

**Industrialization Policy
and the Building of an
Industrial State
From an Islamic
Perspective**

**Prepared by
Engineer Ata Abu al-Rashtah**

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Ever since Allah ﷻ created man and placed him on earth, he has sought to satisfy his needs through the materials found in the universe created around him. He has likewise sought to preserve his security, sovereignty, and survival, whether in a state of attack or defense, by using the raw materials available in his surroundings.

Man once lived in caves and caverns, ate from the fruits of trees, and drank from the spring waters, wells, and rainwater, and clothed himself with leaves, branches, and similar natural materials. Then, as his life expanded, his needs became more diverse, and his experiences advanced, he began attempting to improve the raw materials around him so that they would better serve his purposes. He attempted to use stones, clay, and wood to build a suitable dwelling, and he attempted to use sharpened tools made from stone and wood as weapons. Thus, he continued improving and transforming raw materials into forms that served his purposes.

By using his previous knowledge of the reality around him, perceiving it through his senses and transferring it to his mind, then linking these matters together, he was able to advance in acquiring

broader knowledge and to make better use of raw materials by improving their condition and transforming them into another form. Once he learned agriculture and carefully observed its seasons, he then developed knowledge of astronomy and calculation. Thus, he transformed from a food gatherer who collected grains, tree produce, fruits, and crops into a food producer who produced enough for his needs and generated a surplus. He also learned woodworking and carpentry, realizing that wood was needed for roofing his dwelling, kindling fire to keep himself warm, and using it as a weapon. He learned the industries of weaving, sewing, and clothing, using wool, linen, cotton, goat hair, camel hair, and silk, and he also produced rugs and carpets. Then he learned construction, architecture, sculpture, ornamentation, the building of palaces and fortifications, and the construction of dams and bridges. He also learned the manufacture of sun-dried mud bricks and fired clay bricks—that is, bricks made from baked clay—to use as alternative construction materials in places where stone was scarce.

As his life progressed and his experiences expanded, the need for metals became apparent to him. He extracted them and used them in his

military, agricultural, and domestic affairs, and he began attempting to transform them into useful things. Among the earliest metals he came to know was iron. He learned how to process iron ore extracted from mines, and he learned how to smelt it through primitive methods, such as placing it in a pit or kiln and kindling fires of sufficient intensity to melt the metal and purify it from the foreign substances mixed with it. He would then shape and manufacture it into swords, spears, shields, and other weapons, or into tools for extracting water from wells, plowshares, and any other useful iron implements needed by human beings.

After that, he learned the processing and production of copper, bronze, lead, sulfur, salt, gold, silver, pearls, coral, and other precious materials. He also learned tanning and leatherworking, produced glass and paper, and later learned writing.

His knowledge of transforming raw materials into useful forms led him to observe the properties of these materials and their resistance to the factors affecting them during use. Thus, he began using the knowledge and ideas he possessed regarding these metals to conduct simple preliminary scientific experiments based on experimentation, observation,

and inference, which enabled man to benefit from their results by improving his use of these materials.

Through this, man underwent a qualitative transition from the use of stone tools to the use of metal tools. However, throughout every stage of his life, in all his industries and his utilization of raw materials—whether by improving their condition or changing their forms, that is, manufacturing them into new products—all of this was governed by two factors:

The first was the satisfaction of his needs, and the second was the preservation of his security, survival, and sovereignty, whether in defense or attack. These two factors continued to govern the industrial development of societies and states after man entered the life of communities and states. These societies and states competed with one another over which could satisfy its needs and preserve its security and sovereignty through industries of its own—industries whose survival and continuity did not depend on other societies and states.

This industrial competition was based on achieving the two objectives mentioned above. It was most intense among the great powers throughout history, particularly the foremost states of the world.

