
Encouragement in Islaam to utilise the land

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The Encouragement in Islaam to utilise the land & to till the land¹

‘There are many Ahadeeth regarding this, I will mention a few of them:²

7 – From Anas the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said:

‘There is no Muslim who plants a plant or a tree, or sows a seed and no bird, or human or animal eats from that except that it is a charity for that person.’³

8 – From Jabir from the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم):

‘There is no Muslim who plants a plant or a tree, except that whatever is eaten from it is a charity for him. Whatever is stolen from that is a charity for him. Whatever is eaten from it by an animal is a charity for him. Whatever a bird eats is a charity for him, no one suffers a loss except that it will be a charity for him till the Day of Judgement.’⁴

No. 9 - From Anas (رضي الله عنه)⁵ from the Prophet (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said:

‘If the final hour comes and one of you has a small date-palm plant in his hand, and if you can plant it before you stand then plant it.’

‘Imaam Bukhaaree brought a chapter heading in the previous book (al-Adab al-Mufrad) for this hadeeth, where he said: ‘Chapter: The Production of Wealth’ then he narrated from al-Haarith bin Laqeett who said:

‘There used to be a man from amongst us who would get his horse to reproduce, and then slaughter it. And he would say: ‘Why should I live so that I ride this thing? [i.e. The Day of Judgement is very close].’

Then a letter came to us from Umar:

¹ Taken from ‘Silsilah Ahadeeth As-Saheehah’

² Taken from ‘Silsilah Ahadeeth As-Saheehah’ vol. 1 hadeeth no 7-9 p.37-40

³ Collected by Bukhaaree, Muslim & Ahmad

⁴ Collected by Muslim

⁵ (رضي الله عنه) (rad iyallaahu `anhu) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with him

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'You should cultivate and prosper with that which Allaah has provided you, since indeed in this regard there is enough time.'⁶

Bukhaaree also narrated from Daawood with an authentic chain, who said: Abdullaah bin Sallam said to me:

'If you hear that the Dajjaal has exited and you are about to plant a small tree, then do not delay tending to cultivating it, because the people will have a sustenance from that later.'

And Ibn Jareer narrated from 'Amaarah bin Khuzaimah bin Thaabit who said:

'I heard Umar bin al-Khattaab say to my father: 'What prevents you from tilling your land?'

My father replied to him: 'I am an old man and I may die tomorrow.'

So Umar said to him:

'I swear that; indeed you must plant on your land.'

Indeed I saw Umar bin al-Khattaab plant a plant or tree with his own hands along with my father.'⁷

This is why some of the Companions used to regard a man who works on his land as a worker from the workers of Allaah (عزوجل)⁸.

Bukhaaree narrated in 'al-Adab al-Mufrad' from Nafi' bin 'Aasim that he heard Abdullaah bin 'Amr say to his nephew, when he was coming out of his [al-Waha] farm: 'Are your workers doing their jobs?'

He replied: 'I do not know.'

Abdullaah said: 'As for me, if I was skilled and trained I would learn the job your workers do.'

Then he turned towards us and said: 'Indeed if a person works along his workers in his home [and the narrator once mentioned: 'with his wealth']; then that person would be a worker from the workers of Allaah (عزوجل).'⁹

'al-Waha' in the Arabic language means: a garden, and it was a very large piece of land which was owned by 'Amr bin 'al-Aaas in Ta'if about three miles from Wajja, and it seems he left it for his children.

Ibn 'Aasakir collected in his book 'Tareekh' with an authentic chain from 'Amr bin Dinar who said:

⁶ Its chain is authentic.

⁷ From 'al-Jamia' al-Kabeer' by Suyootee

⁸ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

⁹ Its chain is 'Hasan' Insha'allaah.

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'Amr bin al-Aaas entered a farm which he owned in Ta'if which was called al-Waha, it had a million stakes of wood [which were used to prop up the grapes], and he had bought every stake of wood for a Dirham.'

These are some of the general benefits from those ahadeeth from the Salaf as-Saalih (رضي الله عنهم)¹⁰.

Bukhaaree wrote a chapter heading in his 'Saheeh' for the first two ahadeeth by saying:

'Chapter: The excellence of growing plants if they are eaten from'

All Praise belongs to Allaah, may His peace and blessings be upon our final Prophet Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم), his family, his companions and all those who follow his guidance.

¹⁰ (رضي الله عنهم) (rad iyallahu 'anhum) May Allaah the Most High be pleased with them