



IN THE NAME OF ALLAH THE MOST GRACIOUS, THE MOST MERCIFUL

**WHY ARE WE FACING NUMEROUS DISASTERS AND HOW DO WE REACT**

The world is facing a huge crisis now:

1. The Covid-19 pandemic which started at least one and a half years ago are still raging - Indonesia and many parts of the world are suffering, with overcrowded hospitals, lack of oxygen supply and thousands of deaths daily;
2. Floods of biblical proportion are affecting many parts of the world, something which they have never seen before - in Germany (where many people are still missing), China, India, Bangladesh, etc
3. Temperature hit the highest level in some parts of the world, like Western America and Canada - over 50 degree celcius!
4. Fire is raging in some parts of the world

Many people are blaming climate changes, but they forget that these signs are a warning from Allah - where we, as his creations have been very ungrateful to him, and are very careless and negligent in our submission to Him.

Allah Warned us:

يا أَيُّهَا الْإِنْسَانُ مَا غَرَّبَكَ بِرَبِّكَ الْكَرِيمِ

“O man! What has made you careless concerning your Lord, the Most Generous?”

82: 6

Do we forget His Mercy and Generosity? Are we so oblivious to His Might and His Provisions that we are continuously compromising the Deen and seeking the pleasures of this dunya at the expense of our preparations for the Hereafter?

If I ask ONE BY ONE here in front of me - if the angel of death comes now, are we ready to face the Almighty?

وَأَتَاكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ مَا سَأَلْتُمُوهُ<sup>ج</sup> وَإِنْ تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا<sup>ك</sup> إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَظَلُومٌ كَفَّارٌ

And He gave you of all that you asked for, and if you count the Blessings of Allah, never will you be able to count them. Verily! Man is indeed an extreme wrong-doer, – a disbeliever (an extreme ingrate, denies Allah’s Blessings by disbelief, and by worshipping others besides Allah, and by disobeying Allah and His Prophet Muhammad ). 14: 34

Many people are obsessed by the life of this world and forget about accountability to Allah in the Hereafter – whether Muslims or non Muslims. People seek Al ‘Izza (honour, power, glory) in this life BUT Allah Reminded us who Belongs to all these “Al ‘Izza”

وَلِلَّهِ الْعِزَّةُ وَلِرَسُولِهِ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ

But honour, power and glory belong to Allah, His Messenger (Muhammad ﷺ), and to the believers \*\*, 63: 8

\*\*NOT Muslims and the “believers” or “Mu’min”

**Who are the believers?**

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا ذُكِرَ اللَّهُ وَجِلَتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ وَإِذَا تُلِيَتْ عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتُهُ زَادَتْهُمْ إِيمَانًا وَعَلَىٰ رَبِّهِمْ يَتَوَكَّلُونَ

الَّذِينَ يُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ

أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ حَقًّا<sup>لَهُمْ</sup> لَهُمْ دَرَجَاتٌ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ وَمَغْفِرَةٌ وَرِزْقٌ كَرِيمٌ

2. The believers are only those who, when Allah is mentioned, feel a fear in their hearts and when His Verses (this Qur’an) are recited unto them, they (i.e. the Verses) increase their Faith; and they put their trust in their Lord (Alone);
3. Who perform *As-Salat* (*Iqamat-as-Salat*) and spend out of that We have provided them.
4. It is they who are the believers in truth. For them are grades of dignity with their Lord, and Forgiveness and a generous provision (Paradise). 8: 2-4

Let us address why we are facing such calamities and difficulties in this dunya:

### 1. QADR OF ALLAH

We have to remember that everything happens with the Will of Allah.

قُلْ لَنْ يُصِيبَنَا إِلَّا مَا كَتَبَ اللَّهُ لَنَا هُوَ مَوْلَانَا ۗ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ

Say: "Nothing shall ever happen to us except what Allah has ordained for us. He is our *Maula* (Lord, Helper and Protector)." And in Allah let the believers put their trust. 9: 51

### 2. QUANTITY DOES NOT REFLECT QUALITY OF ISLAM

The first of these narrations is that of Thawban - *radhiallahu 'anhu* - the freed slave of the Prophet *sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam*. He related that the Messenger of Allah said: "*The nations are about to call each other and set upon you, just as diners set upon food.*" It was said: "Will it be because of our small number that day?" He said:

