

Justice And The Just

Justice and the just-العدل والعاذل

1. Justice is the better of the two policies.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ أَفْضَلُ السِّيَاسَتَيْنِ¹

2. Justice is the cornerstone of faith and the accumulator of benevolence.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ رَأْسُ الْإِيمَانِ، وَجَمَاعُ الْإِحْسَانِ²

3. Justice is the mainstay of the populace and the splendour of the rulers.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ قِوَامُ الرِّعْيَةِ، وَجَمَالُ الْوَلَاةِ³

4. Justice means that you act equitably when you are oppressed, and kindness means that when you gain authority, you forgive.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ أَنْكَ إِذَا ظُلِمْتَ أَنْصَفْتَ، وَالْفُضْلُ أَنْكَ إِذَا قَدَرْتَ عَفَوْتَ⁴

5. Be just and you will rule.

.. إَعْدِلْ تَحْكَمْ⁵

6. Be just and you will rule.

.. إَعْدِلْ تَمْلِكْ 6

7. Be just and your power will last.

.. إَعْدِلْ تَدُمَ لَكَ الْقُدْرَةُ 7

8. Have recourse to justice with good intention for the populace, reduced covetousness and increased piety.

.. اِسْتَعِنْ عَلَى الْعَدْلِ بِحُسْنِ النِّيَّةِ فِي الرَّعِيَّةِ، وَقِلَّةِ الطَّمَعِ، وَكَثْرَةِ الْوَرَعِ 8

9. The loftiest of endowments is justice.

.. أَسْنَى الْمَوَاهِبِ الْعَدْلُ 9

10. The best [form of] justice is assisting the oppressed.

.. أَحْسَنُ الْعَدْلِ نُصْرَةُ الْمَظْلُومِ 10

11. The most just of all people is he who is equitable to the one who has oppressed him.

.. أَعْدَلُ النَّاسِ مَنْ أَنْصَفَ مَنْ ظَلَمَهُ 11

12. Verily being fair in [your] ruling and eschewing oppression are part of justice.

.. إِنَّ مِنَ الْعَدْلِ أَنْ تُنْصِفَ فِي الْحُكْمِ، وَتَجْتَنِبَ الظُّلْمَةَ 12

13. Indeed justice is the scale of Allah, the Glorified, which He has placed among the creation and installed for the establishment of truth; so do not oppose Him in His scale and do not contradict Him in His authority.

- إِنَّ الْعَدْلَ مِيزَانُ اللَّهِ سُبْحَانَهُ الَّذِي وَضَعَهُ فِي الْخَلْقِ، وَنَصَبَهُ لِإِقَامَةِ الْحَقِّ، فَلَا تُخَالِفْهُ فِي مِيزَانِهِ، وَلَا تُعَارِضْهُ فِي سُلْطَانِهِ 13

14. Verily Allah, the Glorified, has enjoined justice and benevolence and has forbidden indecency and

injustice.

.. إِنَّ اللَّهَ سُبْحَانَهُ أَمَرَ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ، وَنَهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالظُّلْمِ 14

15. Justice is brings harmony while oppression causes deviation.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ مَأْلُوفٌ، الْجَوْرُ عَسُوفٌ 15

16. Justice is the soul of testimony.

.. الْقِسْطُ رُوحُ الشَّهَادَةِ 16

17. Justice is the life of decrees.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ حَيَاةُ الْأَحْكَامِ 17

18. Justice is the best testimony.

.. الْقِسْطُ خَيْرُ الشَّهَادَةِ 18

19. Justice reforms the people.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ يُصْلِحُ الْبَرِيَّةَ 19

20. Justice is a merit for the ruler.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ فَضِيلَةُ السُّلْطَانِ 20

21. Justice is the greatest of riches.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ أَغْنَى الْغِنَاءِ 21

22. Justice is equity.

.. الْعَدْلُ إِنْصَافٌ²²

23. Justice is a foundation [for a healthy society]; oppression is destruction.

.. الْعَدْلُ مِلَاكٌ، الْجَوْرُ هَلَاكٌ²³

24. The just [ruler] is a custodian who awaits one of the two rewards (or the better of the two rewards).

(.. أَلْعَادِلُ رَاعٍ يَنْتَظِرُ أَحَدَ الْجَزَائِنِ (أَحْسَنَ الْجَزَائِنِ)²⁴

25. The most just among the creation is one who judges best according to the truth.

.. أَعْدَلُ الْخَلْقِ أَقْصَاهُمْ بِالْحَقِّ²⁵

26. The most just of all people is he who is equitable despite having power, and the one who has the greatest clemency is he who is clement despite having authority.

