

KHUTBA

Friday 13.05.11

English

Warning against Types of *Shirk* (Polytheism)

Fellow Muslims! The greatest act of injustice is to associate partners with Allah in worship. He says: "**Whoever sets up partners with Allah, Allah has forbidden Paradise for him, and the fire will be his abode. And for the wrongdoers there are no helpers.**" [5:72]

He also says: "**So shun the abomination (worshipping) of idols and shun lying speech. Hunafaa Lillaah (i.e. to worship none but Allah), not associating partners to Allah. And whoever assigns partners to Allah, it is as if he had fallen from the sky and the birds had snatched him or the wind had thrown him to a far off place.**" [22:30-31]

Brothers in Islam! Beware of *Shirk* and the means that lead to it and be aware that the best way to be safe from *Shirk* is to know it. Huthaifa Ibn Al-Yamaan said: "**People used to ask the Messenger of Allah about good things but I used to ask about evil things so that they might not touch me.**"

Fellow Muslims! It is unfortunate that some Muslims fall into actions that negate the principle of *Tawhid*. It is therefore necessary to explain to people issues and rules that have to do with *Tawhid*. There are many Quranic verses and authentic *Ahadith* that give clear and comprehensible proofs on the fact that it is only Allah who has the right to be worshipped and that all acts of worship should be dedicated and devoted to Him alone.

Dear Muslims! It is part of perfection of *Tawhid* to abstain from uttering *Shirk*-containing statements even if one does not intend it as such. Likewise is swearing by others beside Allah and whoever does that is on the verge of a dangerous sin. The Prophet (saws) said: "**Whoever swears by other than Allah has committed Kufr or Shirk.**" [Ahmad]

He also said: "**Do not swear by your fathers or mothers or other deities beside Allah. And also do not swear by Allah unless you are saying the truth.**" [Abu Dawood]

One can swear by Allah, His names and Attributes. Whoever swears by other than Allah should repent and not do that again. Sa'd Ibn Abee Waqqaas said: "**We were having a discussion at a time when I had just left Jaahiliyah (time of ignorance) and I swore by Al-laata and Al-Uzza [some Arab idols]. The companions of the Messenger of Allah then told me: 'What an evil statement have you uttered! Go to the Prophet and tell him of what you have said. We think that you have become a Kafir by this utterance.'** Then I went to him and told him that. He then said: '**Say: Laa Illaaha Illa Allah Wahdahu Laa Shareeka Lah,** three times then spit to your left side three times and do not say the statement again."

Dear Muslim! Shun the use of despicable utterances like: "**I depend on Allah and you.**" Ahmad reported that: "**A man came to the Prophet and told him: 'Whatever Allah and you will.'** The Prophet replied: '**Are you making me an equal to Allah? Nay, it is whatever Allah alone wills.**'"

Fellow Muslim! Beseech Allah and seek for His favor through good deeds like *Tawhid* and abstention from all forms of *Shirk*. Do not beseech Him through un-recommended and forbidden supplications. Further shun the wearing of talismans and the like, for doing such is part of *Shirk*. Turn to Allah alone in difficulties for He is the only one capable of removing hardships. He says, "**And if Allah touches you with harm, none can remove it but He, and if He touches you with good, He is able to do all things, and He is Irresistible, above His slaves and He is the All-Wise, Well-Acquainted with all things.**" [6:17-18]

Fellow Muslims! All these superstitious objects that people wear cannot prevent harm from touching them, nor can they cure them of any illness. One should therefore keep away from them. Imraan bin Husain narrated, "**The Prophet saw a brass talisman on a man's arm and asked him: 'What is this?'** The man answered: '**It is Al-Wahinah (an object worn on the arm to prevent pain).**' The Prophet then said: '**It will not increase you except in feebleness. Take it off. If you die while it is on you, you will never prosper.**'" [Ahmad]

Ahmad also reported that: "**A group of people came to the prophet. He took the allegiance of nine of them and held his hand from the tenth. They said: 'O Messenger of Allah You took the allegiance of all of us and left this man.'** The Prophet replied: '**It is because he is wearing a talisman.**' Then the man broke the talisman and the Prophet took his allegiance."

Fellow Muslim! Do not visit fortune-tellers, astrologers and soothsayers because they claim to possess the knowledge of the unseen. They are tricky and treacherous people and ask their clients to associate partners with Allah and to slaughter animals to others beside Allah. The Prophet said, "**May Allah curse whoever slaughters for others beside Allah.**" He also said, "**Whoever visits a fortune-teller and asks him anything, his prayer will not be accepted for forty nights.**" [Muslim] He also said, "**Whoever visits a soothsayer and believes him in what he says has disbelieved in what is revealed to Muhammad.**" [Ahmad]

