

Keeping Promises And Fulfilling Pledges

Keeping promises and fulfilling pledges-العهد والوفاء به

1. Being loyal to the treacherous is treachery in the sight of Allah, the Glorified.

.. الْوَفَاءُ لِأَهْلِ الْغَدْرِ غَدْرٌ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ سُبْحَانَهُ¹

2. Loyalty is the twin of trustworthiness and the adornment of brotherhood.

.. الْوَفَاءُ تَوَاقُمُ الْأَمَانَةِ وَزِينُ الْأَخُوَّةِ²

3. Loyalty means preserving the rights [of others] and magnanimity means caring for one's close relatives.

.. الْوَفَاءُ حِفْظُ الذِّمَامِ، وَالْمُرُوَّةُ تَعَهُدُ ذَوِي الْأَرْحَامِ³

4. Verily loyalty is the twin of truthfulness and I do not know of a shield that is more protective than it.

.. إِنَّ الْوَفَاءَ تَوَاقُمُ الصِّدْقِ، وَمَا أَعْرِفُ جُنَّةً أَوْقَى مِنْهُ⁴

5. Loyalty is nobility.

.. الْوَفَاءُ نُبْلٌ⁵

6. Loyalty is the twin of truthfulness.

.. أَلَوْفَاءُ تَوَاضَعُوا لِمَا حَقَّ مِنَ الْحَقِّ 6

7. Loyalty is the trait of the honourable.

.. أَلَوْفَاءُ سَجِيَّةُ الْكِرَامِ 7

8. Loyalty is the symbol of abundant religiosity and strong trustworthiness.

.. أَلَوْفَاءُ عُنْوَانُ وَفُورِ الدِّينِ، وَقُوَّةُ الْأَمَانَةِ 8

9. If something happens between you and your enemy, which leads you to a truce and the enacting of a peace treaty, then preserve your pact with loyalty and guard your pledge with trust, and make your soul a shield between you and that which you have pledged.

- إِنْ وَقَعَتْ بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَ عَدُوِّكَ قِصَّةٌ عَقَدْتَ بِهَا صُلْحًا وَالْبَسْتَهُ بِهَا ذِمَّةً، فَحُطَّ عَنْكَ بِالْوَفَاءِ، وَارْعَ ذِمَّتَكَ بِالْأَمَانَةِ، 9
وَأَجْعَلْ نَفْسَكَ جُنَّةً بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَ مَا أُعْطِيَتْ مِنْ عَهْدِكَ.