It existed between the Persians and the Romans, then between each of them and the Islamic State when it emerged. It later continued among Britain, France, Russia, and Germany until the First World War; then among America, Britain, France, and Germany until the Second World War; and thereafter among America, Russia, Britain, and France, with Germany and Japan also entering the competition. The important factor in industrial competition was based on physical and intellectual ability. As for other tools and simple machines, they were secondary factors. Man produced these tools by using primary sources of energy, such as fires from wood to melt metals, followed by muscular effort to shape them. This continued until the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, when man discovered a new source of usable energy: steam power. At that point, a major industrial leap occurred. Previously, factories were limited to manual workshops alone. When man learned to use steam to operate machinery, the mechanized factory began replacing the manual workshop. Then, with the arrival of modern inventions, a radical transformation occurred in industry. Production increased by an amount that had never been imagined, and the mechanized factory became one of the foundations of economic life.

Since energy is the lifeblood of industry, whenever man discovered a new source of energy that was more abundant and more efficient, his industry expanded and advanced more rapidly.

The first energy sources man discovered were fire from wood and plants, followed by coal and the steam power generated from it. Coal remained a principal source of energy until the early years of the second half of this century, when oil began competing with it. By the mid-1960s, oil had become the world's leading source of energy after displacing coal to second place, while natural gas also began contributing a larger share of global energy supplies.

Coal accounted for 73 percent of the global energy balance in 1938. Its share declined to 59 percent in 1950 and then to 40 percent in 1965, while oil's share reached 44 percent that year. Coal's contribution continued to decline until it reached 2.28 percent in 1974, and it decreased further in the following years.

During and after the Second World War, a new source of energy began to emerge: nuclear energy. The belligerent states worked to uncover the secrets of nuclear power, and that mighty giant was

unleashed from its restraints. Since then, nuclear industries have continued to advance at a steady pace. Although nuclear energy is the most concentrated form of energy, since the energy contained in one kilogram of uranium, if completely released, is equivalent to the energy produced by burning three million kilograms of coal, it is not expected that this energy will contribute more than 10 percent of the needs of industrialized states. Therefore, petroleum, coal, and natural gas remain the principal sources of energy at present. The approximate distribution of currently utilized energy sources in 1990 was as follows:

- Petroleum: 50 percent
- Coal: 20 percent
- Natural gas: 20 percent
- Other sources, including nuclear energy: 10 percent

States exploited these new energy sources in military and civilian industries to produce goods and military equipment that served the two factors mentioned earlier: satisfying their needs and preserving their security and sovereignty. These states competed with one another to preserve

industries that achieved these two objectives, without being subject to or dependent on others. A number of these states succeeded in advancing in heavy industries, machine-building, and vast military industries. Since capitalist thought was dominant in these states, they attempted to keep industrial advancement in their own hands and prevent other states from becoming powerful industrial states. They sought to prevent them from independently producing their own military requirements as well and worked to keep them industrially dependent upon themselves. They employed malicious direct and indirect methods, establishing approaches for these states from which they could not escape. Consequently, it became difficult—if not impossible—for these states to become industrial states as long as they continued along the path laid down for them by the advanced states.

The question now is: how can a state—any state—advance industrially? And how can it avoid the malicious schemes plotted by the advanced states to prevent other countries from becoming industrially developed?

An industrialization policy is based on making the country an industrial country. There is only one path to achieving this: establishing the machine

industry first, from which the remaining industries can then be established. In other words, the state must begin, before anything else, by establishing factories that manufacture machinery, such as motors and similar equipment. Once domestically produced machinery becomes available, these machines are used to establish the remaining factories.

There is no other way to make a country industrial except by beginning, first and foremost, with the machine industry, and then not establishing any factory except with machinery manufactured within the country itself.

As for the claim that establishing the machine industry requires a long time and that we must therefore begin by producing basic necessities, this claim is unsound. Instead, it is a scheme intended to obstruct the machine industry and divert the country toward consumer-goods industries so that it remains a market for the factories of America and Europe. Likewise, the claim that the machine industry requires first the creation of an industrial base consisting of engineers, workers, technicians, and the like is a claim intended to mislead and deceive. Bringing in experts from other countries or sending suitable numbers of our youth to learn heavy engineering, steel industries, and similar fields is

easy and attainable, provided that this matter is placed among the highest priorities and that the necessary effort is exerted.

