Paradise; that is indeed the great success.” (61:10-12)

Allâh ﷻ also said that He bought from the believers their souls and money in return for Paradise. The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

«مَنْ أَنْفَقَ زَوْجَيْنِ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ دَعَاهُ خَزَنَةُ الْجَنَّةِ كُلُّ خَزَنَةٍ بَابٍ: أَيُّ فُلٍ هَلُمَّ» .

“He who spends a pair of things out of the things in the way of Allâh, will be called from the gates of Paradise: O servant of Allâh! This gate is better for you.”

«مَنْ أَنْفَقَ نَفَقَةً فَاضِلَةً فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ فَسَبْعُمِائَةٍ.»

“He who makes a contribution (from his surplus wealth) for the sake of Allâh, will have his reward multiplied seven hundred times.”

«مَنْ أَرْسَلَ بِنَفَقَتِهِ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَأَقَامَ فِي بَيْتِهِ فَلَهُ بِكُلِّ دِرْهَمٍ سَبْعُمِائَةٍ دِرْهَمٌ.»

“He who contributes from his wealth for the sake of Allâh, and stays at his home will have the reward of seven hundred dirhams for each dirham he spends.”

«مَنْ أَعَانَ مُجَاهِدًا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَوْ غَارِمًا فِي غُرْمِهِ أَوْ مُكَاتِبًا فِي رَقَبَتِهِ أَظَلَّهُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ لَا ظِلَّ إِلَّا ظِلُّهُ.»

“He who helps a *Mujahid* in the path of Allâh, helps pay the debts of someone in debt, or contributes to the freedom of a slave, will be in the shade of Allâh at the time when there is no shade except the Shade of Allâh.”

O servants of Allâh, establishing *Jihâd* by offering money is to provide the *Mujahidoon* with the money they need for their own expenses during their incursions for the sake of Allâh ﷻ, and for their family's living expenses, and for buying weapons. For that reason, Allâh ﷻ mentioned participating in *Jihâd* with money prior to participating in it physically. This is a vital reason to have all the Muslims integrated like one body so that if one organ suffers the whole body will empathize with this organ by means of fever and lack of sleep.

﴿وَقَاتِلُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ۝ مَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يقرضُ اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا فَيُضَاعِفَهُ لَهُ أَضْعَافًا كَثِيرَةً وَاللَّهُ يَقْبِضُ وَيَبْسُطُ وَإِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ﴾

“And fight in the way of Allâh and know that Allâh is All-Hearer, All-Knower. Who is he that will lend to Allâh a goodly loan so that He may multiply it to him many times? And it is

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Allâh that decreases or increases (your provisions), and unto Him you shall return.” (2:244,245)

By this I conclude my speech and ask Allâh ﷻ to forgive all of our sins and wrongdoings.