

Part 4: A Statement of Her Position with Regard to the Governing System

Sermon

ثم قالت:

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ! إَعْلَمُوا أَنِّي فَاطِمَةُ وَ أَبِي مُحَمَّدٌ، أَقُولُ عَوْدًا وَ بَدَاءً، وَ لَا أَقُولُ مَا أَقُولُ غَلْطًا، وَ لَا أَفْعَلُ مَا أَفْعَلُ شَطَطًا، لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَؤُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ.

،فَإِنْ تَعَزَّوْهُ وَتَعْرِفُوهُ تَجِدُوهُ أَبِي دُونَ نِسَائِكُمْ، وَ أَخَا ابْنِ عَمِّي دُونَ رِجَالِكُمْ،

وَ لَنِعْمَ الْمَعَزِيُّ إِلَيْهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ آلِهِ، فَبَلَغَ الرِّسَالَةَ صَادِعًا بِالنَّذَارَةِ، مَاثِلًا عَنْ مَدْرَجَةِ الْمُشْرِكِينَ، ضَارِبًا تَبَجَّهُمْ، اخِذًا بِأَكْظَامِهِمْ، دَاعِيًا إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّهِ بِالْحِكْمَةِ وَ الْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ، يَجُفُّ الْأَصْنَامُ وَ يَنْكُثُ الْهَامُّ، حَتَّى انْهَزَمَ الْجَمْعُ وَ لَوَّا الدُّبُرَ.

وَ كُنْتُمْ عَلَى شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِنَ النَّارِ، مُذَقَّةَ الشَّارِبِ، وَ نُهْزَةَ الطَّامِعِ، وَ قُبْسَةَ الْعِجْلَانِ، وَ مَوْطِئَ الْأَقْدَامِ، تَشْرَبُونَ الطَّرْقَ، وَ تَفْتَاتُونَ الْقِدَّ، أَذِلَّةٌ خَاسِسِينَ، تَخَافُونَ أَنْ يَتَخَطَّفَكُمُ النَّاسُ مِنْ حَوْلِكُمْ، فَانْقَذَكُمُ اللَّهُ تَبَارَكَ وَ تَعَالَى بِمُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ آلِهِ بَعْدَ اللَّتَا وَ اللَّتَى، وَ بَعْدَ أَنْ مُنِيَ بِهِمُ الرِّجَالُ، وَ دُوبَانِ الْعَرَبِ، وَ مَرَدَةِ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ.

كُلَّمَا أَوْقَدُوا نَارًا لِلْحَرْبِ أَطْفَأَهَا اللَّهُ، أَوْ نَجَمَ قَرْنُ الشَّيْطَانِ، أَوْ فَغَرَّتْ فَاعِرَةٌ مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ، قَذَفَ أَخَاهُ فِي لَهَوَاتِهَا، فَلَا يَنْكَفِي حَتَّى يَطَّأَ جَنَاحَهَا بِأَخْمَصِهِ، وَ يَخْمِدَ لَهَبَهَا بِسَيْفِهِ، مَكْدُودًا فِي ذَاتِ اللَّهِ، مُجْتَهِدًا فِي أَمْرِ اللَّهِ، قَرِيبًا مِنْ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ، سَيِّدًا فِي أَوْلِيَاءِ اللَّهِ، مُشْمِرًا نَاصِحًا مُجِدًّا كَادِحًا، لَا تَأْخُذُهُ فِي اللَّهِ لَوْمَةٌ لَائِمٌ.

وَأَنْتُمْ فِي رَفَاهِيَّةٍ مِنَ الْعَيْشِ، وَادْعُونَ فَاكِهِونَ آمِنُونَ، تَتَرَبَّصُونَ بِنَا الدَّوَائِرَ، وَتَتَوَكَّفُونَ الْأَخْبَارَ، وَتَنْكُصُونَ عِنْدَ النَّزَالِ، وَتَفِرُّونَ مِنَ الْقِتَالِ.

English Rendering

Then she said: O' people!

Know that I am Fatimah! And my father is Mohammad (May peace be upon him and his progeny)

What I say is the same in its beginning and its end – and contrariness and contradiction are never allowed to enter it – and that which I say, I don't say incorrectly, and I don't run after the incorrect course in my actions.

A prophet arose from among you, and came to you, who suffered because of your sufferings, and who had concern and faith in your guidance, and was kind and merciful to the believers.

Whenever you search for his lineage, you will see that he was my father, not your women's father! And he was my paternal cousins' brother, not the brother of your men! How honorable is this lineage, may God bless him and his progeny!

Yes, he came and successfully completed his mission, and counseled the people understandably. He turned his face on the manners of the pagans jumping on their necks and squeezing their throats so that they would refrain from idolatry and move along the path of "*Tawhid*".

