

Injustice And Oppression

الظلم والبغي - Injustice and Oppression

1. In times of injustice, remember the justice of Allah with you and when you are powerful, [recall] the power of Allah over you.

.. أَذْكُرُ عِنْدَ الظُّلْمِ عَدْلَ اللَّهِ فِيكَ، وَعِنْدَ الْقُدْرَةِ قُدْرَةَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكَ¹

2. Beware of oppression, for verily it brings [divine] retribution, dispels blessings and causes changes in circumstances.

.. اتَّقُوا الْبَغْيَ فَإِنَّهُ يَجْلِبُ النَّقْمَ، وَ يَسْلُبُ النِّعَمَ، وَ يُوجِبُ الْغَيْرَ²

3. Distance yourselves from injustice, for indeed it is the greatest of wrongdoings and the biggest of sins.

.. أَبْعُدُوا عَنِ الظُّلْمِ، فَإِنَّهُ أَعْظَمُ الْجَرَائِمِ، وَأَكْبَرُ الْمَآثِمِ³

4. Keep away from injustice for whoever acts unjustly, his days are abhorred.

.. إِيَّاكَ وَالظُّلْمَ، فَمَنْ ظَلَمَ كُرِهَتْ أَيَّامُهُ⁴

5. Keep away from injustice, for indeed it will depart from the one whom you oppress and will remain upon you.

.. إِيَّاكَ وَالظُّلْمَ، فَإِنَّهُ يَزُولُ عَمَّنْ تَظْلِمُهُ، وَيَبْقَى عَلَيْكَ⁵

6. Keep away from oppression, for verily it hastens one's downfall and causes tears [of regret and sorrow] to flow from the one who acts upon it. [1](#)

.. إِيَّاكَ وَالْبَغْيَ، فَإِنَّهُ يُعَجِّلُ الصَّرْعَةَ، وَيُحِلُّ بِالْعَامِلِ بِهِ الْعِبْرَةَ

7. Keep away from injustice, for it is the biggest sin; and verily the unjust will surely be chastised on the Day of Resurrection because of his injustice.

.. إِيَّاكَ وَالظُّلْمَ، فَإِنَّهُ أَكْبَرُ الْمَعَاصِي، وَإِنَّ الظَّالِمَ لَمُعَاقَبٌ يَوْمَ الْقِيَمَةِ بِظُلْمِهِ

8. Keep away from oppression, for verily Allah hastens chastisement for the oppressor and sends down exemplary punishments upon him.

.. إِيَّاكَ وَالْبَغْيَ، فَإِنَّ الْبَاغِيَ يُعَجِّلُ اللَّهُ لَهُ النِّقْمَةَ، وَيُحِلُّ بِهِ الْمُثَلَّاتِ

9. Avoid the downfalls of transgression, the disgraces of deceit and the arousal of the latent, reprehensible evil.

.. إِيَّاكُمْ وَصَرَاعَاتِ الْبَغْيِ، وَفَضَحَاتِ الْغَدْرِ، وَإِثَارَةَ كَامِنِ الشَّرِّ الْمُدْمِمِ

10. Know that injustice is of three kinds: the injustice that is not forgiven, the injustice that is not left [unquestioned], and the injustice that is forgiven without being questioned. As for the injustice that is not forgiven, it is the ascribing of partners to Allah as He, the Most High, says: *'Verily Allah does not forgive that any partner should be ascribed to Him, but He forgives anything besides that to whomever He wishes'*. As for the injustice that is forgiven, it is the injustice of a person to himself in committing some small sins. And as for the injustice that is not left unquestioned, it is the injustice of the people on one another. In this case the punishment is severe, not [simply] wounding with knives or striking with whips, rather it is a punishment in comparison to which all this seems small.

- أَلَا وَإِنَّ الظُّلْمَ ثَلَاثَةٌ: فَظُلْمٌ لَا يُغْفَرُ، وَظُلْمٌ لَا يُتْرَكُ، وَظُلْمٌ مَغْفُورٌ لَا يُطْلَبُ، فَأَمَّا الظُّلْمُ الَّذِي لَا يُغْفَرُ، فَالشِّرْكُ بِاللَّهِ لِقَوْلِهِ تَعَالَى: ﴿إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَغْفِرُ أَنْ يُشْرَكَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرُ مَا دُونَ ذَلِكَ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ﴾ وَأَمَّا الظُّلْمُ الَّذِي يُغْفَرُ، فَظُلْمُ الْمَرْءِ لِنَفْسِهِ عِنْدَ بَعْضِ الْهَنَاتِ، وَأَمَّا الظُّلْمُ الَّذِي لَا يُتْرَكُ، فَظُلْمُ الْعِبَادِ بَعْضِهِمْ بَعْضًا، الْعِقَابُ هُنَاكَ شَدِيدٌ لَيْسَ جَرَحًا بِالْمُدَى، وَلَا ضَرْبًا بِالسَّيَاطِ، وَلَكِنَّهُ مَا يُسْتَصْغَرُ ذَلِكَ مَعَهُ.

