

KHUTBA

Friday 28.01.11

English

LAWFUL EARNINGS

O People, fear Allah as regards to yourselves and to your families. Fear Him concerning your deeds and to your wealth. Fear Him with regards to what you eat and to what you save.

Allah says which translates as: ***"O Mankind eat from whatever is on earth that is lawful and good, and do not follow the footsteps of Satan indeed he is to you a clear enemy"*** (Al-Baqarah: 168).

Servants of Allah, earning provisions and seeking sustenance, are something that is commanded to be done by Islamic law -*Shariah*. It is something that is dictated by nature.

Dawood (AS), the messenger of Allah, ate only from the earnings from his manual work. Some of the *Salaf* said: **"Some of the sins are not expiated but through seeking lawful provisions"**.

From the words of wisdom from Luqman, he said to his son: **"O Son avoid poverty by lawful earnings. For no one becomes poor but will adopt three characteristics:**

- 1. Softness in his religion.**
- 2. Weakness in his mind.**
- 3. His manhood and sense of honor will be lost".**

Lawful earnings and sound wealth, safe guards the religion, protects one's honor, beautifies one's face, and results in a strong position.

It is obvious from all this that seeking lawful provisions is desirable. Allah is *Tayyib* which implies goodness and kindness. He does not accept but what is good and lawful. Allah (SWT) commanded the believers as He commanded the messengers, when He says which translates as: ***"O Messengers eat from the good foods and work righteousness. Indeed I am knowing of what you do"*** (Al-Mu'minun: 51). Allah also says which translates as: ***"O You who have believed, eat from the good things which we have provided for you, and be grateful to Allah if it is indeed him that you worship."*** (Al-Baqarah: 172).

The most eminent objectives of the messenger Muhammad (SAWS) is to make good - lawful and to make evil - prohibited, and on the Day of Resurrection the good consequences will be for good people.

Allah (SWT) says which translates as: ***"The ones whom the angels take in death being good and pure, the angels will say: "Peace be upon you, enter paradise for what you use to do"*** (An-Nahl: 32).

In the book of Imam Tirmidhi, the Prophet (SAWS) said: **"Whoever eats from good, and acts according to Sunnah and people felt safe from his evil, will enter Paradise"**.

Also in the book of Imam Ahmad, Abdullah Ibnu Amri (RA) said that the Prophet (SAWS) said: **"Four things if you have them then do not be concerned about what you miss out in this**

life. Preserving the trust, saying the truth, well manners, and chastity and purity in what you eat."

Seeking lawful provisions and searching for it, is an obligation and a must for no slave's feet will be moved on the Day of Resurrection until he is asked about his wealth. How he earned it? How he spent it? It is incumbent upon every Muslim male and female to look and search for lawful provisions and chaste and pure work, to eat of the lawful and spend on the lawful.

A good example is Abu Bakar (RA) who had a slave who brought him some food, which he ate. After which the slave asked him if he knew from where he had gotten the food. Abu Bakar asked: from where did you get it? He replied: "I acted as a sooth-sayer for a man in the pre-Islamic period, and not being good at it I deceived him. Today he met me and rewarded me for that soothsaying. From this you have eaten. Therefore, Abu Bakar (RA) put his hand in his mouth and vomited up all that he ate.

In another narration he said: **"If it would not have come out except with my soul, meaning except with my death, I would have still forced it out. O Allah I ask you to excuse me for what my veins have carried from this and what has mixed in my stomach".** (Bukhari)

In addition, Umar (Radhiyallahu Anhu) drank some milk, which he liked. He asked the one who gave him the milk: "Where did you get this?" He said: "I passed by the camels of Zakaah while they were drinking water so I took from its milk." Umar put his hand in his mouth and vomited it up.

Moreover a righteous woman advising her husband saying: "O husband fear Allah, and the provisions you bring us, for we can persevere through hunger but we cannot stand and persevere through the punishment of hell fire." These are the righteous ones. They bring out whatever is unlawful or questionable out of their stomachs, though it was something they had taken unknowingly from food or drink.

I ask you by the Lord, what is left of the slave of Allah if he loses his connection with his Lord, his *dua* (supplication) is rejected and he is denied The Mercy of Allah. Some of the Salaf said: "If you stand up in worship like a pole, meaning for a long time without giving up. It will not benefit you, until you watch for what goes in your stomach."

What are amazing O brothers are the acts of some people who avoid lawful provisions in fear of getting sick, but they do not have enough fear of Allah to avoid unlawful earning.

Servants of Allah, eating from unlawful means blinds the insight, weakens the religion, hardens the heart, darkens the mind, prevents the body from worship, entraps one in this life and prevents one's *dua* (supplication) from being accepted. Allah does not accept, except from the righteous.

Unlawful earnings and provisions have bad effects on the individual and the community. It removes blessings and causes the spread of diseases, disasters, financial crisis, unemployment, oppression, and disputes.

O Muslims, Woe to the ones who eats from unlawful provisions, raises their children and family by means of unlawful earnings. Their example is like the example of one who is drinking out of the seawater. The more they drink the thirstier they become. They drink as the drinking of a thirsty camel. They are not content with little provisions, nor do a lot of provisions satisfy them.

In the Hadith found in the books of Al Imam Bukhari and An Nasa'i, he (SAWS) said: "A time will come on people, when a man will not worry where his earning come from, lawful or unlawful", and in another narration he added: "Such is one whose dua (supplications) are not accepted".

O Workers and officers, businessmen, consultants, brokers, Muslim men and Muslim women, it is a duty upon you to seek what is lawful and stays away for the doubtful. Preserve the rights of people. Finish your jobs completely. Fulfill your pledges and your contracts. Refrain from cheating, and lying and delaying and fear Allah.

Lawful provision are satisfying, brings ease, enlightens the heart, energizes the limbs and the body, rectifies and reforms the situation of the person, makes the body healthy, and Allah accepts the *duas* (supplications) of such a person.

Muslim brothers, the best ways is to refrain from unlawful and illegal things is to stay away from doubtful things, and to persevere through devout, pious ways and means, when hesitant.

In Bukhari and Muslim, the Prophet (SAWS) said: "So he who guards against doubtful things, keeps his religion and his honor blameless, but he who falls into doubtful things, falls into that which is unlawful". Narrated by AnNu'aman Ibnu Bashir.

Al Hassan Basri (RahimAllah) said: "**The righteous people continue to practice piety and righteousness until they give up many of the lawful things out of fear from committing the unlawful.**"

So fear Allah, May Allah be merciful to you and I. Fear Allah in yourselves and with your families and guard yourselves from the fire; the fuel of which is people and stones and has angels harsh and severe, they do not disobey Allah in what he commands them, but do what they are commanded to do.