

Special Importance and Virtues of Mecca and The Sacred House of Allah

Written by admin

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All Praise is due to Allah and may the peace and mercy be upon the Messenger of Allah. To Proceed:

Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) says: (And your Lord creates whatsoever He wills and chooses). He chooses from His creation what He wills and elevates their status above other creations. He (subhanahu wa taa'la) also prefers/elevates some locations above others such as the Sacred House of Allah in Mecca, which is the most special location in the whole world in the sight of Allah. He chose this spot on earth and made it special in many ways. We will mention some of the virtues of and the specialness of this location in this speech including:

1. It was the first House that was put for people and was made sacred and a way of seeking guidance as Allah SWT says: (Verily, the first House (of worship) appointed for mankind was that at Bakkah (Makkah), full of blessing, and a guidance for Al-'Alamin (the mankind and jinns)).

Abu Dhar narrated: (

I said, "O Allah's Apostle! Which mosque was first built on the surface of the earth?" He said, "Al-Masjid-ul-Haram (in Mecca)).

2. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) made this location sacred and prohibited killing people in it, cutting of trees and hunting animals is not allowed there. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la)

says: (

whosoever enters it, he attains security

) and He also says:

(And (remember) when We made the House (the Ka'bah at Makkah) a place of resort for mankind and a place of safety

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Ibn 'Abbas (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) as saying on the Day of Victory over Mecca: (

There is no Hijra (emigration) but only Jihad and good intention; and when you are called to battle, then go forth).

He also said on the Day of Victory over Mecca: (Allah made this town sacred on the day He created the earth and the heavens; so it is -sacred by the sacredness conferred on it by Allah until the Day of Resurrection and fighting in it was not lawful to anyone before me, and it was made lawful for me only during an hour on one day, for it is sacred by the sacredness conferred on it by Allah until the Day of Resurrection. Its thorns are not to be cut, its game is not to be molested, and the things dropped are to be picked up only by one who makes a public announcement of it, and its fresh herbage is not to be cut).

Abbas (Allah be pleased with him) said: Messenger of Allah, exception may be made in case of rush, for it is useful for their blacksmiths and for their houses. He (the Holy Prophet, conceding the suggestion of 'Abbas) said: Except rush

.

3. Whoever has the intention to harm that location (even if he does not do it), Allah SWT will punish him painfully. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) says: (And whoever inclines to evil actions therein or to do wrong (i.e. practice polytheism and leave Islamic Monotheism), him We shall cause to taste a painful torment) . It is worth noting that normally the slaves of Allah are not punished for intentions until they actually commit the deed, but in this instance Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) promised punishment for the mere thought of harming the Sacred House of Allah, which indicates the importance of that location in the sight of Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la).

4. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) has made it prohibited for the non-believer to enter the House of Allah. Allah says: (O you who believe! Verily, the Mushrikun (polytheists, pagans, idolaters, disbelievers) are Najasun (impure). So let them not come near Al-Masjid-al-Haram (at Makkah) after this year (). Abu Huraira (Allah be pleased with him) reported: (Abu Bakr Siddiq (Allah be pleased with him) sent me during Hajj before the Farewell Pilgrimage for which Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) had appointed him an Amir, among a group of people whom he had ordered to make announcement to the people on the Day of Nahr:" (After this year no polytheist may perform the Pilgrimage and no naked person may circumambulate the House ().

5. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) has also made this location a direction to which all people face wherever they are. Allah SWT says: (And from wheresoever you start forth (for prayers), turn your face in the direction of Al-Masjid-al-Haram (at Makkah), and wheresoever you are, turn your faces towards it

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). It is also the direction that was beloved to the Messenger of Allah and He honored him by allowing the Prophet to face towards it. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) says: (Verily! We have seen the turning of your (Muhammad's SAW) face towards the heaven. Surely, We shall turn you to a Qiblah (prayer direction) that shall please you, so turn your face in the direction of Al-Masjid- al-Haram (at Makkah

).