11. The most loathsome of traits is aggression.

.. أَقْبَحُ الشَّيْءِ الْعُدْوَانُ¹¹

12. The quickest thing is the downfall of an oppressor.

.. أَعْجَلُ شَيْءٍ صَرَعَهُ الْبَغْيُ¹²

13. The vilest oppression is [that which is practiced] when one has power.

.. أَلْأَمُّ الْبَغْيِ عِنْدَ الْقُدْرَةِ¹³

14. The vilest transgression is transgression against the intimate [friends].

.. أَفْحَشُ الْبَغْيِ الْبَغْيُ عَلَى الْأَلْفِ¹⁴

15. The most loathsome injustice is your withholding the rights of Allah.

.. أَقْبَحُ الظُّلْمِ مَنْعُكَ حُقُوقَ اللَّهِ¹⁵

16. The most tyrannical person is he who oppresses the one who is fair to him.

.. أَجْوَرُ النَّاسِ مَنْ ظَلَمَ مَنْ أَنْصَفَهُ¹⁶

17. The actions that are most effective in bringing chastisement are oppression and ingratitude for blessings.

.. أَبْلَغُ مَا تُسْتَجْلَبُ بِهِ النِّقْمَةُ الْبَغْيُ، وَكُفْرُ النِّعْمَةِ¹⁷

18. Verily the evil that brings the quickest retribution is injustice.

.. إِنَّ أَسْرَعَ الشَّرِّ عِقَاباً الظُّلْمُ¹⁸

19. Indeed the ugliness in injustice is equivalent to the beauty in justice.

.. إِنَّ الْقُبْحَ فِي الظُّلْمِ بِقَدْرِ الْحُسْنِ فِي الْعَدْلِ¹⁹

20. Injustice is [the cause of divine] punishment.

.. الظُّلْمُ عِقَابٌ 20

21. Oppression takes away blessing.

.. الْبَغْيُ يَسْلُبُ النِّعْمَةَ 21

22. Injustice brings [divine wrath and] chastisement.

.. الظُّلْمُ يَجْلِبُ النَّقْمَةَ 22

23. Injustice has adverse consequences.

.. الظُّلْمُ وَخِيمٌ الْعَاقِبَةِ 23

24. Oppression puts an end to blessings.

.. الْبَغْيُ يُزِيلُ النِّعَمَ 24

25. Injustice drives away blessings.

.. الظُّلْمُ يَطْرُدُ النِّعَمَ 25

26. Oppression brings [divine wrath and] chastisements.

.. الْبَغْيُ يَجْلِبُ النَّقْمَ 26

27. Injustice causes one to enter hellfire.

.. الظُّلْمُ يُوجِبُ النَّارَ 27

28. Oppression leads to destruction.

.. أَلْبَغْيُ يُوجِبُ الدِّمَارَ 28

29. Injustice is the most wicked vice.

.. أَلْظُلْمُ أَلَأَمُّ الرِّدَائِلِ 29

30. Injustice is the ruination of the populace.

.. أَلْظُّلْمُ بَوَارُ الرِّعِيَّةِ 30

31. Power is expunged by aggression.

.. أَلْقُدْرَةُ يُزِيلُهَا الْعُدْوَانُ 31

32. Injustice has a series of destructive consequences.

.. أَلْظُّلْمُ تَبِعَاتٌ مُوَبِقَاتٌ 32

33. Oppression is the quickest thing to be punished.

.. أَلْبَغْيُ أَعْجَلُ شَيْءٍ عُقُوبَةٌ 33

34. Injustice destroys homes.

.. أَلْظُّلْمُ يَدْمِرُ الدِّيَارَ 34

35. Injustice destroys the one who practices it.

.. أَلْظُّلْمُ يُرْدِي صَاحِبَهُ 35

36. Oppression drives [one] towards utter destruction.

.. أَلْبَغْيُ سَائِقٌ إِلَى الْحَيْنِ 36

37. Injustice is a crime that cannot be forgotten.

.. أَلْظُلْمُ جُرْمٌ لَا يُنْسَى 37

38. Oppression causes the downfall of men and brings [their] deaths closer.

.. أَلْبَغْيُ يَصْرَعُ الرِّجَالَ، وَيُدْنِي الْأَجَالَ 38

39. When power prompts you to be unjust to people, then remember the power of Allah, the Glorified, to punish you; and [recall the fact] that what you have brought upon them will depart from them while it will remain with you.