Brothers in Faith! Keep your *Tawhid* pure and free from *Shirk*; know that it is unlawful to seek blessings from trees, graves, stones etc. Aboo Waqid Allaythee narrated that: "**They (the companions) went out with the Prophet to Hunayn. The unbelievers had a lote tree under which they would stay for worship and on which they hanged their weapons for blessing. That tree was called Dhaat Anwaat. So the companions came by a huge green lote tree on their way and said, 'O Messenger of Allah! Make for us a Dhaat Anwaat as like that of them (the unbelievers).'** The Prophet replied, '**By Him in Whose hand in my soul, you have said what the Children of Israel said to Mosa: Give us a god like their gods.**' He then said, '**Indeed you are an ignorant people! You shall follow the paths of those who were before you little by little.**'" [Ahmad and others]

Be also aware, dear brothers, that it is not permissible to seek blessings neither from the

Prophet's grave nor from his birthplace or that of any Prophet or righteous people. It is also not permissible to seek blessing from walls of any mosque, even the sacred mosque in Makkah. It is only recommended to kiss or touch Al-Hajar Al-Aswad and to touch the Yamani corner. Ibn 'Umar said: "**I have not seen the Prophet touching anything of The House except the Yamani Corner and the Hajar Al-Aswad.**" [Bukhari & Muslim] 'Umar also said while kissing the Black Stone: "**By Allah! I know that you are only a stone that can neither benefit no harm, had I not seen the Prophet kissing you, I would not have kissed you.**" [Muslim]

Fellow Muslims! Seeking help from the dead, supplicating to them, asking them one's needs, slaughtering to appease them etc. are all acts of idol worshippers who are friends of Satan. These are of the Major *Shirk* that destroy one's good deeds and lead one to eternal condemnation. Allah says, "**And who is more astray than one who calls (invokes) beside Allah, such as will not answer him until the Day of Resurrection and are (even) unaware of their calls (invocations) to them. And when mankind are gathered (on the Day of Resurrection) they (the false deities) will become enemies for them and deny their worshipping.**" [46:5-6]

Fellow Muslims! Going to the excess as regards the graves of Prophets and righteous people by building mosques and domes on them and decorating them is a major sin and an avenue to *Shirk*.

'Aa'ishah and Ibn 'Abbaas said, "**When the Prophet was dying, he would cover his face with a sheet and remove it when he felt pain. While in this condition, he said: 'May the curse of Allah be on the Jews and the Christians, for they made graves of their prophets mosques.'** Warning (his *Ummah*) against what the Jews and Christians did."

Dear Muslims! Erecting structures on the graves, plastering them and inscribing on them are unlawful. Jaabir narrated: "**The Messenger of Allah has forbidden plastering of graves, sitting on them and erecting structures on them.**" [Muslim and others] In At-Tirmidhi's narration, he adds: "...and writing on them." 'Alee Ibn Abee Taalib told Abul Hayyaaj Al-Asdee: "**Let me indeed send you with what the Messenger of Allah sent me, that, you should not leave any statue undemolished nor a raised grave unlevelled.**" [Muslim]

Indeed, having intention of worshipping Allah at the grave of a Prophet or a saint is a means leading to *Shirk*. That is why making supplications at the graves – including that of the Prophet – is forbidden. Aboo Ya'laa and Ad-Diya Al-Maqdisee reported that 'Alee Ibn Husain saw a man who used to enter an opening that is at the Prophet's grave and make supplications there. He forbade him from doing that and told him: "**Let me narrate to you a hadeeth I heard from my father on the authority of my grandfather that the Messenger of Allah said: 'Do not turn my grave into a place of festival, nor turn your houses to graves [whereby you do not pray in them]. Invoke blessings on me, for your invocation of peace and blessings on me reaches from wherever you may be.'**"

Brothers in Islam! Fear Allah as He should be feared and be conscious of Him in public and in private. Allah says, "**O you who believe! Be afraid of Allah and be with those who are true (in words and deeds).**" [9:119]

Fellow Muslims! Implementation of Allah's law upon His slaves is an act of glorifying Allah. It is therefore incumbent upon Muslims and their leaders to submit to Allah's law, surrender to His judgment's and fight anything that runs counter to it. Indeed associating partners with Allah in rules and judgment is like associating partners with Him in acts of worship and whosoever denounces the right of Allah's and His Prophet's judgment, believes that others' judgments are better than or equal to Allah's or believes that it is permissible to judge with what contradicts Allah's and His Messenger's Law has disbelieved in what was revealed to Muhammad and gone out of the fold of Islam. Allah says: "**But No! By your Lord! They can have no faith until they make you (Muhammad) judge in all disputes between them and find in themselves no resistance against your decisions and accept (them) with full submission.**" [4:65]

Fellow Muslims! Perceiving evil omens in days, months or some birds is an act of the period of ignorance (*Jaahiliyah*) which Islam has come to eradicate. Perceiving evil omens does not in any way change what has been decreed. The Messenger of Allah said: "(There is) no Adwa (no contagious disease is conveyed without Allah's permission), nor is there any bad omen (from birds) nor is there any (bad omen in a bird called) Haamah nor is there any bad omen in the month of Safar." [Bukhari]

Fear Allah, devote your hearts to Allah and fight superstition in all its forms.