

KHUTBA

Friday 27.04.12

English

The Worship of God

All thanks are due to Allah, the Most-Generous. I bear witness that there is nothing worthy of worship except him. He has no partners. May Allah send peace and blessings upon his final messenger.

And then, Servants of Allah!

The concept and purpose of worship in Islam is unparalleled to any other religion in existence. It combines the mundane with the spiritual, the individual with the society, and the internal soul with the external body. Worship has a unique role in Islam, and through worship, a person is regarded as a true Muslim who accords his entire life to the Will of Allah.

The importance of worship may be seen in the fact that it has been prescribed by Allah in all religions prior to Islam. Allah said in the Quran: ***“And assuredly We have sent among every people a messenger (with the command): worship Allah...”*** (16:36)

Worship in Islam has so many facets that it is difficult to describe them all in words. The most general meaning of worship in Islam is inclusive of everything which is pleasing to Allah, whether they deal with issues of belief, or deeds of the body. It may include everything a person perceives, thinks, intends, feels, says and does. It also refers to everything that Allah requires, external, internal or interactive. This includes rituals as well as beliefs, work, social activities, and personal behavior, as human being is a whole, such that every part affects every other.

The achievement of the worshipping of Allah is the purpose of creating the universe and so Allah sent Messengers and revealed Books. Allah says ***“I did not create the jinns and the humans except to worship Me alone”*** (51:56). It is also the main message of prophets of Allah, Allah says ***“For We assuredly sent amongst every People an apostle, (with the Command), “Serve Allah, and eschew Evil of the People were some whom Allah guided, and some on whom error became inevitably (established). So travel through the earth, and see what was the end of those who denied (the Truth).”*** (16:36).

It was the first revelation on prophet Moses (PBUH), Allah says ***“Verily, I am Allah. There is no god but I: So serve thou Me (only), and establish regular prayer for celebrating My praise.*** (20:14), it was the first words of prophet Jesus (PBUH), Allah says ***“Verily Allah is my Lord and your Lord: Him therefore serve ye: this is a Way that is straight”*** (19:36) and also it is the main message of prophet Muhammed (PBUH), Allah says ***“And serve thy Lord until there come unto thee the Hour that is Certain”*** (15:99).

The worship of Allah is not exclusive for mankind and jinn but it involves the entire universe including animals and plants. Allah says ***“The seven heavens and the earth, and all beings therein, declare His glory: there is not a thing but celebrates His praise; And yet ye understand not how they declare His glory! Verily He is Oft-Forbear, Most Forgiving!”*** (17:44). Allah says ***“And to Allah doth obeisance all that is in the heavens and on earth, whether moving (living) creatures or the angels: for none are arrogant (before their Lord).*** (16:49). Allah says ***“And the herbs and the trees - both (alike) bow in adoration”*** (55:6).