Therefore, attention should not be directed toward any consumer-goods industries. Instead, the entire focus must be placed exclusively on establishing the machine industry.

The reality is that there is no remedy for an industrially underdeveloped state except through an industrial revolution. An industrial revolution means taking control of the commanding core of industry from its source—namely, the machine industry—through a revolutionary transformation of industry. It means not becoming occupied with any other industry before taking control of this commanding core, and directing all economic efforts toward establishing the machine industry. Nothing should be established except necessities and whatever is indispensable for creating this industry.

Reality confirms this. Europe experienced an industrial revolution only when machine-building emerged there. America, too, had been a colony of several countries, but it advanced materially when it experienced an industrial revolution based on machine-building. Russia likewise did not become a

state of significance until it experienced an industrial revolution through machine-building.

A state that lacks a machine industry will find its other factories becoming dependent on the state that controls the machinery and spare parts. If a machine stops due to a malfunction, the factory will be brought to a halt unless the necessary machine or spare parts are available. Likewise, a state's military equipment loses its value if the state cannot import the spare parts required for its operation. This places the state's sovereignty and security at risk if hostility arises between the state possessing the weapons or machinery and the state importing those weapons and machines. Such a state may be subjected to a blockade, causing its industries as a whole—both military and civilian—to become almost paralyzed if it cannot manufacture machinery itself and repair defective machines or produce the required spare parts independently.

Accordingly, whoever seeks to build industry and advance industrially cannot achieve this unless he begins with an industrial revolution by directly establishing the machine industry from the outset, without gradual progression, but rather through a revolutionary transformation, so that the undertaking constitutes a genuine industrial revolution.

This applies to any state and any nation. As for the Islamic Ummah and the Islamic Khilafah (Caliphate) State that will soon be established, by Allah's willing, the obligation is even greater and the matter more serious. This is because establishing machine-building plants is a Shari'ah obligation—that is, a fard upon Muslims. It is an obligation upon both the state and the Ummah. A fard must be fulfilled and is not optional; otherwise, punishment applies. The reason it is a fard is as follows:

1. The absence of machine-building plants makes all the factories in our lands dependent upon other states that are advanced in heavy machinery production. If a machine breaks down or a spare part becomes necessary, the factory ceases operation and its work becomes dependent upon receiving what it needs from the colonialist infidel (kufr) states. This causes harm to the Muslims. Furthermore, the absence of machine-building plants among the Muslims makes the Muslim lands dependent on other states for their military industries as well, and this harm is more severe than the first. Both forms of dependence provide the disbelievers with a way over the Muslims, and Allah ﷻ has forbidden this,

﴿وَلَنْ يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ لِلْكَافِرِينَ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ سَبِيلًا﴾

“And Allah does not grant the disbelievers a way of authority over the believers” [TMQ Surah An-Nisaa: 141].

2. Jihad is the pinnacle of Islam and is a principal method for spreading Islam outside the Muslim lands. Jihad requires military industry. If it is dependent upon the disbelieving states, the intended meaning of jihad becomes obstructed. Therefore, in order for Jihad to be carried out properly, heavy industry must exist to produce the machinery necessary for jihad. This is one matter. The second is that preparation for combat is an obligation upon Muslims. The required preparation is that which instills fear in the enemy. This requires producing weapons whose power and magnitude are unlike anything the enemy has previously known. Without heavy industry and the machine industry, such fear of the enemy cannot be achieved. Allah ﷻ said,

﴿وَأَعِدُّوا لَهُمْ مَا اسْتَطَعْتُمْ مِنْ قُوَّةٍ وَمِنْ رِبَاطِ الْخَيْلِ تُرْهِبُونَ بِهِ عَدُوَّ
اللَّهِ وَعَدُوَّكُمْ وَءَاخِرِينَ مِنْ دُونِهِمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَهُمُ اللَّهُ يَعْلَمُهُمْ﴾

“Prepare against them whatever force you are able to muster and steeds prepared for battle, by which you instill fear in the enemy of Allah and your enemy, and others besides them whom you do not know, but Allah knows” [TMQ Surah Al-Anfal: 60].