He continually called the people to the way of God with useful proofs, and logical reasons and counsel.

He broke up the idols, and hammered at the brains of the haughty until their company became scattered. Darkness were eliminated, the dawn appeared and God became manifest. The representative of religion began to speak and satanic rumors were silenced.

The officer of earthly discord fell, the knots of idolatry and diversity were loosened, and you began speaking by the words of devotion while you were nothing more than a small, indigent group.

Yes, in those days you were on the edge of the cliff hanging over the fires of hell. Because of your modest number, you were as a sip is for a thirsty person or a bite for a hungry person, or a spark for someone running in search of fire, and you were being squashed under hand and foot.

At that time your drinking water was putrid and foul and your food the leaves of trees! You were contemptible and despicable, constantly afraid that the mighty enemy might abduct and swallow you!

But the Blessed God by the grace of Mohammad (S) saved you after all that contempt, abjectness, and weakness. He fought with the brave and confronted the Arab wolves and mutinous Jews and Christians.

But every time they lit the fires of war, God would extinguish it.

And every time the horns of Satan would appear and the revolts of the idolaters began, my father would send his brother Ali (a.s) to shut them up, and by him would suppress them. And he would never return from these dangerous duties until he had trampled the enemies' heads, and rubbed their noses in the ground!

Interpretation

Again in this section noteworthy realities are concealed:

1. Who Am I?

She, before anything, introduces herself to the crowd, and takes all excuses and apologies from them, so that no-one could say:

I was uninformed and I didn't recognize the Prophets' daughter, or I would have rushed to her defense.

She particularly leans on her relationship with the Prophet, and repeats her relation to Ali. Then she emphasizes the point: "That which I say is truth itself" and I don't say anything without reckoning. See and hear what I say correctly, and realize your enormous responsibility in relation to this incident.

2. Unusual Compassion

Then the Messenger of God's great concern for them is reminded; of how he suffered because of their sufferings, and how he was partner to their sorrows. She especially leans on five of the Prophets' attributes, which are emphasized in one Quranic verse:

***"There hath come unto you a messenger, (one) of yourselves, unto whom aught that ye are overburdened is grievous, full of Concern for you, for the believers full of pity, merciful."* (9: 128)**

Qualities that all of the Prophet's companions saw and recognized in him.

3. The Prophet's Tiresome Efforts

Then the cumbersome difficulties of the Prophet are reminded, how he rose alone for the communication of that great message, while the smallest deviation never found its way in him, rubbing the noses of rebels on the ground and breaking the heads of the haughty, his armor being used for the desires and seekers of right, logic and reason, preaching and profound sayings, until the infidels' power was broken up, and temples fell down. The enemies of God dispersed, darkness were eliminated, and dawn appeared. The Bats flew away, and a group was able to clearly begin the melody of لا اله الا الله, and hum the tune of *Tawheed* in the land of the infidels.

4. You Were Like This!

Fatimah reminds them that in those days they were a small group of believers caught in a severe, frightening storm. “On one side the temptations of the pagan, idol worshiping era, would at times come to you pulling you to the edge of the fires of hell. And on the other side the powerful, merciless enemies had surrounded you from all sides, in such a way that in a wink it was possible for them to trample you under their hands and feet. You were also under such pressure that nothing was available to you except putrid water and unfit, unrefined food, and you were constantly afraid for your future.

However God wished to break the teeth of those bloodthirsty wolves, and beat the heads of those vipers against stone, and in doing so make this small group dominant over them.

Not long after that the fires of mutiny were extinguished, and the storms calmed, demons took flight, and with the rise of the world-illuminating light of Islam, the thieves and bandits who took advantage of the darkness of those penumbral nights of paganism, hid in caves.”

Yes, Fatimah reminded them of those critical moments, of which each day seemed like a century on the shoulders of believers. She did this so that they would not forget God’s great blessings, and not be ungrateful for divine gifts, so that they would strive in the way of maintaining this divine way and great message, and not submit themselves to being overawed by mutinies.

5. The Service of Ali (a.s)

The Prophets’ daughter, at this time reminds people of the great service of Ali. She tells of how during dangerous situations, the Prophet would send him for the confrontation. And with extraordinary altruism and complete self-sacrifice and devotion, he would rise to confront the enemy. He would go to the source of these revolts and extinguish them, returning victoriously. He would sever the heads of the mutinous with his sword, and rub the noses of demons in the dirt, everywhere being the friend, supporter, and defender of the Holy Prophet (S).

Yes, such a person could be the advancer of the course of this great revolution, and prevent deviation from it.

Source URL:

<https://www.al-islam.org/famous-epic-prose-naser-makarem-shirazi/part-4-statement-her-position-regard-governing-system#comment-0>