- إِذَا حَدَّتْكَ الْقُدْرَةُ عَلَى ظُلْمِ النَّاسِ فَادْكُرْ قُدْرَةَ اللَّهِ سُبْحَانَهُ عَلَى عُقُوبَتِكَ، وَذَهَابَ مَا آتَيْتَ إِلَيْهِمْ عَنْهُمْ، وَبَقَاءَهُ 39
عَلَيْكَ.

40. By injustice, blessings are removed.

.. بِالظُّلْمِ تَزُولُ النِّعَمُ 40

41. By oppression, chastisement is brought down.

.. بِالْبَغْيِ تُجْلَبُ النَّقَمُ 41

42. How bad an injustice is the injustice to one who is submissive!

.. بِئْسَ الظُّلْمُ ظُلْمُ الْمُسْتَسْلِمِ 42

43. How evil a provision for the Hereafter is oppressiveness to the servants [of Allah]!

.. بِئْسَ الزَّادُ إِلَى الْمَعَادِ الْعُدْوَانُ عَلَى الْعِبَادِ 43

44. Continued injustice takes away blessings and brings forth chastisement.

.. دَوَامُ الظُّلْمِ يَسْلُبُ النِّعَمَ وَيَجْلُبُ النَّقَمَ 44

45. Remedy injustice with justice and cure poverty with alms and charity.

.. دَاوُوا الْجَوْرَ بِالْعَدْلِ، وَدَاوُوا الْفَقْرَ بِالصَّدَقَةِ وَالْبَذْلِ 45

46. The cornerstone of ignorance is oppression.

.. رَأْسُ الْجَهْلِ الْجَوْرُ 46

47. One who embarks of injustice is met with ruin.

.. رَاكِبُ الظُّلْمِ يُدْرِكُهُ الْبَوَارُ 47

48. Whoever rides the mount of injustice, his mount will stumble with him.

.. رَاكِبُ الظُّلْمِ يَكْبُوتُ بِهِ مَرْكَبُهُ 48

49. The most evil characteristic of the souls is oppression.

.. شَرُّ أَخْلَاقِ النُّفُوسِ الْجَوْرُ 49

50. Two things are such that one cannot be safe from their [evil] consequences: injustice and evil (or gluttony).

(.. شَيْئَانِ لَا تُسَلِّمُ عَاقِبَتُهُمَا: الظُّلْمُ، وَالشَّرُّ (الشَّرْه) 50

51. Counter oppression with justice.

.. ضَادُّوا الْجَوْرَ بِالْعَدْلِ 51

52. Submission to tyranny causes destruction and annihilates the kingdom.

.. طَاعَةُ الْجَوْرِ تُوجِبُ الْهُلْكَ، وَتَأْتِي عَلَى الْمُلْكِ 52

53. Being unjust to the weak is the most grievous injustice.

.. ظُلْمُ الضَّعِيفِ أَفْحَشُ الظُّلْمِ 53

54. Injustice to the one who has surrendered is the greatest crime.

.. ظُلْمُ الْمُسْتَسْلِمِ أَعْظَمُ الْجُرْمِ 54

55. Being unjust to the people corrupts one's Hereafter.

.. ظُلْمُ الْعِبَادِ يُفْسِدُ الْمَعَادَ 55

56. One who oppresses the people has manifested his obdurate opposition to Allah, the Glorified.

.. ظَاهِرَ اللَّهِ سُبْحَانُهُ بِالْعِنَادِ مَنْ ظَلَمَ الْعِبَادَ 56

57. The injustice of a man in this world is the symbol of his wretchedness in the Hereafter.

.. ظُلْمُ الْمَرْءِ فِي الدُّنْيَا عُنْوَانُ شَقَايِهِ فِي الْآخِرَةِ 57

58. Injustice to orphans and widows brings down divine wrath and takes away the blessings from those who possess them.

.. ظُلْمُ الْيَتَامَى وَالْأَيَامَى يُنْزِلُ النَّقْمَ وَيَسْلُبُ النِّعَمَ أَهْلُهَا 58

59. In tyranny there is transgression.

.. فِي الْجَوْرِ الطُّغْيَانُ 59

60. The destruction of the populace is in tyranny.

.. فِي الْجَوْرِ هَلَاكُ الرِّعِيَّةِ 60

61. How many a blessing has been removed by injustice!

.. كَمْ مِنْ نِعْمَةٍ سَلَبَهَا ظُلْمٌ 61

62. Injustice is enough of a dispeller of blessing and an invoker of chastisement.

.. كَفَى بِالظُّلْمِ طَارِدًا لِلنَّعْمَةِ، وَجَالِبًا لِلنَّفْثَةِ 62

63. Oppression is sufficient for the removal of blessing.

.. كَفَى بِالْبَغْيِ سَالِبًا لِلنَّعْمَةِ 63

64. There is nothing that is more summoning of the removal of blessing and the hastening of chastisement than remaining steadfast upon injustice.

