

EID KHUTBA

English - 27.11.09

Dear Muslims,

Eid is one of the practices in our religion. It is a sign and symbol of our Muslim unity. When we are celebrating Eid, we are celebrating the forgiveness of the sins for those who have been to Hajj and have been standing on Arafat. We share with them the happiness for forgiveness. We express our happiness by wearing new clothes and thank Allah for his great blessing by praying the Eid prayer.

Eid is also a good occasion to evaluate ourselves and our faith, in the previous period, and to plan for our coming days. To do that, we need to have a template and guidelines to which we compare ourselves. These guidelines have been provided by Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) in his last sermon just before he died. The speech he said in his last pilgrimage (farewell pilgrimage) while standing in Arafat. He said:

“O people! Listen to my words, for I do not know whether I will ever meet you in this place after this year. O people! Surely, your blood and property are inviolable until you meet your lord, as the inviolability of this day and this month. You will surely meet your Lord who will ask you about your deeds. I have proclaimed to you (the Message). He, who has a trust, let him restore it to him who has entrusted him with it. All kind of “Riba” are nullified, and only you have a right to your capitals, without being unjust, or others being unjust to you. Allah has decreed that there is no “Riba”, and surely the entire “Riba” of Al-Abbas Ibn Abdelmuttalib (the prophet’s uncle) is abolished. Every right pertaining to bloodshed in the period of ignorance (pre-Islam) is abolished and the first such right I abolish is that of Ibn Rabi’ah Ibn Al-Harith Ibn Abdelmuttalib – he was sent to be suckled in Banu Layth when Hudhayl killed him- It is the first right I start with as pertaining to the period of ignorance.

O people! Satan has despaired of ever being worshipped in your land, but he is pleased as long as he can be obeyed in anything other than worships, (namely) things which you think of to be of little account among your deeds. So beware of him (lest he corrupt your belief in) your religion. O people! The postponing (of the Sacred month) is indeed an addition to disbelief, thereby the disbelievers are led astray, for they make it lawful one year and forbid it another year in order to adjust the number of months forbidden by Allah, and make such forbidden once lawful and forbid what Allah has made lawful. Time has reached its full cycle, as it did on the day when Allah created the heavens and the earth. Verily, the number of months with Allah is twelve months (in a year) of them four are Sacred, of which three are successive and Rajab of Mudar which is between Jumada and shaaban.

O people! You have rights over your wives and they have rights over you. You have the right that they do not take as a friend anyone that you do not approve, and that they do not commit evident obscenity. If they do so Allah permits you to admonish them, desert them in separate rooms, or to beat them but without severity. If they cease (to do so), they have the rights to provision and clothing with kindness. You are enjoined to treat women kindly, for they are captives in your hands and helpless. You have taken them only as a trust from Allah, and their private parts are lawful to you by the word of Allah.

O people! Be heedful of my words, for I have proclaimed to you (the Message). I have indeed left with you that if you hold fast to, you will never be misled, an evident ordinance: the Book of Allah (Quran) and Sunnah of his Prophet. O people! Listen to my words and understand it. You surely know that a Muslim is a brother to a Muslim, and that Muslims are brothers. Hence, it is prohibited that a man takes from his brother anything save what he has given approvingly, so do not be unjust to your selves. O Allah, have I conveyed (the Message). It was said that People said: O Allah, yes. Then the Prophet said: O Allah, bear

witness." Sirat Ibn Hisham. Bibliography of prophet by Ibn Hisham

Points to note from this speech:

- Universality of Islam: The Prophet directed his Speech to all humankind by the term **"O People"**. The prophet intention was to address all people regardless their religions, colors or times (his time or any time after him until the Day of Judgment). The Prophet's message was and still is to every person every where in the world.
- Sanctity of life, wealth and property: The Prophet said **"Surely, your blood and property are inviolable until you meet your lord"**, indicating that people are to be protected and their lives are to be preserved. People have to be dignified, respected and honored. Their properties are to be protected and saved. The sanctity of life is to remain well preserved until the Day of Judgment.
- The concept of economic exploitation is totally prohibited in Islam: **"All kind of "Riba" are nullified"**.
- The importance of women rights in Islam: **"You have rights over your wives and they have rights over you."** The best declaration for women's rights is spelled out in the farewell speech of the prophet. He demanded that husbands should treat their wives with kindness and gentleness. Men are to know that their women are their partners. Islam recognizes the duties and responsibilities of both partners and, hence, emphasizes that man is the **HEAD**, while the woman is the **HEART** of the family. Both are needed and both are complementary to one another. The rights and duties of each spouse toward the other were declared and explained
- The importance of the social relation and the unity of Muslims community: **"Muslims are brothers."**
- Our main references and guides in life and religion matters are two, Quran and Sunnah: **"I have indeed left with you that if you hold fast to, you will never be misled, an evident ordinance: the Book of Allah (Quran) and Sunnah of his Prophet"**. This is the reference we refer to when we have conflicts or different opinions.
- The Prophet has delivered the complete Message and in the perfect way. This has also been confirmed in Quran ***This day have I perfected your religion for you, completed My favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.*** Al Ma'idah 03.

Dear Muslims,

With this nice summary and guidelines to the proper way in life, the Prophet has fulfilled his mission. He laid down the foundation of morality, chastity, modesty, justice, equality and brotherhood. He abolished economic exploitation, paganism, transgression and all systems that contradict with the system of Allah. He left these values and principles for us as a precious legacy to apply it in our lives. What we need to do is only to follow these guidelines so that we succeed.

O Allah we witness that Your Prophet (PBUH) has delivered the message for us in complete and correct way.

Eid Mubarak