

Workers' Day

The 1st of May is officially commemorated as Workers' Day. It is a public acknowledgement of the importance and dignity of workers. As Muslims, we need to be the forerunners in displaying justice and compassion when dealing with those in our employ.

The Holy Qur'an states: **"It is WE who divide among them their livelihood in the life of this world, and We exalt some of them above others in rank, so that some of them may command work from the others."** (Sura: 43, Verse: 32)

Allah Ta'ala Himself has apportioned the livelihood of people; some He made rich, others He made poor. This difference is part of a divinely ordained scheme that makes people dependent on each other. It promotes interdependence within the human race and weaves the diverse segments of society into an organized community. The poor are dependent on the rich for their bread, whilst the rich are dependent on the poor for their labour.

Treatment of Employees

The Holy Prophet ﷺ has said: **"One who mistreats those under him will not enter paradise."** (Tirmizi)

The good treatment of subordinates forms part of the *ibadah* [worship] related to the rights of fellow man. These rights are based on *adl* (justice) and *ihsan* (kindness), the breach of which may serve as an impediment to entering Jannah.

"Good treatment of those under you brings fortune, whilst bad treatment brings misfortune." (Abu Dawud)

May Allah Ta'ala grant us the taufiq to mirror Islamic etiquette in all our dealings. Aameen.

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