



# بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ KULAMANI

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**SPEAK OUT!!!!) SPEAK TRUTH!!!!) SPEAK OUT!!!!) SPEAK TRUTH!!!!)**

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## Editorial

Dear Bros./Sis.,  
What you are reading here is a Movement-letter. News-letters are read, Movement-letters are something you take part in – instruments for action. The time is now and in kulamani you have a tool and a voice to make meaningful things happen. We all have something to contribute to the cause for solidarity and progressiveness when it comes to universal improvement of the human condition, and the peoples' right to self-determination, here at home as well as abroad. Likewise, we all have something to add in the form of resistance to the institutions and proponents of a rogue status quo and to deprive them of comfort and refuge in their injustices, here at home as well as abroad. However small or great, provide what you can in the form of solidarity and service (see Call to Action, pg. ) and bear witness to what we can do for ourselves. Refuse to be a bystander as your life takes place, and never complain about what you permit. Amin!

Mustafa-El K.A. Ajala, editor  
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## Khutbah: The Basics in As-Sabilullah

By: Mustafa-El K.A. Ajala

### Part 1

As Salaamu Alaikum, wa rahmatullahi wa barakatuhu.  
Alhamdulillah Rabbil Alameen. Ashadu an la ilaha Illallah wa  
Ashadu anna Muhammadar Rasulallah. Auzu Billahi min-ash  
shaytanir rajeem.<sup>1</sup>

Praise is truly Allah's; we praise Him, we seek His help, and we seek His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Him from the evil of ourselves and our misdeeds. He whom Allah guides can not be lead astray, and there can no guide to whomever He leaves astray. I bear witness that there is no ilaha (god) worthy of worship but Allah (The God; ie., One God) and I bear witness that Muhammad is his Slave and Messenger. May Allah's blessings and peace be upon him, his family, his companions, and all those who follow him faithfully to the day of judgment. Ya ayyuhal-ladhina amanul-taqul-laha haqqa tuqatihi wa la tamutunna illa wa antum muslimin. ("O ye who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not other than in a state of Islam".- Holy Quran, Surah Ali Imran (3), ayah 102).

As-Sabilullah, "The cause of Allah," encompasses more acts of working righteousness and ibada (worship) than can be meaningfully addressed in one Khutbah. However, of them all, I cannot imagine any more important than holding fast to, securing and making sure that we do not separate from the basics, even in our efforts to preserve them. Allah, subanahu wa ta ala ((swt) Glorified Most High), has commanded us:

*"O ye who believe! Bow down, and prostrate yourselves, and worship your Lord, and do good that you may be successful. And strive hard in the cause of Allah as you ought to strive. He has chosen you, and has imposed no difficulties on you in religion: it is the religion of your Father Ibrahim (Abraham). It is He (Allah) who has named you Muslims, both before and in this (revelation), that the Messenger may be a witness over you and you be witnesses over mankind. So perform as-salat (the prayers), give the Zakat (poor-rate) and hold fast to Allah. He is your protector, the Best to protect and the Best to help.- Holy Quran, Surah Al-Hajj (22), Ayat 77-78*

(continued next page)

<sup>1</sup> Translation: "Peace be upon you, and the mercy and blessings of Allah. The praise is to Allah, Lord of all the worlds. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah. I seek refuge in Allah from the accursed shaytan (satan)."



On there being no difficulty in our religion, the Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu Alayhi wa salaam / may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him - (saw)) has said: "Religion is very easy and whoever overburdens himself in his religion will not be able to continue in that way. So, you should not be inordinate, but try to be near perfection and receive the good tidings that you will be rewarded; and gain strength by offering salat in the mornings, afternoons and during the last hours of the nights." [Sahih Al-Bukhari, Vol. 1, #38]. We are being admonished here on the principle of moderation, the need to strike a balance, and inherent in this need is that the very basics, the fundamentals of Islam and the strength of its ethics, must remain indispensable and inviolate

To be sure, holding high the beacon of rightly guided scholarship is Fard-al-Kifaya for our community<sup>2</sup>, although observing the very basics of the Deen is Fard-al-Ayn. Verily, the importance of Islamic scholarship cannot be overstated:

*"A single scholar of religion is more feared by Shaytan than a thousand pious worshippers." [Irmidhi and Ibn Maja]*

*"The similitude of the scholars of knowledge (Al-Ulama) on the earth is the stars in the sky by which one is guided in the darkness of the land and the sea. When the stars are clouded over, the guides are about to be lost." [Ahmad, Musnad (3:157,#12606)]*

In other words, our Ummah must have rightly guided scholarship through which it may be rightly guided and not clouded over by incorrect teachings. Nevertheless, the scholar who abandons the basics is promised Jehenna (Hell), while the worshiper who is pious and observes the basics (though not a scholar) is promised Janna (paradise). Thus, the importance of us observing the basics in furthering the cause of Allah is greater than the need for each of us to become scholars. All praises be to Allah for the fact that today the branches of

rightly guided scholarship – Ahl Us-Sunnah wal Jama'a, extends over both land and sea, far east and west. For those who are on the path of higher Ilm (knowledge, science) there is no deficiency of access. However, depending upon where we reside or travel we often find severe deficiencies with regard to observing the basics. It should come as no surprise that the Prophet (saw) forewarned of these times: "Verily, you (the people of his time) are in an age in which if you abandon one tenth of what is ordered, you will be ruined. After this a time will come when he who shall observe one tenth of what is now ordered will be redeemed." [Mishkat-al-Masabih]. This portent of the Holy Prophet (saw) is enough for an exhortation, and the realization of even a fraction of his prophecy in our time is enough to be moved to action. The action we take must begin with holding fast to (in some cases, going back to) the basics in As-Sabilullah; ie., focusing on the oneness of Allah, the principles of unity, of being organized as an Ummah to effectively enjoin the right and forbid the wrong, establishing as-salat, az-zakat, visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, and liberating those in unjust bondage, wanting for your bretheren what you want for yourself; simply put, being a good Muslim and performing dawah by our individual deeds but also collectively as an Ummah, justly balanced, for the sake of Allah and the benefit of all, especially our poor and oppressed, and, Insh-Allah the establishment of one Khilafah. It is to these ends that Kulamani is tied, as well as the niyyah (intentions) behind it. Ya Mumineen, Attabi'uu Allah (O believers. Obey Allah)

