

Khutba

Friday 21.05.10

English

Factors behind strengthening Muslims

Dear Muslims,

It is a dream for every Muslim to see Islam spreading and find that many people in the world are his Muslim brother. Many also hope that many people will accept and be under the laws of Islam, not to oppress people but rather to bring peace and restore the moral values that are absent in our modern world. However, dreaming only will not lead to any change in the situation. If we really want the good for people and really believe that Islam is the best guide for a good and prosperous life, then we need to wake up from our sleep and work for our religion.

Indeed aims can not be achieved without working for it. However, before working for it, planning and having the right means or tools is crucial for the success. This concept has been established in many verses of Quran. ***“Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into (the hearts of) the enemies, of God and your enemies, and others besides, whom ye may not know, but whom Allah doth know. Whatever ye shall spend in the cause of Allah, shall be repaid unto you, and ye shall not be treated unjustly”*** Al-Anfal 60. ***“O ye who believe! If ye will aid (the cause of) God, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly”*** Muhammad 7.

“...God will certainly aid those who aid his (cause);- for verily God is full of Strength, Exalted in Might, (able to enforce His Will).” Al-Hajj 40.

So, it is not logical to expect winning the war without preparing for it; neither it is to expect support from God without following his guidance and supporting His religion.

Here we will review some factors that can help in strengthening Muslims:

- 1- Holding on our religion and being proud and feeling honored that we are Muslims; simply because it is the source of our strength and power.

“They say, "If we return to Medina, surely the more honourable (element) will expel therefrom the meaner." But honour belongs to God and His Apostle, and to the Believers; but the Hypocrites know not.”

- 2- Strengthening our knowledge in both the religious and life matters.

- 3- Unity. ***“And obey Allah and His Messenger; and fall into no disputes, lest ye lose heart and your power depart; and be patient and persevering: For Allah is with those who patiently persevere”*** Al-Anfal 46.

“And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God (stretches out for you), and be not divided among yourselves; and remember with gratitude God's favour on you; for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts in love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth God make His Signs clear to you: That ye may be guided” Aal Imran 103.

“The Believers are but a single Brotherhood: So make peace and reconciliation between your two (contending) brothers; and fear God, that ye may receive Mercy” Al Hujurat 10.

“Should they intend to deceive thee,- verily Allah sufficeth thee: He it is That hath strengthened thee with His aid and with (the company of) the Believers * And (moreover) He hath put affection between their hearts: not if thou hadst spent all that is in the earth, couldst thou have produced that affection, but Allah hath done it: for He is Exalted in might, Wise” Al-Anfal 62-63

“Muhammad is the Messenger of God; and those who are with him are strong against Unbelievers, (but) compassionate amongst each other. Thou wilt see them bow and prostrate themselves (in prayer), seeking Grace from God and (His) Good Pleasure. On their faces are their marks, (being) the traces of their prostration. This is their similitude in the Tawrah; and their similitude in the Gospel is: like a seed which sends forth its

blade, then makes it strong; it then becomes thick, and it stands on its own stem, (filling) the sowers with wonder and delight. As a result, it fills the Unbelievers with rage at them. God has promised those among them who believe and do righteous deeds forgiveness, and a great Reward” Al-Fath 29.

Anas Ibn Malik reported that the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said, *(Whoever possesses three attributes will experience the sweetness of belief: that he loves Allah and His Messenger more than anything else; that he loves someone for the sake of Allah alone; and he hates reverting to disbelief as much as he would hate being thrown into a fire.) Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim.*

Prophet Mohamed also said: *(You find the Muslims in their mutual love and compassion, like one body, should any organ of it fall ill, the rest of the body will share in the fever and sleeplessness that ensues“.) Narrated by Al-Bukhari*

- 4- Have strong faith in Allah and His support. ***“God has promised, to those among you who believe and work righteous deeds, that He will, of a surety, grant them in the land, inheritance (of power), as He granted it to those before them; that He will establish in authority their religion - the one which He has chosen for them; and that He will change (their state), after the fear in which they (lived), to one of security and peace: 'They will worship Me (alone) and not associate aught with Me. 'If any do reject Faith after this, they are rebellious and wicked.” Al-Nur 55.***

“(But) among (their) God-fearing men were two on whom God had bestowed His grace: They said: "Assault them at the (proper) Gate: when once ye are in, victory will be yours; But on God put your trust if ye have faith” Al-Ma'idah 23

- 5- Steadfast on our religious and moral principles and values. ***“There are among men some who serve God, as it were, on the verge: if good befalls them, they are, therewith, well content; but if a trial comes to them, they turn on their faces: they lose both this world and the Hereafter: that is loss for all to see” Al-Hajj 11.***
- 6- Following the means that leads to our strength. E.g. reforming ourselves ***“For each (such person) there are (angels) in succession, before and behind him: They guard him by command of Allah. Verily never will Allah change the condition of a people until they change it themselves (with their own souls). But when (once) Allah willeth a people's punishment, there can be no turning it back, nor will they find, besides Him, any to protect” Al Ra'd 11.***

“O ye who believe! If ye will aid (the cause of) God, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly” Muhammad 7.

- 7- Prioritize working for the blessings of the next life rather than those of this fleeting life and work accordingly. Abu Dawood narrated that Ibn 'Umar said: *I heard the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) say:(When you engage in 'aynah transactions (a kind of transaction intended to circumvent the prohibition on riba or usury), and you take hold of the tails of oxen and you are content with agriculture (at the time when jihad is obligatory), and you give up jihad, then Allah will send upon you humiliation that will not be dispelled until you return to your religion).*

Thawban reported that Prophet Mohamed said: *(The nations are about to flock against you [the Muslims] from every horizon, just as hungry people flock to a cattle. We said: O Messenger of God, will we be few on that day? He said: No, you will be many in number, but you will be scum, like the scum of a flash-flood, without any weight, since fear will be removed from the hearts of your enemies, and weakness (wahn) will be placed in your hearts. We said: O Messenger of God, what does the word wahn mean? He said: Love of this world, and fear of death) Narrated by Abu Dawood.*

- 8- Taking care of women; because they are the base of our community. If they are brought well, they will have a positive impact on the rest of the community; and if they are not brought well, on the other hand, they can cause a harmful damage to the community. Abu Sa'id al-Khudri reported prophet Mohamed as saying: *(The world is sweet and green and*

verily Allah is going to install you as successors upon it in order to see how you act. So avoid the allurements of women: verily the first trial for the Children of Israa'eel was caused by women) **Narrated by Muslim**

Dear Muslims,

These are some guidelines that help in strengthening our weaknesses. Change is not easy and may take time. The earlier we start to reform ourselves, the earlier we will change. Hence, every individual should start reforming himself immediately. This is particularly important for us who live among non-Muslims because we are the representative of Islam in these countries. Unfortunately, only a few Muslims understand that and instead of being a good representative, they get controlled by their desires and ignorance giving the worst example for Muslims.

So I urge you brothers and sisters to reform yourself and act according to your religion to give a bright picture about Islam.

O Allah, help us to reform ourselves and follow your path.

Amen