

Dawhul Ardh The Spreading of the Earth (Earth Day)

Extracted from the Book Iqbal al-A'mal

It has been mentioned in the books of supplication and traditions that the 25th of Dhul Qa'dah (December 28th of this year) is the day of Daḥwul Ardh (دحو الأرض) (also known as Earth Day). According to some traditions, this event is on the 29th of Dhul Qa'dah (December 29th of this year) – however, keeping both of these dates in mind, we highlight the importance of this day, some of the events that had transpired in history and what actions we should perform on this blessed day that Allāh ﷻ has granted to us.

What is the importance of this day?

1. It is said that the Sacred Ka'bah was sent down to Earth on this day and this is also when Allāh ﷻ spread out ALL the land on the Earth under the Ka'bah. According to the same narration, this is also the day when Prophet Ādam ﷺ was sent to Earth after he and his wife, Ḥawwah ate from the tree in the 'Earthly Paradise'.

The Qur'an refers to the Ka'bah as being the first house of worship for mankind on this Earth in the following verse:

﴿ إِنَّ أَوَّلَ بَيْتٍ وُضِعَ لِلنَّاسِ لَلَّذِي بِبَكَّةَ مُبَارَكًا وَهُدًى لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴾

"Surely the very first house that was placed for mankind (as a place of worship) was the one in Bakkah (Makkah) the Blessed and (a source of) guidance for all the worlds." (3:96)

2. This day is also the birthday of two great Prophets, Prophet Ibrāhīm al-Khalil al-Raḥmān ﷺ known as the Father of Monotheism as it is from him that the great Prophets came that make up the Jews, Christians and Muslims of today. It is this

great Prophet that the Qur'an refers to as an "Ummah" or Nation.

In addition, the Prophet that the Christians revere, 'Isā ibn Mariam ﷺ was born on this blessed day. Not only is he Rūḥullāh or the Spirit of Allāh, but he was made a Prophet when he was still in the cradle and he indeed spoke to the people in defense of his mother and the baseless accusations that were leveled against her:

﴿ قَالَ إِنِّي عَبْدُ اللَّهِ آتَانِيَ الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا
وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا أَيْنَ مَا كُنْتُ وَأَوْصَانِي
بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا وَبَرًّا بِوَالِدَتِي وَلَمْ
يَجْعَلْنِي جَبَّارًا شَقِيًّا وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيَّ يَوْمَ وُلِدْتُ
وَيَوْمَ أُمُوتُ وَيَوْمَ أُبْعَثُ حَيًّا ذَلِكَ عِيسَى
ابْنُ مَرْيَمَ قَوْلَ الْحَقِّ الَّذِي فِيهِ
يَمْتَرُونَ ﴾



He said: "I am indeed a servant of Allāh: He has given me revelation and made me a Prophet and He has made me Blessed wheresoever I be and has enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live (He) has made me kind to my mother and not overbearing or miserable So Peace is on me the day I was born the day that I die and the Day that I shall be raised up to life (again). Such (was) Jesus the son of Mary: (it is) a statement of truth about which they (vainly) dispute." (19:30-34)

Benefits of keeping this Day as a Day of Worship

- If a person fasts on this day, it would act as a Kaffārah (Penitence) for his sins of seventy (70) years.
- In another tradition, if a person fasts on this day, it would be equivalent to fasting 60 months!
- According to another tradition narrated in Thawāb al-A'māl compiled by Shaykh Ṣadūq, this is also the day that al-Qāim ﷺ will make his glorious advent.
- Imām 'Alī ibn Abī Ṭālib ﷺ has stated that to fast on the 25th of Dhul Qa'dah and stay up the night in 'Ibādah it is equivalent to the worship of 100 years as if the person had fasted those 100 years straight and had stayed up in worship all of the nights. He then mentioned that if there is a group of Muslims who

gather together and perform the Dhikr of their Lord, they will not separate from one another before they are given what they ask for (from Allāh).

