

The messenger of God exhorted ﷺ his companions رضي الله عنهم: “...and guard yourself against incurring the prayers of the oppressed, for, indeed, there is not between them and between God, any obstruction.” Bukhārī and Muslim.

Addendum for Friday, October 19th, 2023

A Mawlawī’s Guide to Ghazzah and the Occupation

Ḥamzah wald Maqbūl



Pictured: al-Ahli Baptist Anglican Hospital, Gaza City, in flames

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Proportionate Response or the Rage-Driven Spilling of Blood

As of today, the New York Times reported that an Israeli carpet bombing campaign from the skies of Ghazzah have killed over 3,785 people, of which 1,524 are children.

This has already come to the cusp of double the reported 1400 casualties of Hamas' blitz on the areas around their blockade. As more information is coming out regarding that attack, it seems clearer and clearer that many of the alleged atrocities committed by Hamas, including the fictitious beheading of 40 babies and rapes of rave attendees are fabrications and without proof. To the contrary, it seems that a large number of the casualties are actually from indiscriminate Israeli military fire, after a very delayed response to the attack, and many of the more gruesome aspects of the attack are either lacking in evidence, or outright fabricated, as was the AI generated image of a supposed burnt baby proliferated by Hasbara exponent Ben Schapiro; it was debunked by fact checkers on social media. Despite this, legacy media and western government officials continue to parrot Hasbara talking points without examination, while discounting eye-witness accounts and evidences provided by the imprisoned and beleaguered Palestinian people.

Entire buildings of over a dozen stories have bombed into rubble and the entire northern half of Ghazzah has been ordered to go to the south of the besieged territory. That means 1.1 million people who have no food, water, shelter, electricity or internet have been ordered into an ever more suffocated smaller and smaller strip of land. To make matters worse, the convoys of people who chose to heed the occupation's warning have been bombed from the sky on their way south.

It has been reported that since the order, many have made their way back north, given the pointlessness of going far from home, only to be incinerated from the sky by the same jets.

The Rafah Border, Egypt, Humanitarian Assistance and Refuge?

The Rafah border between Ghazzah and Egypt has been closed for several years. On top of the Israelis up until recently bombing the roads to it, the Egyptian authorities have sealed it as well for a number of reasons.

Although the media is reporting that the Israelis have been negotiating with the Egyptians all week in order to agree to a protocol by which basic humanitarian assistance in the most meager amounts can come through on trucks, the former has been insisting on protocols so onerous as to cause the latter to not be able to agree to any practical way forward.

As of the publishing of this paper, although the announcement has been made that humanitarian aid will be allowed through the crossing, no date has been set.

Violence and the Spilling of Blood at Home in the United States

This last Sunday, October the 15th, six-year old Wadea, a young boy of Palestinian origin living in Plainfield, IL, and his mother were stabbed dozens of times by their landlord, Joseph Czuba. Czuba was driven to the point of madness by the incessant anti-Muslim, anti-Palestinian vitriol being spewed on the media to the point where it is reported that he decided to end the life of this innocent child before he “grew up to be a killer.” Hitherto, the two had an affectionate relationship, and even on the occasion of his murder, the boy reportedly ran to the arms of his killer, having previously taken him as a grandfather figure.

Threats, both verbal and physical have been reported in Bridgeview, Lombard, and many other places in Illinois, not to mention the rest of the USA. People are saying it is worse than what they felt in the immediate days after 9/11. Why would it not be so, when the media coverage is far more biased in this current set of happenings.

This is on top of the updated blacklisting, doxing, and other forms of corporate censorship happening to Muslims, Palestinians, Arabs, Anti-War activists and Americans with the courage to ask why our government is being so overwhelmingly biased in favor of a country outside its own territory; unhinged and unfounded allegations of Nazism, Antisemitism, Hamas support, Jew-Hate and terrorism are being libelously cast about without evidence or reason.

Student groups including at Harvard, Stanford, Columbia and other elite institutions have had corporate entities seek to compile names of pro-Palestinian students for the purposes of blacklisting, as well as public exposure, subjecting students to physical danger in an atmosphere of heightened tension.

Starbucks has reportedly threatened its workers nascent union over their support for the Palestinian people in the face of the occupation and has launched litigation against them in order to intimidate them into staying silent and giving up their freedom of speech.

Earlier today, the New York Times reported that Josh Paul, an eleven year veteran of the State Department submitted his resignation over the breach of every rule and protocol that the State Department has regarding diplomacy, fairness, humanitarian checks, and the transfer of weapons to those who are likely to use them to impose repressive policies and commit war crimes.

The Brutal Bombing of Gaza and the Propaganda War Over the Ahlī Hospital

On the night of Tuesday, October 17th, a powerful airstrike hit the Episcopalian al-Ahlī al-Mu‘ammadānī Hospital in Gaza City. It was the only Christian hospital in the territory, having been founded in the late 1800’s. The Gazan health authorities report that over 471 people died in the blast, many of whom were people seeking refuge in the hospital due to their own homes having been rent asunder. The press conferences given by hospital staff are in the courtyard, which is filled with bodies and children’s backpacks, as there were many young ones playing in the courtyard. The blast was powerful enough to overturn parked cars and destroy the windows of surrounding buildings.