Since whatever is indispensable for fulfilling an obligation is itself obligatory, heavy industry and the establishment of the machine industry are therefore obligatory.

Accordingly, establishing heavy-industry plants and machine-building plants is a Shariah obligation upon Muslims, not merely an obligation upon Bayt al-Mal (State Treasury). Therefore, if the resources available in Bayt al-Mal are insufficient to establish heavy industries, the state imposes taxes upon the wealthy Muslims in an amount it determines in order to establish heavy-industry plants in the land.

Furthermore, from a commercial perspective, accelerating the establishment of machine-building plants is necessary. The entire Middle East almost entirely lacks machine-building plants and imports the machinery and factories it requires from America and Europe. At the same time, it is moving toward establishing many consumer-goods factories, and therefore constitutes a profitable market. Establishing the machine industry in our lands would enable us to gain this open market, in which we would have no competitor once we possessed such an industry.

Likewise, purchasing factories and machinery from abroad costs us a great deal, as they are sold to

us at high prices. However, if we establish our own machine-building plants—especially since oil is available in our lands—we will obtain factories and machinery at a lower cost than what we currently purchase from Europe and America.

Nevertheless, we call for the necessity of establishing the machine industry not for these reasons, but in order to achieve a specific economic policy objective: making our lands industrial countries, whether this results in profit or loss, and whether external markets exist for them or not. This is because it is an obligation. For this reason alone, we must begin by establishing the machine industry, and this beginning must be an industrial revolution carried out through a radical transformation.

Our lands are rich in everything required for an industrial revolution. Raw materials are available in sufficient quantities to establish this heavy industry and enable us to lead the world for the benefit of its peoples, not to absorb their wealth and blood as the capitalist industrial states currently do.

It is useful to mention some of the published figures regarding minerals that have been explored and found in certain Muslim lands, apart from the reserves beneath the earth that have not yet been explored.

Uranium	
Country	Quantity / Concentration
Saudi Arabia	2.3 tons (320 g/ton)
Algeria	0.09 tons (125 g/ton)
Morocco	1.6 tons minimum (130 g/ton)
Mauritania	0.018 tons (37 g/ton)
Iraq	120 tons (130 g/ton concentration)
Syria	200 tons (110 g/ton)
Egypt	310 tons (95 g/ton)
Somalia	2.2 tons (800 g/ton)
Tunisia	0.05 tons (80 g/ton)
Lead	
Country	Quantity
Egypt	107 million tons
Algeria	1 million tons

Iron	
Country	Quantity
Iraq	29.8 million tons
Syria	140 million tons
Egypt	525 million tons
Sudan	60 million tons
Morocco	990 million tons
Mauritania	2.5 billion tons
Tunisia	75 million tons
Libya	3.525 billion tons
Algeria	3.525 billion tons
Sulfur	
Country	Quantity
Saudi Arabia	70 million tons
Egypt	96 million tons

Morocco	45 million tons
Phosphate	
Country	Quantity
Syria	624 million tons
Jordan	1.038 billion tons
Tunisia	795 million tons
Algeria	205 million tons
Morocco	13.175 billion tons
Precious Metals	
Country	Quantity / Composition
Saudi Arabia	12.9 million tons (9 gold: 60 silver)
Sudan	450 thousand tons (12 gold: silver)
Algeria	18 million tons (0.4 gold: 100 silver)
Morocco	980 thousand tons (3 gold: 110 silver)

Morocco	500 million tons
Manganese	
Country	Quantity
Syria	7.5 million tons
Egypt	70–200 million tons
Sudan	300–360 million tons
Algeria	600 million tons
Morocco	4.2 billion tons
Zinc	
Country	Quantity
Egypt	2.5 million tons
Saudi Arabia	15 million tons
Tunisia	2.5 million tons
Algeria	8 million tons

