

Assalamu Alaykum.

All praise and Glory be to Allah the Assembler of Scattered creations, The Just One who is Just in HIS Judgment and The Possessor of Majesty and Honour the One who deserves to be Exalted and not denied.

Verily, the most truthful speech is the Book of Allah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad SAW, and the worst affairs are newly invented matters. Every newly invented matter is a religious innovation, and every religious innovation is misguidance, and every misguidance is in the Hellfire.

To Proceed.

It is a known fact that leadership and its duty is a massive responsibility in Islam and one of the ways that the religion is protected in its entirety. It is a criteria to establish so many aspects of this deen. So it only makes perfect sense that the leader should judge according to the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger SAW to establish these correctly. The leader is called to account in front of Allah the Possessor of Sovereignty. He has to make it a priority to stop the evil and call to the good. He also has a duty to protect the people and their beliefs and the bettering of the lives and living in the land. If he meets these then it's a duty for the people to listen and obey him.

As the Honoured Messenger SAW Said.

“Every one of you is a Sheppard and is responsible for his flock. The leader of the people is a guardian and is responsible for his subjects”

The duty of the leader is to establish and enforce the Book of Allah. To protect the people and to fix hardships that the people have in matters of living. To eradicate oppression and to put a stop to the innocent and the vulnerable being exploited. To forbid the evil and enjoin the good in all cases.

Allah the Holder of Supreme Authority Tells us in Surah AL-HAJJ 41.

“The Ones who help Allah are those who, when WE give them power in the land, establish Salah, pay Zakah, Bid what is Fair and forbid what is Unfair. And with Allah lies the fate of all matters.”

The state of the people and land lies with how the Leader is. If the leader is an evil doer then the people and the land will indulge in evil and immorality. If the leader is righteous, then the people and the land will be righteous and excellent in character and honour.

Shaykhul-Islam Ibn Taymiyya may Allah have mercy on him said.

“Those who are in authority are of two groups, the scholars and the rulers. If they are upright, then the people will be upright and if they are corrupt the people will be corrupt.”

The Messenger SAW said.

“The one who removes his hand from obedience he will meet Allah without a proof for himself’ and whosoever dies without a bay’ah (pledge of allegiance) on his neck dies a death of Jahiliyyah (the days of ignorance).”

But remember the conditions we spoke about about.

Ibn khaldun says that it’s absolutely clear from the deen that the appointing of an Amir or leader is made to be an obligation on us. We see this clearly from the Noble Companions. They delayed the burial of the honoured Nabi SAW for 3 days while they were looking to appoint a new leader. The companions all rushed to give the pledge to the Truthful Abu Bakir RA. They did not want to remain without a leader and shepherd to lead them. They made it an absolute priority upon themselves.

The appointing of the leader is with the people of authority, like the scholars and people who have control. Also it cannot take place without the awareness of the Believers. The same way in how the Truthful Abu Bakir RA was chosen and then made public for the people to give the pledge of allegiance. It is very important that a mutual consultation is given when choosing of the leader.

Allah the Eternal Inheritor states in ASH-SHURA 38.

“And those who have responded to their Lord (in submission to Him) and have established Salah, and whose affairs are (settled) with mutual consultation between them, and who spend out of what We have given to them”

And the key Phrase here is, “(and whose affairs are (settled) with mutual consultation between them)”

AHLUL HALI WAL AQD are given this decision. Who are **AHLUL HALI WAL AQD?**

The scholars said that **AHLUL HALI WAL AQD** are the religious scholars, chiefs of tribes, social leaders, people in authority and the military commanders, when such people are in agreement with someone, and that is not against the Quran and Sunnah, then we have to follow.

There is a very important matter that has to be said. In no way are we obligated to listen and obey the leader in anything that contradicts the Quran and the Sunnah. We still have to remember that we are obligated to the Quran and Sunnah more than anything or anyone person.

As Abu Bakir May Allah be pleased with him said.

“Obey me so long as I obey Allah and His Messenger, and if I disobey Allah and His Messenger then I have no right to your obedience.”

And the saying of Omar Ibn Khattab May Allah be pleased with him also.

“If I follow the right path, follow me. If I deviate from the right path, correct me so that we are not led astray.”

The choosing of the right leader is very important in the deen. The way Omar RA chose 6 people and the companions finally agreed on Uthman Ibn Affan RA and the people of Madina all gave him the pledge of allegiance. But if a person who controls an army and comes and takes power by force and does not establish the sharia then it's an obligation not to listen to him and to stand against him. Remember the criteria to be a rightful and righteous leader of the Muslims is to call to the good and forbid the evil and to establish the deen of Allah on the earth and among the people.

We will Insha Allah close with the wise words of our first khalifa Abu Bakir As-Siddiq RA because it is so relevant today. He said.

“Oh people, I have been appointed over you, though I am not the best among you. If I do well then help me and if I act wrongly then correct me. Truthfulness is synonymous with fulfilling the trust, and lying is equivalent to treachery. The week among you is deemed strong by me, until I return to them which is rightfully theirs, Insha Allah. And the strong among you is deemed week by me, until I take from them what is rightfully (someone else’s), insha Allah. No group of people abandons military/armed struggle in the path of Allah, except that Allah makes them suffer humiliation. And evil/mischief does not become widespread among a people except that Allah inflicts them with widespread calamity. Obey me so long as I obey Allah and His Messenger SAW. And if I disobey Allah and His Messenger then I have no right to your obedience.”

May Allah the Most High let us see the truth as truth and the falsehood as falsehood. May Allah High and Mighty give victory to the truthful and break the backs of the liars. May Allah guide us back to His straight path and make us firm upon it.

Any goodness is from Allah and any mistakes it’s from myself and I ask for forgiveness for myself and for you and Allah Ultimately knows best.