Subhana Allahi wa Bihamdihi. ("Glory to Allah and to him be praise.) Amin!

## Part 2

Alhamdhulillah Rabbil Alameen. Ashadu an la ilaha Illallah wa ashadu anna Muhammadar Ras ulallah. Sallallahu alayhi wa salaama wa ala alihi wa as-sabihi ya ayyuha.

No one strived harder in As-Sabilullah than Prophet Muhammad (saw), and he began with Kulamani. Kulamani in Swahili means to "Speak Out!" In

Arabic its two-word root means to "Speak Truth!" Qul: to say or speak; and Amani: from Amana (a trust) and Amin (truly!). Thus, Kulamani means to speak out and to speak truth, and it is as much a responsibility as it is a noble act. The Prophet (saw), in the first verses revealed in the Holy Quaran (during the month of Ramadan, 610 ce), was commanded : Iqra (Read!/Proclaim!)

"Iqra, in the name of your Lord who created man from a clot. Iqra for your Lord is Most Bountiful, He who taught (the use of) the pen – taught man what he knew not" - Holy Quran, Surah Al- Alaq (96), ayat 1-5

However, he was not only commanded to read, but also to proclaim! He was chosen and entrusted with: (1) proclaiming the truth with regard to submission (Islam) to the will of Allah, Iman (belief) and Ishan (perfection of worship); and (2) enjoying the right and forbidding the wrong. He instructed us: "Whoever of you sees an evil action, let him change it with his hand; and, if he is not able to do so, then with his tongue (speak out against it); and, if he is not able to do so, then with his heart (by hating and despising the evil) – and that is the weakest of faith." [Sahih Muslim]. Moreover, he warned us:

*"Verily, when the people see evil but they make no effort to change it, Allah may inflict upon all of them his punishment." [Sharh Sunnah]*

Today we are witnessing a terrible fitnah (conflict, confusion, tumult and oppression), whose evil flies far and wide, and has roots dating back to over 400 years here in the west and to the Medieval Crusades preceding it. The imperialist, fascist, racist, neo-colonial and jingoistic forces we are confronted with today are in relations and essence the same as yesterday; and the oppressed are also the same. That oppressed people today are my people: Muslim, regardless of race; Alkebulani (i.e., Afrikan/Adami/Black) regardless of faith; and the just who join us in struggle. Who are more oppressed today than they?! It is As-Sabilullah and the Sunnah of Rasulullah (Saw) to fight that oppression and to help the oppressed:

*"And why should you not fight in the Sabilullah, and for those weak, ill-treated*

<sup>2</sup> Fard-al-Kifaya are obligations placed upon the community which are not required to be performed by all, but must be performed by at least one or some of the community, while Fard-al-Ayn are those obligations which must be performed by all of the community.



*and oppressed among men, women, and children whose cry is: 'Our Lord! Rescue us from this town whose people are oppressors, and raise for us from You one who will protect, and raise for us from You one who will help'" ~Holy Quran, Surah An-nisa (4), Ayah 75*

The Prophet (Saw) commanded us to "visit the sick", "support the weak", "help the oppressed" and to "feed people" [Riyadh Us-Saliheen, #847, #849], to look after the poor, the widow and the orphan [Sahih Al-Bukhari Vol.7, #265; Vol. 8, #34], and to : "Be afraid from the curse of the oppressed, as there is no screen between his invocation and Allah." [Id., Vol. #3, #628]. He also commanded us to: "Help your brother whether he is an oppressor or he is an oppressed one. People said: "O Allah's Messenger! It is all right to help him if he is oppressed, but how shall we help him if he is an oppressor?" The Prophet said: 'By preventing him from oppressing others.'" [Id., #624].

As mentioned from the outset, As-Sabilullah is vast in scope. For our part, Kulamani's focus is on striving hard in championing the basics with regard to Islam, Iman, Ihsan, enjoining the right and forbidding the wrong, and in speaking out and speaking truth. It is said that truth is the first casualty of war. Truth can get you killed, especially when spoken to power. However, it must be defended. If we are not willing to defend it, then what are we willing to defend?! Doing nothing is As-Sabilullah is not an option. There is an apt Azerbaijan proverb in this regard: "If I speak they will kill me, if I don't speak I'll die." It is said of the giraffe that he has no voice, that when his neck is in the lion's jaws he cannot protest his own murder (Alkebulani proverb), but we can. For the sake of Allah, in As-Sabilullah, protest your own murder, oppressions, persecutions, and genocide and despise it in your hearts. Speak Out! Speak Truth! Ya mumineen, attabi'uu Allah. Allahum-maghfir-lil muminina wal muminat. Subhan-Allahil Azim. (O Believers, Fear Allah. O Allah, Forgive the believers men and women. Glory to Allah, the most Great!) Amin!