Hospital staff as well as Anglican Archbishop Hosam Naoum have issued statements in a press conference saying that the Israeli authorities had contacted them three days in a row telling them that they would strike the hospital. Israeli official social media sources also have reportedly confirmed and gloated at the destruction of the hospital in its immediate aftermath. However, as diplomatic pressure started to mount on them for celebrating a clear war crime, they changed their story a number of times, positing that it may have been an errant rocket fired from a Gaza-based militant group.

Even more embarrassing, they put out a supposed intercepted audio clip of two militants discussing their own rocket landing on the hospital. The most comical aspect of the clip to me, was that it was obviously two people conversing with an Egyptian accent, markedly different than that of Ghazzāwī people. This is on top of the absurd assertion that two weeks ago Israel had no idea that the most dangerous attack on it in its history was about to commence, but suddenly it has the ability to hear, comprehend and interpret every phone call within the occupied territories.

The US media seems to be in lockstep with whatever the new version of events given by the Hasbara spokespeople put out is. Hospital and Church officials are

sticking to their version of events, saying that the Israeli military had been uniquely singling it out for threats of destruction for days.

Palestinians and unbiased people are remembering the many times in the near past where the Hasbara has lied in exactly the same way, the most prominent from recent times being the assassination of Palestinian-American Christian journalist Shirīn Abū 'Āqilah, claiming it was “Palestinian Militants” who accidentally shot her, furnishing an irrelevant video of gunfire as supposed evidence; later on, Israeli authorities, faced with investigations showing their guilt, would go on to admit their probable culpability.

President Biden’s Imbalanced Policy and Reckless Trip are Complete Failures

On Wednesday, October 18th, President Biden flew to Tel Aviv in order to show his unconditional support to Prime Minister Netanyahu. Aside from it being a foolishly dangerous undertaking given the highly volatile nature of the region currently, his trip was taken by the regional states to be a slap in the face given the complete impunity with which it is prosecuting its genocidal war. When you signal to known war criminals that you will support them no matter what they do, you are complicit in war crimes. That the Israelis bombed the al-Ahlī hospital, admitted as much, despite subsequently changing their story, then completely disgusted all of the key regional players, causing them to decline to meet with the president in Amman afterwards, including Jordan, as was previously scheduled. This was a massive diplomatic failure and setback for US foreign relations and a sign of its waning influence in the region.

To the contrary, in a worrying development, the Iranian foreign minister met with Saudi officials within the kingdom, in a meeting possibly facilitated by China; all of this would have been completely incomprehensible just a few days ago, but now seems to be signaling a strategic rebalancing in the region.

Geostrategic Overreach, Political Foolhardiness and the Specter of WWII Reserves in the US military, all across the country, are receiving summons for deployment in Jordan and other regional bases. Given the new reticence of established allies in the region to support the genocide of the Ghazzāwī and Palestinian people, as clashes have spilled over to the West Bank as well, it seems that our own soldiers will likely get sucked into future fighting.

Israel has been putting out dispatches for days now describing their readiness for a ground assault. Given the completely destroyed urban setting of Ghazzah, the scene is being set for a battle, the likes of which has not been seen since Stalingrad, one of the most bloody and horrible battles of WWII and, indeed, human history. It is a well-known example of why urban warfare is so cumbersome and difficult to wage; the terrain doesn't favor one side or the other and sucks large numbers of combatants into relatively inconclusive battles. Given the population of Ghazzah, the 100,000 poorly-trained Israeli reservists about to be sent into die, will not be able to conclusively achieve any military victory according to a number of US intelligence experts including former UNSCOM inspector Scott Ritter. And if American soldiers then have to bail them out and get sucked into another pointless multi-trillion dollar inconclusive Eurasian land war, the American public may not be willing to stomach it for a third time given the recent past.

If that is the case, why is Biden so recklessly writing a blank check to the Israeli State and Prime Minister Netanyahu? The two leaders have a problem in common: their own abject unpopularity. US presidents, often and in specific, seem to have a magical way of finding wars where none should exist when their poll numbers dip below a certain level. However, this time around, given the brazen criminality of the occupation, the pure bloodletting of the Palestinian populace, and the spent credibility that the US has wasted abroad on its two

previous neoliberal war orgies, it will be more expensive economically, diplomatically and in lives than it was before.

The Dire Need for Voices of Sanity to Pull Us Back From the Brink of Tragedy

We need to tell our fellow citizens that all of this is a fool's errand. Just a few minutes ago, President Biden gave an oval office speech asking for \$100 Billion for both Ukraine and Israel in an emergency budget. Did he forget that the House of Representatives has no speaker, precisely because the Republicans can't agree on the spending on the Ukraine war?