10. The bane of covenants is lack of care [in fulfilling them].

.. آفَةُ الْعُهُودِ قِلَّةُ الرِّعَايَةِ 10

11. The bane of loyalty is treachery.

.. آفَةُ الْوَفَاءِ الْغَدْرُ 11

12. When you make a promise, keep it.

.. إِذَا وَعَدْتَ فَأَنْجِزْ 12

13. When you make an agreement, fulfil it.

.. إِذَا عَاقَدْتَ فَأَتِمِّمْ 13

14. By their faithful loyalty, the virtuous ones are known.

.. بِحُسْنِ الْوَفَاءِ يُعْرَفُ الْأَبْرَارُ¹⁴

15. The distinction of creatures is [by their] loyalty.

.. حَسَبُ الْخَلَائِقِ الْوَفَاءُ¹⁵

16. Guard your promise with loyalty and your reward will be good.

.. حُطَّ عَهْدُكَ بِالْوَفَاءِ يَحْسُنُ لَكَ الْجَزَاءُ¹⁶

17. The abode of loyalty is never without the [presence of the] honourable, and is never occupied by the wicked.

.. دَارُ الْوَفَاءِ لَا تَخْلُو مِنْ كَرِيمٍ، وَلَا يَسْتَقِرُّ بِهَا لَئِيمٌ¹⁷

18. The cause of intimacy is loyalty.

.. سَبَبُ الْإِيتِلَافِ الْوَفَاءُ¹⁸

19. Keeping promises is the practice of the honourable ones.

.. سُنَّةُ الْكِرَامِ الْوَفَاءُ بِالْعُهُودِ¹⁹

20. You must espouse loyalty, for it is the most protective shield.

.. عَلَيْكَ بِالْوَفَاءِ فَإِنَّهُ أَوْقَى (أَوْفَى) جُنَّةً²⁰

21. Loyalty is the ornament of the intellect and the symbol of nobility.

.. الْوَفَاءُ حِلْيَةُ الْعَقْلِ، وَعُنْوَانُ النُّبْلِ²¹

22. The most honourable characteristic is loyalty.

.. أَشْرَفُ الْخَلَائِقِ الْوَفَاءُ²²

23. Loyalty is honour, friendship is compassion.

.. أَلَوْفَاءُ كَرَمٌ، أَلَمَوْدَّةُ رَحِمٌ²³

24. Loyalty is a symbol of purity.

.. أَلَوْفَاءُ عُنْوَانُ الصِّفَاءِ²⁴

25. Loyalty is the fortress of eminence.

.. أَلَوْفَاءُ حِصْنُ السُّؤْدَدِ²⁵

26. A promise is an ailment and its cure is its fulfilment.

.. أَلَوْعْدُ مَرَضٌ، وَالْبِرُّ إِجَازُهُ²⁶

27. I have never slept with a promise I made to someone that had remained unfulfilled, thereby causing him to toss and turn restlessly in his bed so that he could successfully get what he needs [from me in the morning] but that my restlessness on my bed was much greater as a result of my desperation to meet him and fulfil the debt of his promise and out of fear of a hindrance that could cause its reneging, for indeed reneging on a promise is not from the characteristics of the honourable.

- مَا بَاتَ لِرَجُلٍ عِنْدِي مَوْعِدٌ قَطُّ، فَبَاتَ يَتَمَلَّمُ عَلَى فِرَاشِهِ، لِيَعْدُو بِالظَّفَرِ بِحَاجَتِهِ أَشَدَّ مِنْ تَمَلُّمِي عَلَى فِرَاشِي²⁷،
حِرْصاً عَلَى الْخُرُوجِ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ دَيْنِ عِدَّتِهِ وَخَوْفاً مِنْ عَائِقٍ يُوجِبُ الْخُلْفَ، فَإِنَّ خُلْفَ الْوَعْدِ لَيْسَ مِنْ أَخْلَاقِ الْكَرَامِ.