.. لَيْسَ شَيْءٌ أَدْعَى إِلَى زَوَالِ نِعْمَةٍ، وَتَعْجِيلِ نِقْمَةٍ مِنْ إِقَامَةِ عَلَى ظُلْمٍ 64

65. One who is praised for injustice is being plotted against [and deceived].

.. مَنْ حُمِدَ عَلَى الظُّلْمِ مُكِرَ بِهِ 65

66. One whose injustice is excessive, his regret is abundant.

.. مَنْ كَثُرَ ظُلْمُهُ كَثُرَتْ نَدَامَتُهُ 66

67. Whoever unsheathes the sword of oppression [on the people], his head becomes its sheath.

.. مَنْ سَلَّ سَيْفَ الْبَغْيِ غُمِدَ فِي رَأْسِهِ 67

68. One of the most grievous injustices is the injustice of [or against] the honourable ones.

.. مِنْ أَفْحَشِ الظُّلْمِ ظُلْمُ الْكِرَامِ 68

69. Do not make the nobles desirous of your cruelty [in their favour over those who oppose them].

.. لَا تُطْمِعِ الْعُظَمَاءَ فِي حَيْفِكَ 69

70. Do not stretch out your hand against one who is unable to stave it off from himself.

.. لَا تَبْسُطَنَّ يَدَكَ عَلَى مَنْ لَا يَفْدُرُ عَلَى دَفْعِهَا عَنْهُ 70

71. Never oppress one who has no helper except Allah.

.. لَا تَظْلِمَنَّ مَنْ لَا يَجِدُ نَاصِرًا إِلَّا اللَّهُ 71

72. Consider not the injustice of the one who is unjust to you as grave, for indeed his striving only harms himself and benefits you; and it is not the reward of one who pleases you that you should offend him.

.. لَا يَكْبُرَنَّ عَلَيْكَ ظُلْمٌ مَنْ ظَلَمَكَ فَإِنَّهُ يَسْعَى فِي مَضْرَرَّتِهِ وَنَفْعِكَ، وَمَا جَزَاءُ مَنْ يَسُرُّكَ أَنْ تَسُوَّهُ 72

73. There is no evil like injustice.

.. لَا سَوَاءَ كَالظُّلْمِ 73

74. There is no victory with oppression.

.. لَا ظَفَرَ مَعَ بَغْيٍ 74

75. He who does not refrain from oppressing people does not believe in the Hereafter.

.. لَا يُؤْمِنُ بِالْمَعَادِ مَنْ لَا يَتَحَرَّجُ عَنْ ظُلْمِ الْعِبَادِ 75

76. One from whose oppression people are not safe is not safe from the punishment of Allah.

.. لَا يُؤْمِنُ اللَّهُ عَذَابُهُ مَنْ لَا يَأْمَنُ النَّاسُ جَوْرَهُ 76

77. A man may sleep after the loss of a child but he will not sleep under [the yoke of] oppression.

.. يَنَامُ الرَّجُلُ عَلَى الثُّكْلِ، وَلَا يَنَامُ عَلَى الظُّلْمِ 77

78. Tyranny is one of the two destroyers.

.. الْجَوْرُ أَحَدُ الْمُدْمِرَيْنِ 78

79. Injustice makes the foot slip, takes away blessings and destroys nations.

.. الظُّلْمُ يُزِلُّ الْقَدَمَ وَيَسْلُبُ النَّعْمَ وَيُهْلِكُ الْأُمَمَ 79

80. Injustice in this world is ruination and in the Hereafter, [it is] destruction.

.. الظُّلْمُ فِي الدُّنْيَا بَوَارٌ وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ دَمَارٌ 80

81. Keep away from tyranny, for indeed the tyrant will not [even] smell the fragrance of Paradise.

.. إِيَّاكَ وَالْجَوْرَ، فَإِنَّ الْجَائِرَ لَا يَرِيحُ رَائِحَةَ الْجَنَّةِ 81

82. Tyranny brings negative consequences.

.. الْجَوْرُ تَبِعَاتٌ 82

83. Tyranny is the antithesis of justice.

.. الْجَوْرُ مُضَادُّ الْعَدْلِ 83

84. One whose violations increase, his exasperation [also] increases.

.. مَنْ كَثُرَ شَطَطُهُ كَثُرَ سَخَطُهُ 84

85. Oppression is an eraser [of good deeds].

.. الْجَوْرُ مِمْحَاةٌ 85

86. Oppression brings the quickest punishment.

.. الْبَغْيُ أَعْجَلُ عُقُوبَةٍ 86

1. Or: ...it makes the [downfall of] one who acts upon it an example for others.

Source URL:

<https://www.al-islam.org/ghurar-al-hikam-wa-durar-al-kalim-exalted-aphorisms-and-pearls-speech/injustice-and-oppression#comment-0>