Mauritania	5 million tons (2.5 gold: 2 silver)
Copper	
Country	Quantity
Jordan	100 million tons
Saudi Arabia	28 million tons
Oman	11 million tons
Egypt	1 million tons
Sudan	9 million tons
Morocco	7 million tons
Mauritania	19 million tons

Morocco	15 million tons
Potas	
Country	Quantity
Jordan	2 billion tons
Libya	705 million tons
Tunisia	40 million tons
Morocco	250 million tons
Oil Shale	
Country	Quantity / Grade
Jordan	1.03 billion tons (10%)
Morocco	90 billion tons (8.5%)

The Dead Sea likewise abounds in many dissolved substances within its waters that enter into numerous industries. For example, it contains 2 billion metric tons of potassium chloride, which is used in the manufacture of gunpowder; 22 billion tons of magnesium chloride, which is used in aircraft manufacturing, metal industries, and as a basic

material in chemical industries; and 980 million tons of magnesium bromide, which is used in bomb manufacturing and in the refining and production of aviation gasoline.

This concerns the raw materials found in certain parts of the Muslim lands. As for energy sources, the most important of which at present is petroleum, our lands contain nearly most of its reserves. The distribution of proven petroleum reserves, excluding undiscovered reserves, is as follows:

- Eastern European states: 20 percent
- America and Western Europe: 15 percent
- OPEC countries: 65 percent

The OPEC share is distributed as follows:

- Saudi Arabia: 22 percent
- Other Middle Eastern states: 29 percent
- The remaining OPEC countries: 14 percent

It should be noted that the quantity of proven petroleum reserves is approximately 1 trillion barrels. Therefore, our lands are rich in the energy source essential for industry and rich in the necessary raw materials. They are also rich in technicians and skilled professionals, which makes

them capable of becoming industrial states that hold a leading position in the world through their strength—provided that they act sincerely, manage their affairs properly, exert their utmost effort, and realize that this is an obligation upon them—indeed, a grave obligation.

The West understands that a state cannot advance industrially without beginning with the machine industry. According to their capitalist-colonialist perspective, they devise plans to keep other states industrially dependent upon them, to keep them as markets for absorbing their industrial products, and as areas of their influence and dominance. Among the malicious methods they devise for our lands so that they remain industrially underdeveloped and unable to build themselves industrially are the following:

1. Studies and research aimed at creating convictions among decision-makers in our lands and their supporters that industrialization requires stages before it can be completed. Professor Walt Whitman Rostow published his influential book, *The Stages of Economic Growth: A Non-Communist Manifesto* in 1960, in which he suggested that society must pass through the stage of traditional society, then the take-off stage, then the stage of maturity, and then

the stage of high mass consumption before reaching the stage of heavy industrialization. He assigned conditions to each of these stages that require a long period of time to complete. Thus, any state wishing to begin heavy industrialization would have to spend decades before reaching that stage.

The purpose of the above-mentioned book and similar works is to prevent an industrial revolution. Whoever accepts this view comes to believe that it is necessary to pass through long stages, and this means diverting people away from an industrial revolution. These studies and similar works seek to keep the world as markets for the West, consuming what it produces and serving its interests. This was explicitly stated by Eugene Black, the former President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, in his book, *The Diplomacy of Economic Development*, where he proposed that economic aid should be the primary instrument for maintaining the West's political and economic influence in the economically underdeveloped world.

2. Preventing technology transfer except to the extent that it enables countries to import and use Western products. For example, electric refrigerators cannot be sold in a place where electricity does not

exist, even if there are people there who can afford to buy refrigerators. Therefore, electricity must be extended throughout underdeveloped countries, even through loans from industrialized states. In such circumstances, engineers and technicians capable of operating and using the industrial equipment produced by advanced states must also be developed. Accordingly, they do not object to this type of scientific cooperation and the transfer of technological expertise in such cases. However, this is not intended to enable underdeveloped states to absorb technology to the extent that they become capable of establishing heavy industries.