*"Rather, on that day you will be many, but you will be like foam, like the foam on the river. And Allah will remove the fear of you from the hearts of your enemies and will throw wahn (weakness) into your hearts."* Someone said: "O Messenger of Allah! What is *wahn*?" He said: "*Love of the world and the hatred for death.*" *Sahih*: Related by Abu Dawud (no. 4297), Ibn 'Asakirin in *Tarikh Dimashq* (2/97/8) and others. It was authenticated by Al-Albani in *As-Sahihah* (no. 958)

This *hadith* explains the first form of weakness, which has befallen the 'Ummah in all corners of the world, as being a result of inclination to this world, love of it, and being preoccupied with it, whilst turning away from the Hereafter, being distant from it and hatred of death. Hatred of death is a sign of loving this world, since the one who loves this world, hates death. Since, with death, comes the meeting with Allah - *the Most Perfect*.

### 3. OUR DISOBEDIENCE TO ALLAH

ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِي النَّاسِ لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ الَّذِي  
عَمِلُوا لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ

"Evil (sins and disobedience of Allah, etc.) has appeared on land and sea because of what the hands of men have earned (by oppression and evil deeds, etc.), that Allah may make them taste a part of that which they have done, in order that they may return (by repenting to Allah, and begging His Pardon)". 30: 41

وَمَا أَصَابَكُمْ مِنْ مُصِيبَةٍ فَبِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِيكُمْ وَيَعْفُو عَنْ كَثِيرٍ

“And whatever of misfortune befalls you, it is because of what your hands have earned. And He pardons much.” 42: 30

مَا يَفْعَلُ اللَّهُ بِعَذَابِكُمْ إِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ وَآمَنْتُمْ ۚ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ شَاكِرًا عَلِيمًا

“Why should Allah punish you if you have thanked (Him) and have believed in Him. And Allah is Ever All-Appreciative (of good), All-Knowing.” 4: 147

We have to reflect upon these 3 verses – on what areas have we disobeyed Allah? Middle Eastern countries allowed “freedom of co habitation”, etc

#### 4. EXAMPLES OF PREVIOUS NATIONS

If we read verses before the verse below, Allah was reminding us on the people of:

1. Madyan – prophet Shu’aib (AS) was sent to people who are cheating
2. Prophet Lut (AS) – who indulged in homosexuality
3. Thamud – Prophet Saleh (AS) was sent to remind them on Tawheed
4. ‘Ad – Prophet Hud (AS) was sent to remind them on Tawheed

All the people were punished. Every nation was involved in acts which caused Allah to be displeased with them. Are these acts committed today? Yes

- A lot of cheating and lying in the markets, especially in Muslim countries. Corruptions are rampant.
- A lot of homosexuality occurring even in Muslim countries
- A lot of shirk done, even in Muslim countries, for e.g. from the “eye” that was sold in Turkey to the celebrations of Christmas and New Year in Muslim countries.

Why should we emulate the west when emulating them is causing displeasure in Allah. That was why Allah Warned us:

وَلَوْ أَنَّ أَهْلَ الْقُرَىٰ آمَنُوا وَاتَّقَوْا لَفَتَحْنَا عَلَيْهِم بَرَكَاتٍ مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَلَٰكِن كَذَّبُوا فَأَخَذْنَاهُم بِمَا كَانُوا يَكْسِبُونَ

And if the people of the towns had believed and had the *Taqwa* (piety), certainly, We should have opened for them blessings from the heaven and the earth, but they belied (the Messengers). So We took them (with punishment) for what they used to earn (polytheism and crimes, etc.) 7: 96

## IMPORTANT HADITH REPORTED BY IBN MAJAH

It was narrated that 'Abdullah bin 'Umar said:

“The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) turned to us and said: ‘O Muhajirun, there are five things with which you will be tested, and I seek refuge with Allah lest you live to see them: Immorality never appears among a people to such an extent that they commit it openly, but plagues and diseases that were never known among the predecessors will spread among them. They do not cheat in weights and measures but they will be stricken with famine, severe calamity and the oppression of their rulers. They do not withhold the Zakah of their wealth, but rain will be withheld from the sky, and were it not for the animals, no rain would fall on them. They do not break their covenant with Allah and His Messenger, but Allah will enable their enemies to overpower them and take some of what is in their hands. Unless their leaders rule according to the Book of Allah and seek all good from that which Allah has revealed, Allah will cause them to fight one another.’”

