

Earthquakes in the Muslims Lands – a Reminder of Allah’s Might and the Failures of the Current Rulers

News:

Since Monday morning, more than 11,000 people have died after severe earthquakes have struck numerous cities across Turkey and Syria. The death toll is rising as people are searched and found buried under buildings and rubble. The earthquakes, with magnitudes of 7.8, 7.5 and more than 200 aftershocks, have struck mainly in southeastern Turkey and parts of Syria, and have impacted other areas of the region such as northern Iraq and Lebanon.

Comment:

We as Muslims mourn the losses of our brothers and sisters of this Ummah in the Muslims lands, who have been struck by this catastrophe, and we pray for them to remain steadfast and for their hardships to be followed by ease in this life and the next.

Catastrophic events and natural disasters like these, are signs of the Infinite Might and Power of Allah (swt) and the weakness of man. That we as humans, need and should therefore bow to Allah in all aspects of life, as we need Him and the submission to Him, while He has no need of our worship and submission. These are signs to be reflected upon and a reminder of the grandeur of our Creator (swt). This reminder should not only affect us as individuals, as we see the events of these disasters unfold.

Seismologists and geologists point to the fact that there is an awareness of the potential risks of earthquakes in Turkey, and some are not even surprised. What is mentioned as a cause of many of the deaths are the aftermath of these earthquakes, caused by low-quality, old buildings and structures, the rubble, under which people have been buried as results of these earthquakes. In Syrian cities, such as Aleppo and Idlib, buildings have been damaged in war and rebuilt with even worse materials. Who are to blame for the poor infrastructure, other than the governments, such as the Turkish?

Areas that are in risk of earthquakes, should have buildings designed to withstand at least some of the potential damage, and protect people’s lives. This is a question of priorities, ideals, and values. Is the ruling system there, to act as a righteous caretaker of the people’s affairs, as will be the case under a state led by a righteous Khaleefah (Caliph)? Or is it down to the current, failed states in our lands, that plunder the Ummah’s resources and have no care of other interests than their own?

The failures of the current governments and treacherous, greedy rulers have a significant role to play in not accounting for the right infrastructure to ensure the safest possible conditions in the event of a natural disaster.

For these reasons, these earthquakes are not only a reminder of the Might of Allah, but the failings of the corrupt, weak regimes, that rule the Muslim lands. Therefore, they are a reminder of the glaring need of our time, the Khilafah (Caliphate) State, upon the method of Prophethood, which will take care of the affairs of the Muslim Ummah by utilizing our rich resources in service of all citizens with a lasting and solid infrastructure.

**Written for the Central Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir by
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