28. The basis of a promise is its fulfilment.

.. مِلَاكُ الْوَعْدِ إِجَازُهُ²⁸

29. How good a characteristic loyalty is!

.. نَعَمَ الْخَلِيقَةُ الْوَفَاءُ²⁹

30. How good a companion of truthfulness loyalty is, and how good an associate of God-wariness piety is!

.. نِعَمَ قَرِينُ الصِّدْقِ الْوَفَاءُ، وَنِعَمَ رَفِيقُ التَّقْوَى الْوَرَعُ 30

31. How good a companion of trustworthiness loyalty is!

.. نِعَمَ قَرِينُ الْأَمَانَةِ الْوَفَاءُ 31

32. The promise of an honourable person is immediate and swift.

.. وَعْدُ الْكَرِيمِ نَقْدٌ وَتَعْجِيلٌ 32

33. The promise of a wicked person is delayed and full of excuses.

.. وَعْدُ اللَّئِيمِ تَسْوِيفٌ، وَتَعْلِيلٌ 33

34. Do not promise that which you are incapable of fulfilling.

.. لَا تَعِدْ بِمَا تَعْجِزُ عَنِ الْوَفَاءِ بِهِ 34

35. Do not guarantee that which you are incapable of fulfilling.

.. لَا تَضْمَنْ مَا لَا تَقْدِرُ عَلَى الْوَفَاءِ بِهِ 35

36. Never make a promise that you are not confident you will be able to keep.

.. لَا تَعِدَنَّ عِدَّةً لَا تَتَّقُ مِنْ نَفْسِكَ بِإِنْجَازِهَا 36

37. He who breaks his promises is not loyal in his covenants.

.. غَيْرُ مُوفٍ بِالْعُهُودِ مَنْ أَخْلَفَ الْوُعُودَ 37

38. Be a keeper of promises and a fulfiller of vows.

.. كُنْ مُنْجِزاً لِلْوَعْدِ مُوفِياً بِالنَّذْرِ 38

39. One who fulfils his promise demonstrates his nobility.

.. مَنْ وَفَى بِعَهْدِهِ أَعْرَبَ عَنْ كَرَمِهِ 39

40. One who safeguards his covenant is considered loyal.

.. مَنْ حَفِظَ عَهْدَهُ كَانَ وَفِيًّا 40

41. One who is unwaveringly loyal deserves to be chosen [as a friend].

.. مَنْ أَحْسَنَ الْوَفَاءَ اسْتَحَقَّ الْإِصْطِفَاءَ 41

42. The promise [that is made] is one of the two bondages.

.. الْوَعْدُ أَحَدُ الرَّقَبَيْنِ 42

43. Fulfilling the promise [one makes] is one of the two emancipations.

.. إِنْجَازُ الْوَعْدِ أَحَدُ الْعِتْقَيْنِ 43

44. A polite refusal is better than a protracted promise.

.. الْمَنْعُ الْجَمِيلُ أَحْسَنُ مِنَ الْوَعْدِ الطَّوِيلِ 44

45. Fulfilling promises is from the signs of distinction.

.. إِنْجَازُ الْوَعْدِ مِنْ دَلَائِلِ الْمَجْدِ 45

46. Sincere friendship and fulfilling promises are from loyalty to [one's] pledge.

.. خُلُوصُ الْوُدِّ وَالْوَفَاءُ بِالْوَعْدِ مِنْ حُسْنِ الْعَهْدِ 46

47. Be steadfast [and loyal] in fulfilling your pledges.

.. إِعْتَصِمُوا بِالذِّمِّ فِي أُوتَادِهَا 47

48. Never trust the promise of the one who has no religion.

.. لَا تَتَّقَنَّ بَعْدَ مَنْ لَا دِينَ لَهُ 48

49. One who has no loyalty cannot keep a promise.

.. لَا عَهْدَ لِمَنْ لَا وَفَاءَ لَهُ 49

50. The promise of one who has no intellect is not relied upon.

.. لَا يُوثَقُ بَعْدَ مَنْ لَا عَقْلَ لَهُ 50

51. You will never abide by the covenant of the book until you know the one who has cast it away.

.. لَنْ تَأْخُذُوا بِمِيثَاقِ الْكِتَابِ حَتَّى تَعْرِفُوا الَّذِي نَبَذَهُ 51

52. Never let the hardship that you undergo in [fulfilling] the covenant of Allah lead you to break it, for indeed your patience during the hardship from which you seek relief and a favourable outcome are better for you than the excuse [and betrayal] whose evil consequences you fear and because of which you are encompassed by chastisement from Allah.

- لَا يَدْعُوَنَّكَ ضِيقُ لَزْمِكَ فِي عَهْدِ اللَّهِ إِلَى النُّكْثِ، فَإِنَّ صَبْرَكَ عَلَى ضِيقٍ تَرْجُو إِنْفِرَاجَهُ، وَفَضْلَ عَاقِبَتِهِ خَيْرٌ لَكَ مِنْ عُدْرٍ تَخَافُ تَبِعَتَهُ، وَتُحِيطُ بِكَ مِنَ اللَّهِ لِأَجْلِهِ الْعُقُوبَةُ 52

53. The most honourable of endeavours is being careful of [fulfilling] one's pledges (and the best trait is keeping ties with near relatives).