3. Engaging the countries in types of industries that exhaust their capacities, waste their time, and create among them a degree of luxury that distracts them from seriousness and hard work in establishing heavy industries or even intermediate industries. This is evident from the industrial structure of our lands, which is characterized by the dominance of consumer-goods industries, representing 61 percent, compared with 39 percent for intermediate-goods and capital-goods industries. Consumer-goods industries consist of food products, clothing, leather products, and related items. Intermediate-goods industries consist of a limited number of chemical industry

products, particularly petroleum refining. Capital-goods industries are represented mainly by iron, steel, and aluminum. Even these intermediate-goods and capital-goods industries are, for the most part, processing industries. This occurs when a partially processed material is purchased from abroad, followed by the purchase of a license to manufacture it locally from a foreign company that produces it abroad, after which we cast it ourselves locally. This applies to the production of many medicines and certain pastes. Alternatively, the main engines and manufacturing license are purchased from the parent company, and production is assembled locally, as occurs in automobile assembly.

4. Introducing a new pattern of industrialization into our countries, known as the transnational industry. This type of industry takes our countries merely as production sites and benefits, so to speak, from the comparative advantages of the country concerned, particularly its raw materials, energy resources, or geographical location, to produce goods intended for export to the global market. In this transnational industry, most of its components are imported and then re-exported after undergoing a certain degree of processing. For example, in Bahrain there is an aluminum company whose

capital is jointly owned by the government and various foreign interests. This company imports raw materials from Australia and processes them in Bahrain by benefiting from the abundant natural gas available there, which could not otherwise be transported except at a high cost. Thus, pure aluminum is produced in Bahrain for export abroad. The purpose of this is for European countries to obtain processed aluminum at a low price. Similar projects exist in Saudi Arabia.

These are some of the plans, studies, and projects devised by the West for our countries in order to prevent them from becoming industrially advanced states, after diverting them away from heavy industry.

Heavy industry includes the machine industry based on iron and steel, engines, aircraft structures, electronic industries, nuclear industries including weapons, the space industry, and similar fields. It is worth mentioning that two matters must accompany the industrial revolution in our countries:

1. Genuine industrialization means breaking away from foreign influence. Therefore, it is a political matter that cannot be undertaken except upon the basis of an intellectual and ideological

Aqidah (doctrine) adopted by an aware political leadership. In this case, that doctrine is Islam, around which the political leadership must organize itself and upon whose basis it must raise the Ummah. It must then unify the Muslim lands into a single Khilafah State so that this unified state possesses the necessary manpower, raw materials, and energy sources. Accordingly, the unity of the Muslim lands, in addition to being a Shariah obligation, is also among the necessities of industrialization.

2. Industry must be established with a military foundation. Military industry must therefore be the primary objective of heavy industrialization, alongside the other industrial sectors. Without military industry, a state—even if it advances in other industrial sectors—will not possess significant influence in international affairs and global politics, as was the case with Germany and Japan after their military industries were restricted following the Second World War. In Islam, however, heavy industrialization is inseparable from military industry, for military industry is its foundation. This is because it is among the requirements of jihad, which is the pinnacle of Islam. Therefore, the industrial department within the Islamic system of governance has importance in relation to Jihad.

Having explained how a state can be industrially developed and that this must be based on beginning with heavy industry, a question may arise: If industrialization policy means making the country an industrial country—that is, initially concentrating efforts on establishing the machine industry and waiting until machinery exists, from which consumer industries can then be established—what should be done with the factories currently existing in our lands? And what should be done with industries that economic policy requires to be owned by the state, such as petroleum extraction?

The answer is that the Muslim lands as a whole do not constitute an industrialized region. They do not contain any heavy or large-scale industries, nor industries that serve as the center around which interconnected industrial chains are built, except for some simple and scattered links here and there.

The vast majority of modern industries currently existing in the Muslim lands are consumer-goods industries. These can remain as they are, but we must not advance further in them or establish new ones. Instead, we must stop at the existing level, change direction suddenly, and restrict our focus to establishing the machine industry. Changing direction, however, does not mean closing the door

to imports, because this is not permissible according to the economic policy of Islam. The people under the state have the right to purchase whatever they wish from inside or outside the country, except for anything that causes harm to the Ummah.

