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Partisanship

Partisanship التَّعَصُّبُ

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ذَمُّ التَّعَصُّبِ

1ـ الكافي: رسولُ اللّهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): مَن تَعَصَّبَ أو تُعُصِّبَ لَهُ فقَد خَلَعَ رِبْقَ الإيمانِ مِن عُنُقِهِ.

وفي نَقلٍ: فقَد خَلَعَ رِبقَةَ الإسلامِ مِن عُنُقِهِ.

1– The Prophet (S) said, 'Whoever is bigoted or partial [to a false cause], or incites partisanship around himself and his own causes [unlawfully], the knot binding him to faith is untied from around his neck.' [al-Kafi, v. 2, p. 308, no. 2]

2ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): منَ كانَ في قَلبِهِ حَبَّةٌ مِن خَردَلٍ مِن عَصَبِيَّةٍ بَعَثَهُ اللّهُ يَومَ القِيامَةِ مَعَ أعرابِ الجاهِلِيَّةِ.

2– The Prophet (S) said, 'Whoever contains even a mustard seed's weight of partisanship in his heart, Allah will raise him on the Day of Resurrection among the tribes of pagan and clannish Arabia.' [al-Kafi, v. 2, p. 308, no. 3]

3ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): لَيسَ مِنّا مَن دَعا إلى عَصَبِيَّةٍ ، ولَيسَ مِنّا مَن قاتَلَ (عَلى) عَصَبِيَّةٍ ، ولَيسَ مِنّا مَن ماتَ عَلى عَصَبِيَّةٍ .

3– The Prophet (S) said, ‘One who calls to partisanship is not one of us, nor one who fights for a bigoted cause, nor one who dies a partisan.’ [Sunan Abi Dawud, no. 5121]

4ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ في ذَمِّ إبليسَ ـ: فافتَخَرَ عَلى آدَمَ بِخَلقِهِ ، وتَعَصَّبَ عَلَيهِ لِأَصلِهِ ، فعَدُوُّ اللّهِ إمامُ المُتَعَصِّبينَ ، وسَلَفُ المُستَكبِرينَ ، الّذي وَضَعَ أساسَ العَصَبِيَّةِ ، ونازَعَ اللّهَ رِداءَ الجَبرِيَّةِ ، وادَّرَعَ لِباسَ التَّعَزُّزِ ، وخَلَعَ قِناعَ التَّذَلُّلِ.

4– Imam Ali (a.s.), condemning Iblis [Satan], said, ‘So he felt proud of his own creation over Adam’ s, and was racist against him because of his origin. The enemy of Allah, therefore, is the leader of all racist bigots, and the forefather of all those who consider themselves superior, who laid the very foundation of bigotry, and tried to wrest the cloak of might from Allah, and assumed the garb of exultation having shed the veil of self–abasement.’ [Nahjul Balaghah, Sermon 192]

5ـ الإمامُ زينَ العابدينُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) ـ لَمّا سُئلَ عَنِ العَصَبِيَّةِ ـ: العَصَبِيَّةُ الّتي يَأثَمُ عَلَيها صاحِبُها أن يَرَى الرَّجُلُ شِرارَ قَومِهِ خَيراً مِن خِيارِ قَومٍ آخَرينَ ، ولَيسَ مِنَ العَصَبِيَّةِ أن يُحِبَّ الرَّجُلُ قَومَهُ، ولكِن مِنَ العَصَبِيَّةِ أن يُعينَ قَومَهُ عَلَى الظُّلمِ.

5– Imam Zayn al–Abidin (a.s.) said, ‘Blameworthy and punishable partisanship is when a person considers the evil people of his own community to be better and prefers them over the good people of another community. It is not considered partisanship or bigotry to love one’s own community, rather it is when a person loves them in spite of their wrongdoing and aids them therein.’ [al–Kafi, v. 2, p. 308, no. 7]

Praiseworthy Partisanship

التَّعَصُّبُ المَمدوحُ

6ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): فإن كانَ لابُدَّ مِنَ العَصَبِيَّةِ فلْيَكُن تَعَصُّبُكُم لِمَكارِمِ الخِصالِ ، ومَحامِدِ الأفعالِ ، ومَحاسِنِ الأُمورِ ، الّتي تَفاضَلَت فيها المُجَداءُ والنُجَداءُ مِن بُيوتاتِ العَرَبِ ، ويَعاسيبُ القَبائلِ ، بِالأخلاقِ الرَّغيبَةِ ، والأحلامِ العَظيمَةِ ، والأخطارِ الجَليلَةِ ، والآثارِ المَحمودَةِ . فتَعَصَّبوا لِخِلالِ الحَمدِ مِنَ الحِفظِ لِلجِوارِ ، والوَفاءِ بِالذِّمامِ ، والطَّاعَةِ لِلبِرِّ ، والمَعصِيَةِ لِلكِبرِ ، والأخذِ بِالفَضلِ ، والكَفِّ عَنِ البَغيِ ، والإعظامِ لِلقَتلِ ، والإنصافِ لِلخَلقِ ، والكَظمِ لِلغَيظِ ، واجتِنابِ الفَسادِ في الأرضِ.

6– Imam Ali (a.s.) in his disparaging sermon [against Satan] said, ‘And if you cannot avoid partisanship, then let your partisanship be for virtuous qualities, praiseworthy acts, and admirable matters with which the dignified and noble chiefs of the Arab households and the notables of the tribes distinguished

themselves, such as attractive manners, great ambitions, momentous positions, and praiseworthy feats. So be partisans of praiseworthy characteristics like protection of one's neighbour, fulfilment of rights, obedience of good people, opposition to the haughty, adoption of virtue, abstention from intimidating others, shunning bloodshed, doing justice to people, suppressing anger, and avoiding corruption in the land.' [Nahjul Balaghah, no. 192]

ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السَّلامُ): إن كُنتُم لا مَحالَةَ مُتَعَصِّبينَ فتَعَصَّبوا لِنُصرَةِ الحَقِّ وإغاثَةِ المَلهوفِ7

7– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'If you absolutely must be partisans to a cause, then does so to support the truth and to bring solace to the troubled.' [Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 3738]

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