It is also on this night that 1,000,000 mercies are sent down by Allāh ﷻ.

e. According to a tradition from the Prophet ﷺ, whoever fasts on this day (25th of Dhūl Qa'dah), everything that is between the Heavens and the Earth will ask repentance for him from Allāh ﷻ.

What should be performed on this day?

1. The following du'ā should be read on this day:

اللَّهُمَّ دَاحِيَ الكَعْبَةِ، وَفَالِقَ الحَبَّةِ، وَصَارِفَ
الزَّبَّةِ، وَكَاشِفَ كُلِّ كُرْبَةٍ. أَسْأَلُكَ فِي هَذَا
اليَوْمِ مِنْ أَيَّامِكَ الَّتِي أَعْظَمْتَ حَقَّهَا، وَأَقْدَمْتَ
سَبْقَهَا، وَجَعَلْتَهَا عِنْدَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَدِيعةً، وَإِلَيْكَ
ذَرِيعةً، وَبِرَحْمَتِكَ الوَسِيعَةِ.

“O Allah, (Who) spread the Ka'bah; splitter of the grain of corn; the One who mitigates hardships; the One who alleviates sorrows - I ask You today, one of Your days which you have belonging to You which on account of their privileges, and availability of Your unrestricted mercy (in them), have been declared important, given preference over (other days), and exclusively specified for the believers,

أَنْ تُصَلِّيَ عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّدٍ عَبْدِكَ الْمُتَّجِبِ فِي
المِيثَاقِ القَرِيبِ يَوْمَ التَّلَاقِ، فَاتِقِ كُلِّ رَتَقٍ،
وَدَاعِ إِلَيَّ كُلِّ حَقٍّ، وَعَلِيَّ أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ
الأَطْهَارِ الهُدَاةِ المَنَارِ دَعَائِمِ الجَبَّارِ، وَوَلَاةِ
الجَنَّةِ والنَّارِ.

To send blessings on Muḥammad: Your high-minded, great-hearted and generous servant (whom we will meet, very soon, on the promised Day of Judgement; (who) opened that which was kept locked and shut; and invited to truth in every walk of life; an on his Ahlu'l Bayt: the pure guides; giving light to people to sustain harmony and unity; having the authority to admit into Paradise or send to Hell.

وَأَعْطَانَا فِي يَوْمِنَا هَذَا مِنْ عَطَائِكَ المَخزُونِ غَيْرِ
مَقْطُوعٍ وَلَا مَمْنُوعٍ، تَجْمَعُ لَنَا بِهِ التَّوْبَةُ وَحُسْنُ
الأَوْبَةِ، يَا خَيْرَ مَدْعُوٍّ، وَأَكْرَمَ مَرْجُوٍّ، يَا كَفِيَّ يَا
وَفِيَّ يَا مَنْ لُطْفُهُ خَفِيُّ اللُّطْفِ لِي بِلُطْفِكَ،
وَأَسْعِدْنِي بِعَفْوِكَ، وَأَيِّدْنِي بِنَصْرِكَ، وَلَا تُنْسِنِي
كَرِيمَ ذِكْرِكَ بِوَلَاةِ أَمْرِكَ، وَحَفَظَةِ سِرِّكَ،
وَاحْفَظْنِي مِنْ شَوَائِبِ الدَّهْرِ إِلَى يَوْمِ الحَشْرِ
وَالنَّشْرِ.

Give me today, from Your repository of grants, neither restricted nor denied (to the needy), and let us collect ourselves and turn to repentance and recovery in good time, O He who is called as the most favorite in exclusion to (all) others, and (who is) more generous (than others) in the matter of fulfilling hopes, O He who gives enough, O He who keeps His words, O He who treats with kindness and benevolence without making a show of it. Be kind and friendly towards me, make me happy with Your favours, lend me Your helping hand, do not leave me out unmentioned from Your reward giving list, for the sake of those who carry out Your commands and take care of Your most confidential policies, and keep me safe from the fraud and deceit of materialist vicissitudes, till the day You shall raise the dead for the final judgment.