(- أَشْرَفُ الْهَمِّ، رِعَايَةُ الذِّمَامِ (الذِّمِّ)، وَأَفْضَلُ الشَّيْمِ صِلَةُ الرَّحِمِ 53

54. Verily fulfilling promises is part of faith.

.. إِنَّ حُسْنَ الْعَهْدِ مِنَ الْإِيمَانِ 54

55. Indeed promises are [like] metal collars around the necks [of people] until the Day of Resurrection, so whoever fulfils them is delivered by Allah, and whoever breaks them is forsaken by Allah, and whoever takes them lightly, they will take their plea to the One who has enjoined them and has ordered His creation to fulfil them.

- إِنَّ الْعُهُودَ قَلَائِدُ فِي الْأَعْنَاقِ إِلَى يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ، فَمَنْ وَصَلَهَا وَصَلَهُ اللَّهُ، وَمَنْ نَقَضَهَا خَذَلَهُ اللَّهُ، وَمَنْ اسْتَخَفَ بِهَا 55
خَاصَمَتْهُ إِلَى الَّذِي أَكْدَاهَا وَأَخَذَ خَلْقَهُ بِحِفْظِهَا.

56. Do not renege on your covenant and do not break your pledge; and do not double-cross your enemy, for Allah has made his covenant and his pact a safety for him.

.. لَا تَعْدِرَنَّ بَعْدُكَ، وَلَا تُخْفِرَنَّ ذِمَّتَكَ، وَلَا تَخْتِلْ عِدْوَكَ، فَقَدْ جَعَلَ اللَّهُ سُبْحَانَهُ عَهْدَهُ وَذِمَّتَهُ أَمْنًا لَهُ 56

57. One of the most honourable of traits is safeguarding [and fulfilling] your pledges.

.. مِنْ أَشْرَفِ الشَّيْمِ حِياطَةُ الذِّمَمِ 57

58. One of the most honourable of traits is being faithful to your pledges.

.. مِنْ أَشْرَفِ الشَّيْمِ الْوَفَاءُ بِالذِّمَمِ 58

59. He who does not observe his promises and agreements has no conviction in Allah.

.. مَا أَيْقَنَ بِاللَّهِ مَنْ لَمْ يَرَعْ عُهُودَهُ وَذِمَّتَهُ 59

60. One who enters upon the springs of loyalty is quenched by the drink of purity.

.. مَنْ وَرَدَ مَنَاهِلَ الْوَفَاءِ رَوِيَ مِنْ مَشَارِبِ الصِّفَاءِ 60

61. People are safe from the betrayal of one in whose heart resides loyalty.

.. مَنْ سَكَنَ الْوَفَاءُ صَدْرَهُ أَمِنَ النَّاسُ غَدْرَهُ 61

62. One of the signs of faith is fulfilling promises.

.. مِنْ دَلَائِلِ الْإِيمَانِ الْوَفَاءُ بِالْعَهْدِ 62

63. Keeping promises is from the perfection of [one's] magnanimity.

.. مِنْ تَمَامِ الْمُرُوءَةِ إِنْجَازُ الْوَعْدِ 63

64. From the best [teachings] of Islam is the fulfilling of pledges.

.. مِنْ أَفْضَلِ الْإِسْلَامِ الْوَفَاءُ بِالذِّمَامِ 64

65. How good is loyalty and how evil is treachery!

.. مَا أَحْسَنَ الْوَفَاءَ وَأَقْبَحَ الْجَفَاءَ 65

66. He who delays in fulfilling a promise has not kept it.

.. مَا أَنْجَزَ الْوَعْدَ مَنْ مَطَّلَ بِهِ 66

67. Fulfilling [one's] pledges is the adornment of honour.

.. وَفَاءٌ بِالذِّمَمِ (وَفَاءُ الذِّمَمِ زِينَةُ الْكَرَمِ 67

68. One who breaks his pledge earns dispraise.

.. مَنْ أَخْفَرَ ذِمَّةً اكْتَسَبَ مَذَمَّةً 68

69. For every pledge that is broken there is uncertainty.

.. لِكُلِّ نَاكثٍ شُبْهَةٌ 69

Source URL:

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