

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْعَالَمِينَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِّي بَنْ يُصْلِي عَلَيْهِ

Allah *azza wajal*, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah *azza wajal*, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon

His Beloved Messenger *Sallal Laahu 'Alayhi Wasallam*

The Olive Tree

The blessed tree mentioned in the Qur'an refers to the olive tree.

It is said that after the flood, in the time of Nabi Nuh *Alayhis Salaam*, this was the first tree which grew on earth. The first spot in which it grew is the area in the mountain of Thur where Nabi Moosa *Alayhis Salaam* was able to speak to Allah *azza wajal*. It is mentioned that these trees have a very lengthy life span and some are even reported to have existed for nearly three thousand years. (Tafseer Saawi)

Hadrat Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Abbas *Radi Allahu 'Anhuma* narrates that there are many benefits of the olive tree. Its oil can be used as fuel for a lamp, it can be used in gravy, it can be used as oil to massage people, it also helps in cleaning an animal skin, and it can be used as fuel. Nothing is actually wasted in this tree. As a matter of fact, even its ashes can be used to clean silk. The actual olive tree only grows in blessed places where many Prophets live and passed away and in various other blessed areas.

It is reported that nearly seventy Prophets made Du'a for its Barakah. As a matter of fact, Du'a was also made by Nabi Ebrahim *Alayhis Salaam* and Sayyiduna Rasoolullah *Sallal Laahu 'Alayhi Wasallam*. (Tafseer Saawi, 3/115)

Pertaining to this tree, the Qur'an declares in Surah Mo'minun (23), verse 20:

وَشَجَرَةً تَخْرُجُ مِنْ طُورِ سَيْنَاءَ تَنْبُتُ بِالدُّهْنِ وَصِبْغٍ لِلَّا كِلَيْنَ ﴿٢٠﴾

“And created a tree that springs forth from Mount Sinai, that grows oil and a gravy for those who eat.”

In Surah Nur (24), verse 35, the Qur'an declares:

يُوْقُدُ مِنْ شَجَرَةٍ مُّرِكَّةٍ زَيْتُونَةٌ لَا شَرْقِيَّةٌ وَلَا غَرْبِيَّةٌ

“It is lighted from the blessed olive tree which is neither of east nor of west,”

There is no doubt that the olive tree is something which is highly blessed. It also grows without effort and hard work by those who grow them. It is also found in abundance in Syria and certain Arab countries. We also see that people in these areas generally use the olive oil in their foods and to prepare food when they are cooking fish or meat. Its oil is called “Zait” in Arabic and the person selling these oils are called “Ziyaat.” Muslims should also make it a habit of using this oil because as we have seen, there are many excellences which have been mentioned about this oil. It also stands to reason that when it is proven that it is something which is blessed, therefore, there must be great benefit in this oil. Allah *azza wajal* and His Prophet *Sallal Laahu 'Alayhi Wasallam* know best.