وَأَشْهَدُنِي أَوْلِيَاءِكَ عِنْدَ خُرُوجِ نَفْسِي،
وَحُلُولِ رَمْسِي، وَأَنْقِطَاعِ عَمَلِي، وَأَنْقِضَاءِ
أَجَلِي.

And let Your close confidants be present beside me at the time when my soul departs, body disintegrates, activity ceases to operate, and my appointed time comes to an end.

اللَّهُمَّ وَاذْكُرْنِي عَلَى طُولِ الْبَلَى إِذَا حَلَلْتُ
بَيْنَ أَطْبَاقِ الثَّرَى، وَنَسِيَنِ النَّاسُونَ مِنْ
الْوَرَى، وَاحْلِلْنِي دَارَ الْمُقَامَةِ، وَبَوَّئِنِي مَنْزِلَ
الْكَرَامَةِ، وَاجْعَلْنِي مِنْ مُرَافِقِي أَوْلِيَائِكَ وَأَهْلِ
اجْتِبَائِكَ وَأَصْطَفَائِكَ، وَبَارِكْ لِي فِي
لِقَائِكَ، وَارْزُقْنِي حُسْنَ الْعَمَلِ قَبْلَ حُلُولِ
الْأَجَلِ، بَرِيئاً مِنَ الزَّلَلِ وَسُوءِ الْخَطَلِ.

O Allāh keep me in mind in the long hours of agony when I take quarters in between the layers of the earth, the preoccupied forgetful put me out of their head and think no more of me, and (I ask You to) settle me in the ever luxuriant land, and lodge me in a lovable comforting house, in the midst and company of Your close friends and people who have been selected and chosen for Your neighborhood, make my meeting with You a blissful occasion. Keep me alive adhering to good in my day to day life here, free from waywardness and indecent indulgence, before the appointed time comes to an end.

اللَّهُمَّ وَأُورِدْنِي حَوْضَ نَبِيِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ
عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ، وَأَسْقِنِي مِنْهُ مَشْرَباً رَوِيًّا سَائِغاً هَنِئاً
لَا أَظْمَأُ بَعْدَهُ وَلَا أُحَلِّأُ وَرَدَّهُ وَلَا عَنْهُ أُذَادُ،
وَاجْعَلْهُ لِي خَيْرَ زَادٍ، وَأَوْفِي مِيعَادِ يَوْمِ يَقُومُ
الْأَشْهَادُ.

Then, O Allāh let me reach the cistern (center) of Your Prophet, Muḥammad, blessing of Allāh be on him and on his family, and quench my thirst there, thoroughly, in plenty, gliding the wholesome water pleasantly down the throat, never to be thirsty again, never to be kept away from it once I am there, never to be driven off, and let it be my most reliable preparation, quite sufficient for the questioning session on the day when witnesses will be brought.

اللَّهُمَّ وَالْعَنَ جَبَابِرَةَ الْأَوَّلِينَ وَالْآخِرِينَ،
وَبِحُفُوقِ أَوْلِيَائِكَ الْمُسْتَأْثَرِينَ.

O Allāh curse the oppressors from beginning to the end, who stirred up trouble and took possession of that which rightly belonged to Your trustworthy representatives.

اللَّهُمَّ وَأَقْصِمِ دَعَائِمَهُمْ وَأَهْلِكَ أَشْيَاعَهُمْ
وَعَامِلَهُمْ، وَعَجِّلْ مَهَالِكَهُمْ، وَاسْلُبْهُمْ مَمَالِكَهُمْ،
وَضَيِّقْ عَلَيْهِمْ مَسَالِكَهُمْ، وَالْعَنَ مُسَاهِمَهُمْ
وَمُشَارِكَهُمْ.

O Allāh put an end to their rule, destroy their followers and agents swiftly complete their ruin, freeze their properties, and let their methods and institutions enter on the narrow road ending at a dead end. Damn their theoreticians and their associates.