Instead, changing direction means establishing the machine industry. Once this industry exists, purchases will naturally be made from it, and imports will naturally cease in this area through normal commercial activity, without any need for the state to prohibit them.

As for the industries that economic policy requires to fall under state ownership, this does not mean that state ownership of them is obligatory. Instead, it means that private individuals are prohibited from owning them. Iron extraction, for example, is among the industries that belong to state ownership because it falls under public ownership. However, state ownership does not mean that the state must purchase iron-extraction plants. Rather, it means that such plants may not be owned by private individuals, and that the state assumes ownership of them when it has the ability to do so. According to the economic policy of Islam, the state must not establish factories in areas belonging to state ownership except those that are indispensable for

establishing machine-building plants. Accordingly, the petroleum-extraction plants, oil-refining plants, potash - and phosphate-extraction plants, and similar facilities that currently exist must continue operating, but without expansion and without establishing new ones. Instead, we must wait regarding resources that have not yet been extracted until we manufacture the machinery ourselves. At that point, we will extract minerals and petroleum from new mines and wells using machinery that we ourselves have produced.

As we have stated, this industrialization policy is a Shariah obligation in Islam, and an obligation must be fulfilled. Therefore, the Islamic state applied this policy before it was brought to an end by conspirators after the First World War. We say that it applied it even without mentioning the industrial reality that existed in the Khilafah State, because this industrialization policy is an obligation upon both the state and the Ummah. Nevertheless, I shall mention three examples of the strength of the Islamic state's industry during its early period, middle period, and final period:

1. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ migrated to Madinah and established the Islamic state. Although weapons at that time were simple and could be

purchased, the Messenger of Allah ﷺ encouraged the Muslims to learn weapons production. By the eighth year after the Hijrah, the Messenger ﷺ was able to use the mangonel to batter the walls of Ta'if during its conquest. At that time, this weapon represented a product of heavy military industry, and the Muslims learned how to produce it. Al-Waqidi mentioned in his *Maghazi*, regarding the Messenger's siege of Ta'if: (وَشَاوَرَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ أَصْحَابَهُ، فَقَالَ لَهُ سَلْمَانُ الْفَارِسِيُّ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، أَرَى أَنْ تُنْصِبَ الْمُنْجَنِيْقَ عَلَى حَصْنِهِمْ، فَإِنَّا كُنَّا بِأَرْضِ فَارِسَ نُنْصِبُ الْمُنْجَنِيْقَاتِ عَلَى الْخُصُونِ وَتُنْصَبُ عَلَيْنَا، فَنُصِيبُ مِنْ عَدُوِّنَا وَيُصِيبُ مِنَّا بِالْمُنْجَنِيْقِ، وَإِنْ لَمْ يَكُنِ الْمُنْجَنِيْقُ طَالَ الثَّوَاءُ، فَأَمَرَهُ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَعَمَلَ مُنْجَنِيْقًا بِيَدِهِ، فَنْصَبَهُ عَلَى حَصْنِ الطَّائِفِ... وَيُقَالُ: خَالِدُ بْنُ سَعِيدٍ قَدِمَ مِنْ جُرَشَ بِمُنْجَنِيْقٍ وَدَبَابْتَيْنِ...)

“The Messenger of Allah ﷺ consulted his Companions, and Salman al-Farisi said to him: ‘O Messenger of Allah, I suggest that you set up a mangonel catapult against their fortress. When we were in the land of Persia, we used to set up mangonel catapults against fortresses, and they were also set up against us. We would strike our enemy with the mangonel, and they would strike us with the mangonel. If there were no mangonel catapults, the siege would last longer.’ The Messenger of Allah ﷺ therefore ordered it, and a mangonel was constructed, which was then placed against the fortress of Ta'if... It is also said that Khalid ibn Sa'id arrived from Jurash with a mangonel catapult and two siege

shelters..." Jurash was located in Yemen and was renowned for the manufacture of weapons.

