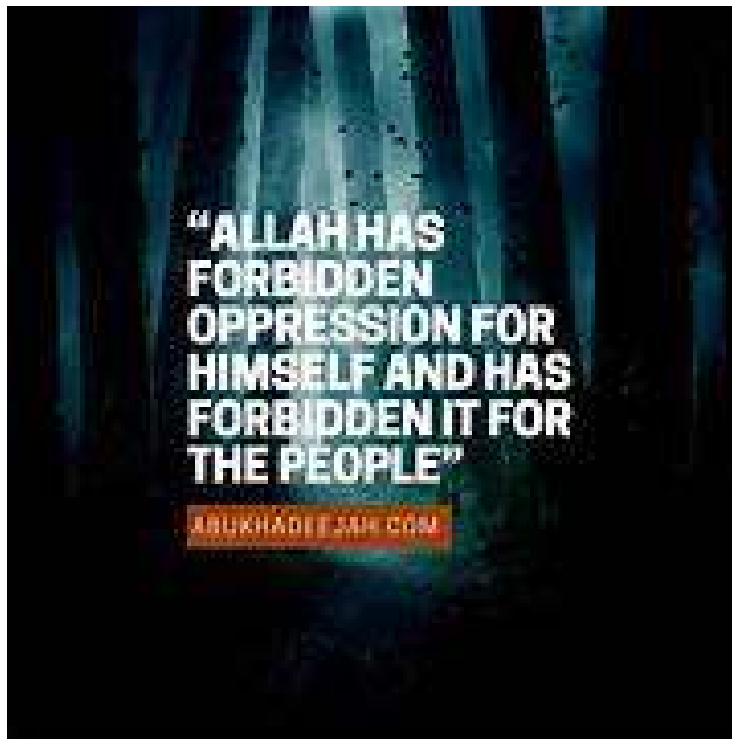


Dealing With Oppression in Islam

By Aleynah Begum



All Praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds

One of the commands in Islam is that, if a person continues to live in a place where they are oppressed, but they are unable to change it, Allah commands them to leave that place.

1) The Migration of Prophet Muhammad S.A.V

One of the greatest examples in Islamic history is the Hijrah (migration) of Prophet Muhammad S A.V. and his Companions from Makkah to Madinah.

They endured the oppression, torture, and persecution of the Makkan idolaters, yet when they could no longer change their situation, Allah commanded them to migrate.

This migration became the most powerful symbol of not living under injustice and standing firm in faith.

2) Oppressed Muslim Nations

Today, some Muslims live in lands filled with war, injustice, and oppression against faith.

If they cannot change their situation but have the means to move to a safer place, Islam permits them to do so, and at times even commands them to leave such lands.

For example:

Muslims in Palestine, Syria, Indian Kashmir or Burma Rohingya who suffer severe oppression may migrate to a peaceful place, if possible. This is considered an act of self-protection and preservation of life in Islam.

Example from Personal Life:

If a person lives in an environment, whether at work, at home, or in society where injustice, sin, or oppression dominate, and they are unable to change it, then leaving that place becomes a wise and faithful decision.

For instance:

If someone works in a place where haram activities are done and cannot oppose them, leaving that job is an act of obedience to Allah.

Similarly, if a man or woman lives in a home filled with violence and oppression, and cannot change it, leaving it becomes a path to spiritual and emotional safety.