

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ Building Masajid

Allah says, “The Masajid of Allah shall be constructed and maintained by those who believe in Allah and the Final Day, establish *salah* and pay *zakah* and fear none except Allah. It is they who are expected to be truly guided.”¹

The Masajid are the houses of Allah. In them, He is worshipped and His name is remembered. The angels in the sky visit them. The Masajid are safe fortresses for those whose hearts love them and whose actions are sincere. Allah has blessed the Masajid and given them honour and respect. He praises those who mention and raise His name in the mornings and the evenings and He promises them great reward on the Day of Judgement.

He said: “In houses, which Allah has permitted to be raised and His Name to be mentioned. In them, He is glorified in the mornings and in the evenings, by men whom neither trade nor sale can divert from the remembrance of Allah, nor from regular prayer nor from paying *zakah*. Their fear is for the Day when hearts and eyes will be turned about. That Allah may reward them according to the best of their deeds and add even more for them out of His grace. For Allah provides for whom He wishes without measure.”²

The people who construct and build the masajid, love Islam and are truthful in their *iman*. The masajid are built to establish rituals and to raise the banners of the *deen*. The masajid are built to teach the obligations of Islam, and to teach the Qur’an and other Islamic sciences. Allah has promised embarrassment and torture for those people who prevent the remembrance of Allah in the masajid and who have tried to demolish and destroy them.

Allah says: “And who is more unjust than he who forbids that in the masajid of Allah that His name should be celebrated? And whose zeal is to ruin them? It was not fitting that such should enter them except in fear. For them disgrace in this world, and in the world to come, an exceeding torment.”³

The masajid are built and the believing beings of the heavens and earth are happy. The masjid becomes the place for the descending of mercy and pleasure, so blessed is he who constructed it and those who worship in it. In the masjid, the practice (sunnah) of the Messenger of Allah Muhammad ﷺ is established and protected. The masjid bears witness on the Day of Judgement for whoever builds it or enlivens it with remembrance and obedience. In the *hadith qudsi*:

“Whoever purifies himself in his home and goes to the Masjid, then he is visiting Allah; and it is a duty on the host to be generous to the visitor.”⁴

¹ Al-Qur’an: Surat ut-Taubah 9: 18

² Al-Qur’an: Surat un-Noor 24: 36-38

³ Al-Qur’an: Surat ul-Baqara 2: 114

⁴ Hadith: Narrated by Imam al-Tabarani and al-Bayhaqi

The Messenger ﷺ has urged us to build mosques. He said: “Whosoever builds a masjid requesting the reward of Allah, then Allah will build for him a house in *jannah*.”⁵

When the Messenger ﷺ came to Madinah, his first action was to build a masjid. The masajid are the houses of Allah, the gatherings of His angels, the place where His mercy descends, the home of worship and a meeting place for the worshippers. The masajid shouldn't be built for showing-off or for putting others down. They should be built for establishing prayer and the remembrance of Allah so that the light of worship shines from it, calling others to worship.

The Prophet ﷺ said: “Whoever goes to a congregational mosque then one step towards or away from it erases a bad deed and the next will give him a good deed.”

Waiting for the time of prayer in the masjid is like guarding the frontiers for Allah's sake.

The Prophet ﷺ asked: “Shall I tell you of what Allah erases sins with and lifts up the ranks”.

They said: “Yes O Messenger of Allah!”

He said: “Making *wudu* properly in hard conditions, increasing the number of steps to the *masjid* and waiting for the prayer after the prayer. For that is *riibaat*, for that is *riibaat*, for that is *riibaat*.”⁶

Riibaat is the act of guarding the frontiers, against any intruders.

The Prophet ﷺ said: “Give glad tidings to those who walk in the dark to the masjid, that they will enjoy complete light on the Day of Judgement”.⁷

He who waits in the masjid for the time of the next prayer will get the reward of a praying person and the angels will ask forgiveness for him in that time. The Prophet ﷺ said: “The Angels pray for any one of you who is in *salaah*, as long as he is still in prayer nothing will prevent him from going to his family except prayer. The angels pray: “O Allah, have mercy on him, Forgive him!” as long as he doesn't leave or break his *wudu*”.⁸

Ibn Abbas ؓ said that it is disliked for a person to get up lazily for prayer. He should get up with a bright face and strong anticipation and happiness for he is calling Allah who answers calls and forgives. Allah has mentioned that the hypocrite gets up lazily to pray and hates it. Allah said: “And if they get up for prayer, they get up in laziness, they show off to people, and they don't remember Allah, but little.”⁹

May Allah make us of the guided ones. Ameen

⁵ Hadith: Narrated by Imams al-Bukhari and Muslim.

⁶ Hadith: Narrated by Imam Muslim.

⁷ Hadith: Narrated by Imams Abu Dawud and al-Tirmidhi

⁸ Hadith: Narrated by Imam al-Bukhari

⁹ Holy Qur'an: Chapter of the Women 4:142