It is ridiculous to me, regardless of what people's feelings on the Ukraine war are, that Flint, MI and Jackson, MS still don't have proper drinking water, yet we are footing the bills for foreign wars that amount to concerns that are foreign to our own. On top of the pointlessness, the president wants to spend even more on funding genocide? So far, most politicians excluding some far left-wing legislators seem to be in synchrony with Israel's agenda far more than any concern they have for the well-being of the United States. However, the people on the ground have already started buckling at the prospects of more endless war, and the spending in dollars and lives it will steal from them. This trend is surging from both left and right leaning peoples.

As such, you don't need to get people to side with Palestinians; if they had a moral conscience they would have done so years ago, but most people, sadly are yet lacking therein.

You just need to point out to them that this is someone else's problem and you don't have the money to burn in taxes, the lost productivity of damaged lives and public debt with massive interest payments that are offset by printing money (which is the real driver of inflation), for any of this. Using high tech stuff to kill farmers and car mechanics who yearn to live free in their own

homeland is an expensive affair, and you have to pay for your teenage daughter's braces, your student loans, and however much a dozen eggs costs nowadays; you don't need to worry about Itamar Ben-Gvir's nocturnal emissions, dreaming of violence and territorial annexation.

The Qur'ānic Injunction to Enjoin Firm Resolve and Patience

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَصْبِرُوا وَصَابِرُوا وَرَابِطُوا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

God, Most High, said in His book, *O you who believe, be patient, enjoin one another to patience and enjoin one another to stand firm, resolutely, and fear God, so that you may be from those who achieve eternal felicity. Āl 'Imrān*

وَلَوْلَا دَفْعُ اللَّهِ لِلنَّاسِ بَعْضَهُم بِبَعْضٍ لَفَسَدَتِ الْأَرْضُ

And He said: ... *was it not for the defense of God of some men against others, the land would have been spoilt with mischief... Baqarah*

وَلَوْلَا دَفْعُ اللَّهِ لِلنَّاسِ بَعْضَهُم بِبَعْضٍ لَهَدَمَتْ صَوَامِعُ وَبِيَعٌ وَصَلَوَاتٌ وَمَسَاجِدُ يُذَكَّرُ فِيهَا اسْمُ اللَّهِ كَثِيرًا ۗ وَلَيَنْصُرَنَّ اللَّهُ مَن يَنْصُرُهُ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَقَوِيٌّ عَزِيزٌ

And He said: ... *was it not for the defense of God of some men against others, laid to waste would have been many monestaries, churches, synagogues and mosques in which God's name was exalted in plentitude. And verily, God will indeed come to the aid of those who aid (His cause for) Him. Indeed God is All-Powerful, Possessed of Might. Hajj.*

I know it is difficult to talk to others about this topic. It is even difficult to read about it, think about it, and yes, even write about it. But God's beloved ones are those who have mercy on those in need and stand with them. He has put great blessings in taking up the righteous cause of the oppressed, and the brave

people of Ghazzah have shown the world that despite overwhelming odds, constant arial bombardment, lack of water, food, medicine, electricity, internet or even acknowledgement of their humanity by others, they have shown the world the best of what it is to be human. They still dig through rubble for survivors. The doctors and nurses still treat the endless stream of injured broken people, and when told to evacuate, they say, we're either going to serve the injured or going to paradise as martyrs.

There has been a push by Israel to open the Rafaḥ border and push the Ghazzāwī people into the Sinai in order to dispossess them of what little remains of their ties to their homeland. The Egyptians have seen through this ploy and refused it; that much is understandable. The Ghazzāwī people have also seen through it, and incredibly also have refused, even though this act of dignity may mean their deaths.

If they can stand firm with such dignity, we can also continue to talk to our friends, family, coworkers, colleagues, media and political leaders. We can raise funds for those doing advocacy work. When the borders open with humanitarian aid, we can send food and medicine, even as the fanatical ethnostate ideologues are sending shipments of armaments and weapons. We can keep praying that God stir in the spirits of men, that which is good and decent to put an end to this nightmarish occupation.

Mawlānā Rūmī's Advice in the Matter

تو مکانی اصل تو در لامکان
این دکان بریند و بگشتان دکان

You are temporal, but you come from beyond
time or space.

Close this shop, and open up that shop.

If you had aspirations of climbing to the pinnacles of material success in this life, then see all of those who have achieved what you seek. They have all sold their souls to evil and in order to hang on to their wealth and power, have taken to simping for babykillers. All of us need to eat and drink to survive. But there is something wrong

with making wealth and power your goal in life. Something cursed.

Seek something more noble, even if it costs you some of that which you love, and see that your investment will give you returns not in this temporal shop, but in that commerce of the higher realm which never suffers loss, nor perdition.

Resources:

Download and Read the Original Mawalawī's Guide to Ghazzah [here](#).

See AlJazeera's thorough analysis of the destruction of the al-Ahlī Hospital [here](#).

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