


could speak and be heard, they could dictate what was permitted and what was forbidden, they could take money and enjoin all kinds of worship and rituals which pleased the devils, they could enjoin cutting off family ties and violating people's honour. Al-'Aqqaad has described some of that in his book called *Iblees*.

The duty of the ummah towards these people

What the astrologers, fortune-tellers and magicians promote is great misguidance and evil which is not to be taken lightly. Those to whom Allah has given His religion and taught His Book and the Sunnah of His Messenger have to denounce this misguidance by speaking out against this falsehood with evidence and proof. Those who are in positions of authority must put a stop to those who claim to know the unseen, the fortune-tellers, soothsayers, those who tell fortunes by reading ; they must prevent publication of their nonsense in newspapers and magazines; they must punish those who advertise their services in the streets. Allah condemned the Children of Israel because they did not denounce evildoing amongst themselves:

﴿كَانُوا لَا يَتَنَاهَوْنَ عَن مُّنْكَرٍ فَعَلُوهُ لَبِئْسَ مَا كَانُوا يَفْعَلُونَ﴾


«They used not to forbid one another from *Al-Munkar* [wrong, evildoing, sins, polytheism, disbelief] which they committed. Vile indeed was what they used to do.» [Qur'an 5:79]

In *Al-Sunan* it is narrated from Abu Bakr aṣ-Ṣiddeeq that the Prophet ﷺ said: "When the people see an evil and they do not change it, soon Allah will send His punishment upon them all." This is narrated by Ibn Maajah and Tirmidhi and classed as *ṣaheeh*.⁸⁵

(5) The jinn and UFOs

There is great deal of talk nowadays about UFOs. Hardly a week goes by without us hearing about a person or a number of people having seen a

⁸⁵ *Mishkaat al-Maṣābeeh*, 2/643, no. 5142.

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UFO (unidentified flying object) hovering in the air or settled on the ground, or they have seen extra terrestrial creatures emerging from it. There are even claims that some of these creatures have asked some people to go with them into the craft, where they carried out tests on them.

These claims are not made only by unknown people, they have also been made by prominent people such as the president of the United States, who believes that he saw an unidentified flying object in the skies above the state of Georgia in 1973.

There is a special interest in other creatures which have started to invade the earth. The American president (as published in the newspapers) has spent an evening debating with one of the scientists who is convinced that man is not the only creature in the universe. President Carter was accompanied by Frank Burse, his advisor on scientific affairs. After that Carter watched films in the National Observatory which showed the latest progress of the search for extraterrestrial creatures. These films were shown by Karl Sagan, the director of astronomy at Cornell University, to whom the US Space Agency constantly refers on matters concerning extraterrestrial beings.⁸⁶

A supplement to the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Hadaf*, published on 23/3/78 said that the former Chinese president (Mao Tse Tung) used to believe that there were creatures other than us on other planets.

The writer of the article said that approximately 61% of Americans believed that. The American press claims that nearly half a million Americans have seen these UFOs, and some of them were able to make direct contact with them.

The American film-maker, Stephen Spielberg, made a film called "*Close Encounters of the Third Kind*", which cost US\$ 22 million.

⁸⁶ See *Al-Siyaasah al-Kuwaytiyyah* newspaper, issue # 3399, 5/12/77.

He made the film after collecting information from those who had seen flying saucers or made contact with them.

The film was shown first in the White House, and the American president was the first one to see it.

After this film came out, the US Space Agency was convinced of the necessity of research in this field. A million dollars was set aside for research in 1979, and this secret project was given the name SETI (the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence), the idea of which is to launch special equipment to search for radio messages sent from other planets.

After explaining the above, we can state the following:

- 1 - There is no room for us to deny the existence of strange, non-human creatures, because there are many concurring reports from tens of thousands, indeed hundreds of thousands of people. I have been following what has been said on this topic for a long time. I found articles every week, more or less, about groups or individuals having seen such things.⁸⁷
- 2 - People are confused about these UFOs and the creatures who use them, especially since the speed of these UFOs is unimaginably great and is faster than any craft ever invented by man.
- 3 - I am almost certain that these creatures come from the world of the jinn who live on this earth of ours, of whom we have spoken above and explained that they have powers and abilities that exceed human capabilities. They have been given speed that exceeds the speed of sound and light, and the ability to change their form. They are able to appear to men in different shapes and forms.

Hence we can see clearly the favour that Allah has bestowed upon us by telling us of these realities, especially when we sense the anxiety and

⁸⁷ The most recent event happened in Kuwait, where more than one person stated that they had seen a flying saucer. This news was published in the Kuwaiti media. [Author].

confusion felt by those who do not know what we know. Thus we can save our energy, money and scientific research to focus on something useful. Some of us may wonder what the reason is for the appearance of these UFOs these days, and why they did not appear in the past. The answer is that the jinn play different tricks at different times. This age is the age of scientific progress, so they mislead mankind in the manner which will attract their attention and make them curious. People nowadays are keen to find out about space and the possibility that there may be creatures other than them out there.