.. أَعْدَلُ النَّاسِ مَنْ أَنْصَفَ عَنْ قُوَّةٍ، وَأَعْظَمُهُمْ حِلْماً مَنْ حَلَّمَ عَنْ قُدْرَةٍ²⁶

27. Through justice, bounties are multiplied.

.. بِالْعَدْلِ تَتَضَاعَفُ الْبَرَكَاتُ²⁷

28. Through justice, the populace is reformed.

.. بِالْعَدْلِ تَصْلُحُ الرِّعَايَةُ²⁸

29. Allah, the Glorified, made justice a mainstay for mankind, a purification from oppressions and vices, and as an opening for [the spreading of] Islam.

.. جَعَلَ اللَّهُ سُبْحَانَهُ الْعَدْلَ قَوَاماً لِلْأَنَامِ، وَتَنْزِيهاً مِنَ الْمَظَالِمِ وَالْآثَامِ، وَتَسْنِيَةً لِلْإِسْلَامِ²⁹

30. Virtuous justice is [the cause of] organization [and harmony] among the people.

.. حُسْنُ الْعَدْلِ نِظَامُ الْبَرِّيَّةِ³⁰

31. The best of policies is justice.

.. خَيْرُ السِّيَاسَاتِ الْعَدْلُ³¹

32. How can one who is unjust to himself be just with others?!

!.. كَيْفَ يَعْدِلُ فِي غَيْرِهِ مَنْ يَظْلِمُ نَفْسَهُ؟³²

33. Justice suffices as a means of governance.

.. كَفَى بِالْعَدْلِ سَائِئاً³³

34. Let your riding mount be justice, for one who rides on it gains mastery.

.. لِيَكُنْ مَرْكَبُكَ الْعَدْلَ فَمَنْ رَكِبَهُ مَلَكَ³⁴

35. Justice can never be achieved until injustice falters [and comes to an end].

.. لَنْ يُتِمَّكَ الْعَدْلُ حَتَّى يَزِلَّ الْبَخْسُ³⁵

36. It is not from justice to judge a reliable person by conjecture [instead of accepting his testimony].¹

.. لَيْسَ مِنَ الْعَدْلِ الْقَضَاءُ عَلَى الْثِقَةِ بِالظَّنِّ³⁶

37. One who is just gains [and strengthens his] power [and authority].

.. مَنْ عَدَلَ تَمَكَّنَ³⁷

38. The ruling of one who is just gets acted upon.

.. مَنْ عَدَلَ نَفَذَ حُكْمُهُ³⁸

39. The status of one who is just becomes great.

.. مَنْ عَدَلَ عَظُمَ قَدْرُهُ³⁹

40. One whose justice increases, his days are praised.

.. مَنْ كَثُرَ عَدْلُهُ حُمِدَتْ أَيَّامُهُ⁴⁰

41. Allah unfolds His mercy upon one who acts justly in the lands.

.. مَنْ عَدَلَ فِي الْبِلَادِ نَشَرَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ الرَّحْمَةَ⁴¹

42. One whose deed done in private matches what he does openly and whose actions are consistent with his speech, then he is the one who has fulfilled the trust and whose justice has been established.

.. مَنْ طَابَقَ سِرُّهُ عَلَانِيَتُهُ، وَوَافَقَ فِعْلُهُ مَقَالَتَهُ فَهُوَ الَّذِي أَدَّى الْأَمَانَةَ، وَتَحَقَّقَتْ عَدَالَتُهُ⁴²

43. Whoever acts justly, Allah fortifies his kingdom.

.. مَنْ عَمِلَ بِالْعَدْلِ حَصَّنَ اللَّهُ مُلْكَهُ⁴³

44. Take with justice but give with munificence; you will possess two virtues.

.. خُذْ بِالْعَدْلِ وَأَعْطِ بِالْفَضْلِ تَحْزِرِ الْمُنْقَبَتَيْنِ⁴⁴

45. The policy of justice comprises of three things: judiciousness in leniency, fairness in investigation and moderation in munificence.