2. During the reign of Harun al-Rashid in the Abbasid Islamic state, a clock was presented as a gift to Charlemagne, the most renowned European monarch of his time. When the clock began striking in Charlemagne's court, his entourage thought that there were spirits inside it, and some of them fled. Such was the state of Muslim craftsmanship and manufacturing capability at that time, and such was the condition of the other nations.

3. During the reign of Muhammad Al-Fatih in the Ottoman Islamic state, a military inventor named Urban presented his military inventions to the kings of Europe. They paid no attention to them; rather, the pope and their religious figures regarded them as heretical notions. When Muhammad Al-Fatih learned of him, he took an interest in the matter, honored him, and generously provided him with funds to develop his manufacturing work. Urban then designed enormous cannons, among the most notable of which was the giant cannon that is reported to have weighed 700 tons. Its projectile weighed 12,000 pounds, and it was drawn by one hundred oxen assisted by one hundred strong men. The sound of its explosion could be heard from a

distance of thirteen miles, and its projectile traveled a distance of one mile before penetrating six feet into the ground. Although some sources mention somewhat different specifications, the invention of this cannon more than five centuries ago in the Ottoman Islamic state is evidence of the greatness of Islam's power and the attention given to industry. This cannon was used to batter the walls of Constantinople when Muhammad al-Fatih conquered it on the twentieth of Jumada al-Ula 857 AH, corresponding to May 29, 1453 CE.

Brothers,

The Muslims used to plan and act so that their industry would remain at the forefront, with other states following them—not so that they themselves would follow others and become bound by the industries of other states. They supported and cultivated industrial specialists, not only from among their own subjects, but whenever they learned of a scholar or expert abroad, they summoned him and supported him, just as the industrially advanced states do today. This remained the condition of the Islamic state until commitment to Islam weakened among people, conspirators plotted against it, and the Khilafah was brought to an end after the First World War.

After that, the colonialist disbelieving states began devising malicious methods to prevent us from becoming industrial countries, so that their domination and influence over our lands would continue. They succeeded in producing certain rulers in the Muslim lands, along with certain owners of capital, who oriented their industries and policies according to the orientations of Western states. These Western states seek to prevent Third World countries, especially the Muslim lands, from introducing heavy industrialization so that these countries remain dependent upon them. They exploit their raw resources and keep them as markets for absorbing their products instead of allowing them to become competitors.

Brothers,

If the rulers of the Muslim lands today are content with dependence upon Western states in politics, legislation, economics, industrialization, and all other matters, then the Islamic Khilafah State, when it is established, will work not merely to end this dependence, but to become the foremost state influencing the world. It will introduce heavy industrialization at the greatest possible speed, and this will be among the state's first priorities. However, this does not mean neglecting this industrial policy

and postponing it until after the establishment of the Khilafah. Establishing ruling governance according to all that Allah ﷻ has revealed in an industrial country will add strength to strength and shorten the time required to complete heavy industrialization in the Khilafah State, Allah willing.

Therefore, this is a call addressed to every sincere person who is devoted to his Ummah, and capable of contributing to the industrialization of this Ummah, so that it may catch up with the states that have surpassed it industrially. It is a call to all such people and others connected with this matter, whether rulers or those governed. It is a call to everyone whom Allah ﷻ has granted scientific ability, technological ability, or guiding capacity that can contribute to any field of industry required by the Muslim lands. It is a call to all of them to work—not merely quickly, I say, but at the greatest possible speed—to place these lands upon the path of heavy industrialization.

Brothers,

We recognize that the colonialist disbelieving states and their agents whom they have established in our lands, who have carried their ideas and cultures, will exert tremendous efforts to prevent us

from achieving this. However, a living Ummah like the Islamic Ummah will not be defeated by this if it acts sincerely for Allah ﷻ and gives its effort and sweat in a manner befitting the position that Allah ﷻ has chosen for it,

﴿كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ
وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ﴾

“You are the best Ummah brought forth for humankind: you enjoin what is right, forbid what is wrong, and believe in Allah” [TMQ Surah Aali Imran: 110].

Peace, mercy, and blessings of Allah be upon you.