Reference	: Sunan Ibn Majah 4019
In-book reference	: Book 36, Hadith 94
English translation	: Vol. 5, Book 36, Hadith 4019

### WHY WAS A PLAGUE SENT BY ALLAH?

*Aisha reported: She asked the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, about plagues and he said, “It is a punishment that Allah sends upon whoever he wills, but Allah has made it a mercy for the believers. Any servant who resides in a land afflicted by plague, remaining patient and hoping for reward from Allah, knowing that nothing will befall him but what Allah has decreed, he will be given the reward of a martyr.”*

Source: Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī 5402

Grade: **Sahih** (authentic) according to Al-Bukhari

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ أَنَّهَا سَأَلَتْ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ عَنِ الطَّاعُونَ فَأَخْبَرَهَا  
 نَبِيُّ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَنَّهُ كَانَ عَذَابًا يَبْعَثُهُ اللَّهُ عَلَى مَنْ يَشَاءُ فَجَعَلَهُ اللَّهُ  
 رَحْمَةً لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ فَلَيْسَ مِنْ عَبْدٍ يَتَّقِ الطَّاعُونَ فَيَمُوتُ فِي بَلَدِهِ صَابِرًا يَعْلَمُ أَنَّهُ  
 لَنْ يُصِيبَهُ إِلَّا مَا كَتَبَ اللَّهُ لَهُ إِلَّا كَانَ لَهُ مِثْلُ أَجْرِ الشَّهِيدِ

## صحيح البخاري كتاب الطب باب أجر الصابر في الطاعون 5402

This hadith above explains about this Coronavirus.

It is sent as reminders and to punish those whom He Wills. To the believers – affected by it, it is from His Mercy. Why?

- Perhaps it is an expiation of the sins of a believer so that inshaAllah at the time of death, there will be absolutely no sins left;
- Perhaps it is a test to elevate his/her status if he/she remains patient;
- Perhaps it has been Decreed that the believer will enter Jannatul Firdaus and the deeds in this world that he/she does is insufficient to allow him/her to enter Jannatul Firdaus. Therefore, this is the only way to elevate his/her ranking of Jannah
- Perhaps to allow the believer to die in a high state of martyr.

### IN CONCLUSION

Do reflect on this verse: Qur'an surah 13 verse 11:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُغَيِّرُ مَا بِقَوْمٍ حَتَّى يُغَيِّرُوا مَا بِأَنْفُسِهِمْ

“...Verily! Allah will not change the good condition of a people as long as they do not change their state of goodness themselves (by committing sins and by being ungrateful and disobedient to Allah)...”

Allah Warned us regarding The Qur'an:

أَلَمْ يَأْنِ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَمَا نَزَلَ مِنَ الْحَقِّ وَلَا يَكُونُوا كَالَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلُ فَطَالَ عَلَيْهِمُ الْأَمَدُ فَقَسَتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ وَكَثِيرٌ مِنْهُمْ فَاسِقُونَ

Has not the time come for the hearts of those who believe (in the Oneness of Allah – Islamic Monotheism) to be affected by Allah's Reminder (this Qur'an), and that which has been revealed of the truth, lest they become as those who received the Scripture [the Taurat (Torah) and the Injeel (Gospel)] before (i.e. Jews and

Christians), and the term was prolonged for them and so their hearts were hardened? And many of them were *Fasiqun* (rebellious, disobedient to Allah). 57: 16

We do need to seek Allah's Forgiveness for our ungratefulness and disobedience, as Allah has warned us:

وَأَتَاكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ مَا سَأَلْتُمُوهُ<sup>ج</sup> وَإِنْ تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا<sup>ق</sup> إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ  
لَظَلُومٌ كَفَّارٌ

And He gave you of all that you asked for, and if you count the Blessings of Allah, never will you be able to count them. Verily! Man is indeed an extreme wrong-doer, - a disbeliever (an extreme ingrate, denies Allah's Blessings by disbelief, and by worshipping others besides Allah, and by disobeying Allah and His Prophet

Muhammad ﷺ). 14: 34

Always remember:

كُلُّ مَنْ عَلَيْهَا فَانٍ

وَيَبْقَى وَجْهُ رَبِّكَ ذُو الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

*"Whatsoever is on it (the earth) will perish. And the Face of your Lord full of Majesty and Honour will abide forever. (Surah 55:26-27)*

May Allah Forgive us of our sins, Shower us with His Mercy and Remove all these calamities that are in this dunya.