.. سِيَاسَةُ الْعَدْلِ ثَلَاثٌ: لِينٌ فِي حَزْمٍ، وَاسْتِقْصَاءٌ فِي عَدْلِ، وَإِفْضَالٌ فِي قَصْدٍ⁴⁵

46. Two things are such that their reward cannot be weighed: forgiveness and justice.

.. شَيْئَانِ لَا يُوزَنُ تَوَابُهُمَا: الْعَفْوَ، وَالْعَدْلُ⁴⁶

47. The uprightness [and betterment] of the populace is [achieved through] justice.

.. صَلَاحُ الرِّعْيَةِ الْعَدْلُ⁴⁷

48. You must be just with [both] friend and foe, and moderate in [both] poverty and wealth.

.. عَلَيْكَ بِالْعَدْلِ فِي الصَّدِيقِ، وَالْعَدُوِّ، وَالْقَصْدِ فِي الْفَقْرِ وَالْغِنَى⁴⁸

49. The pinnacle of justice is for a person to be just with himself.

.. غَايَةُ الْعَدْلِ أَنْ يَعْدِلَ الْمَرْءُ فِي نَفْسِهِ⁴⁹

50. In justice there is benevolence.

.. فِي الْعَدْلِ الْإِحْسَانُ⁵⁰

51. In justice there is betterment of the people.

.. فِي الْعَدْلِ صَلَاحُ الْبَرِيَّةِ⁵¹

52. Following the way of Allah and the stability of nations lies in justice

.. فِي الْعَدْلِ الْإِقْتِدَاءُ بِسُنَّةِ اللَّهِ وَثَبَاتُ الدُّوَلِ⁵²

53. In justice there is comfort; and one for whom justice is beleaguering, then oppression will be more beleaguering [and difficult] for him.

.. فِي الْعَدْلِ سَعَةٌ، وَمَنْ ضَاقَ عَلَيْهِ الْعَدْلُ فَالْجُورُ عَلَيْهِ أَضْيَقُ⁵³

54. From the exigencies of justice is the forbidding of oppression.

.. مِنْ لَوَازِمِ الْعَدْلِ التَّنَاهِي عَنِ الظُّلْمِ⁵⁴

55. Nothing brings prosperity to the lands like justice.

.. مَا عُمِرَتِ الْبُلْدَانُ بِمِثْلِ الْعَدْلِ 55

56. Do not let the weak lose hope in your justice.

.. لَا تُؤَيِّسِ الضُّعَفَاءَ مِنْ عَدْلِكَ 56

57. There is no justice better than returning the right of the oppressed.

.. لَا عَدْلَ أَفْضَلَ مِنْ رَدِّ الْمَظَالِمِ 57

58. Justice is life.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ حَيَاةٌ 58

59. Justice is the best judgment.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ خَيْرُ الْحُكْمِ 59

60. Justice is [a means of attaining]) success and dignity.

(. أَلْعَدْلُ قَوْزٌ وَكَرَامَةٌ (مكانة 60

61. Justice is the mainstay of the populace (or of the creation).

(. أَلْعَدْلُ قِوَامُ الرِّعْيَةِ (الْبَرِيَّةِ 61

62. Justice is a merit of the sultan.

.. الْعَدْلُ فَضِيلَةُ السُّلْطَانِ 62

63. Justice is the system of leadership.

.. أَلْعَدْلُ نِظَامُ الْإِمْرَةِ 63

64. Justice is the strongest foundation.

.. الْعَدْلُ أَقْوَى أُسَاسٍ 64

65. Justice is the best trait.

.. الْعَدْلُ أَفْضَلُ سَجِيَّةٍ 65

66. Justice relieves the one who acts upon it from being shackled by the rights of others.

.. الْعَدْلُ يُرِيحُ الْعَامِلَ بِهِ مِنْ تَقَلُّدِ الْمَظَالِمِ 66

67. The bane of justice is the powerful tyrant.

.. آفَةُ الْعَدْلِ الظَّالِمُ الْقَادِرُ 67

68. When your judgment is applied upon yourself [thereby showing your justice], the souls of [other] people summon each other towards your justice.

.. إِذَا نَفَذَ حُكْمُكَ فِي نَفْسِكَ تَدَاعَتْ أَنْفُسُ النَّاسِ إِلَى عَدْلِكَ 68

69. The bane of the just [ones] is lack of piety.

.. آفَةُ الْعُدُولِ قِلَّةُ الْوَرَعِ 69

70. The coming to power of the just is from the necessities.

.. دَوْلَةُ الْعَادِلِ مِنَ الْوَاجِبَاتِ 70

71. Many a just person is an oppressor.

.. رَبٌّ عَادِلٍ جَائِرٌ 71

¹ Or (according to Ibn Abi al-ʿAdāʿī's explanation): It is not from justice to judge upon what is known [for certain] using [mere] conjecture.

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