And wheresoever you people are, turn your faces (in prayer) in that direction

). The Messenger of Allah made it prohibited for someone to face its direction or turn ones behind towards it while urinating or passing stool.

Narrated Abu Aiyub Al-Ansari: Allah's Apostle said, "

If anyone of you goes to an open space for answering the call of nature he should neither face nor turn his back towards the Qibla; he should either face the east or the west

".

6. The reward of praying at the Sacred House of Allah is multiplied as Abu Huraira (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) as saying: "Prayer in my mosque is more excellent than a thousand prayers observed in other mosques except the Masjid al- Haram

".

And it is agreed that this preference includes the obligatory prayers (Fard) as well as the voluntary prayers (Nafl).

7. It is a destination that people should travel to seeking the happiness of Allah. This is a feature only shared by travelling to the Masjid Al-Nabawi (in Madinah) and Al-Masjid Al-Aqsah (in Jerusalem). Abu Huraira (Allah be pleased with him) reported it directly from Allah's Apostle (may peace be upon him) that he said: " Do not undertake journey but to three mosques: this mosque of mine, the Mosque of al-Haram and the Mosque of Aqsa (Bait al-Maqdis) . This includes the prohibition of travelling anywhere else for the purpose of visiting except for those three locations due to their importance.

8. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) made this Sacred House the location for a great worshipping act and one of the pillars of Islam, which is Pilgrimage (Hajj). This is an act of worship that can only be fulfilled in this location. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) say s: (

And Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah) to the House (Ka'bah) is a duty that mankind owes to Allah, those who can afford the expenses (for one's conveyance, provision and residence

). The Messenger of Allah also said: "

Islam was built upon five pillars And Hajj of the House

".

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9. One of the virtues of this location is that people head to it to seek forgiveness from their evil deeds. Abu Huraira (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah's Messenger (may peace be upon him) as saying: " He who came to this House (Ka'ba) (with the intention of performing Pilgrimage), and neither spoke indecently nor did he act wickedly, would return (free from sin) as on the (very first day) his mother bore him ". O' Allah!
we ask you to grant us the chance to visit your Sacred House

10. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) made this House one of His honored properties and made it belong to Him directly to emphasise its importance. That is why he entrusted Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) to purify it. Allah says: (And We commanded Ibrahim (Abraham) and Isma'il (Ishmael) that they should purify My House (the Ka'bah at Makkah) for those who are circumambulating it, or staying (I'tikaf), or bowing or prostrating themselves (there, in prayer).

11. Circumambulation is only allowed around this Sacred House as Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) says: (Then let them complete the prescribed duties (Manasik of Hajj) for them, and perform their vows, and circumambulate the Ancient House (the Ka'bah at Makkah).

12. It is the most beloved mosque to Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) in the most beloved location to Allah and His Messenger (Sacred Mecca). Narrated by Abu Hurayra that the Messenger of Allah SAW stood on the borders of Mecca and said: "I know that you are the best land of Allah and the most beloved land to Him. If it wasn't for your people who exiled me from you, I would never leave ".

13. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) allocated angels around Mecca who will guard this location against the Dajjal. Narrated Anas bin Malik: The Prophet said, "There will be no town which Ad-Dajjal will not enter except Mecca and Medina, and there will be no entrance (road) (of both Mecca and Medina) but the angels will be standing in rows guarding it against him ,... ")

14. Allah (subhanahu wa taa'la) also swore by its location in His Holy Book as He says: (I swear by this city (Makkah). And in another verse He says: (

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By the fig, and the olive, By Mount Sinai, And by this city of security (Makkah).

15. One of its virtues is the natural attachment of people's hearts to that location and longing to seeing it. The reason for that is the supplication made by Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him) as mentioned in the Quran when he said: (O our Lord! I have made some of my offspring to dwell in an uncultivable valley by Your Sacred House (the Ka'bah at Makkah); in order, O our Lord, that they may perform As-Salat (Iqamat-as-Salat), so fill some hearts among men with love towards them)

O' Allah we ask you to grant us your bounties.

Indeed Allah knows best.