اللَّهُمَّ وَعَجِّلْ فَرَجَ أَوْلِيَائِكَ، وَارْزُدْ عَلَيْهِمْ
مَظَالِمَهُمْ، وَأَظْهِرْ بِالْحَقِّ قَائِمَهُمْ، وَاجْعَلْهُ
لَدَيْكَ مُنْتَصِراً، وَبِأَمْرِكَ فِي أَعْدَائِكَ
مُؤْتَمِراً.

O Allāh, send Your trustworthy representatives at once so that wrongs done to them may be redeemed through their "Qā'im" (living representative may be given his rightful opportunity to appear, appoint him to give currency to Thy religion and to establish law and order by marking out the boundaries to end the domination of Thy enemies.

اللَّهُمَّ احْفَظْهُ بِمَلَائِكَةِ النَّصْرِ وَبِمَا أَلْقَيْتَ
إِلَيْهِ مِنَ الْأَمْرِ فِي لَيْلَةِ الْقَدْرِ، مُنْتَقِماً لَكَ حَتَّى
تَرْضَى وَيَعُودَ دِينُكَ بِهِ وَعَلَى يَدَيْهِ جَدِيداً
غَضاً، وَيَمْحَضَ الْحَقَّ مَحْضاً، وَيَرْفُضَ الْبَاطِلَ
رَفْضاً.

O Allah let Thy Angels form a protective right around him, give him the responsibility to turn the tables on (Thy enemies) as has been decided in the night of Qadr, till Thou gets satisfied and Thy religion is re-established through him, blooming in full growth afresh on his hands, promote his cause by making it the pure truth, and let the falsehood disappear totally discredited.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى جَمِيعِ آبَائِهِ،
وَاجْعَلْنَا مِنْ صَحْبِهِ وَأَسْرَتِهِ، وَابْعَثْنَا فِي كَرَّتِهِ
حَتَّى نَكُونَ فِي زَمَانِهِ مِنْ أَعْوَانِهِ.

O Allah send blessings on him and on all his forefathers, and let us be his companions and familiar friends, bring us back to life so that he takes us in his service, so far as we prove ourselves his staunch supporters during his tenure.

اللَّهُمَّ أَدْرِكَ بِنَا قِيَامَهُ، وَأَشْهَدْنَا أَيَّامَهُ، وَصَلِّ
عَلَيْهِ وَارْزُدْ إِلَيْنَا سَلَامَهُ، وَالسَّلَامَ عَلَيْهِ وَرَحْمَةَ
اللَّهِ وَبَرَكَاتُهُ .

O Allah make us reach his days of renaissance and follow his leadership, and see with our own eyes his (golden) era, send blessings on him and favour us by conveying his message of goodwill to us, peace be on him and Allah's mercy and blessing be on him."

2. A two rak'at Ṣalāt should also be performed in this manner:

- Sūrah al-Fātiḥā (1) once followed by Sūrah al-Shams (91) and Sūrah al-Dhuhā (93) five times each – this is the same for both Rak'at.

Once the Ṣalāt is finished, the following should be said once:

لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ

"There is no power or strength save with Allāh, the Most High, the Greatest."

The following du'ā should then be read once:

يَا مُقِيلَ الْعَثَرَاتِ أَقْلِنِي عَثْرَتِي. يَا مُجِيبَ
الدَّعَوَاتِ أَجِبْ دَعْوَتِي. يَا سَامِعَ الْأَصْوَاتِ
إِسْمَعْ صَوْتِي وَارْحَمْنِي وَتَجَاوَزْ عَن سَيِّئَاتِي وَمَا
عِنْدِي يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ.

"O He who tolerates lapses, bear with my false steps, O He who responds to supplications, answer to my prayers. O He who pays attention to (all) voices, hear my cry, and have mercy on me, overlook my wrongdoings and opposition, O Owner of might and majesty." ♦