

KHUTBA

2012

English

EID AL-FITR

In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful. Allah (S.W.T.) said in the Qur'an addressing the believers, reminding them of the meaning of His favor. He (S.W.T.) says, what can be translated as, ***"This day I have perfected your deen for you, completed my favor upon you, and chosen for you Islam as your deen."*** (5:3)

Yes the favors of Allah (S.W.T.) upon us are many and cannot be counted. The greatest among them is that he has guided us to Islam. If He (S.W.T.) had not guided us to Islam, we would not have been guided.

We meet here this morning to pray and listen to this khutbah; thus gathering in one place, worshipping one God, Allah (S.W.T.); even though we have different traditions, are of different colors and speak different languages.

This blessed meeting is a practical proof that all Muslims are one body and one Ummah, as Allah (S.W.T.) says, what can be translated as, ***"Truly! This, your Ummah is one Ummah, and I am your Lord, therefore Submit to Me (Alone)."*** (21:92) This is how Allah (S.W.T.) wants us to be, a united Ummah.

This is why He (S.W.T.) ordained in this deen everything that strengthens the bonds of love and harmony. He (S.W.T.) even warned us against anything that separates the believers' hearts. He (S.W.T.) says, what can be translated as, ***"The Believers are nothing else than brothers."*** (49:10) He also says addressing his prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.), what can be translated as, ***"If you had spent all that is in the earth, you could not have united their hearts, but Allah has united them."*** (8:63)

In this Eid, let us remember the saying of the Messenger of Allah (S.A.W.) describing the believers what was reported by Imams Bukhari and Muslim, ***"The believers having love among themselves, being merciful among themselves, and being kind to each other are like one single body; If any part of the body is not well, the whole body shares the sleeplessness and the high fever with it."***

To further deepen this brotherhood among us, the prophet (S.A.W.) ordered us to greet each other with peace when we meet by shaking hands, smiling, and saying, "Asslamu Alikum". Imam Muslim reported that the prophet (S.A.W.) said, ***"I swear by whom my soul is in his hand, you will not enter paradise until you believe, and you will not believe until you love each other. Do you want me to guide you to something which if you practice, you will love each other? Spread greeting with peace among of you."***

Imam Abu-Dawud reported that the prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) said, ***"Any two Muslims who meet each other and shake hands, Allah forgives them before they separate."*** And he (S.A.W.) also said, ***"And your smile in the face of your brother is a charity."***

To deepen this brotherhood among us, the prophet (S.A..W.) ordered us to be merciful, help in clearing the Hardships and distresses, and help in satisfying the needs, He (S.A.W.) said what was reported by Imams Bukhari and Muslim in two hadiths. First, **"He who is not being merciful with the people, Allah will not be merciful with him."** In the Second hadith, **"The Muslim is a brother to another Muslim. He does not oppress him, He does not abandon him when he needs help; Whoever helps his brother when he is needed, and Allah will help him at the time of his need. And whoever clears a distress for a Muslim, Allah will clear for him one of the distresses of the Day of Judgment."**

To protect this great brotherhood against any incident, which might happen among the believers, since they are human beings, Islam has ordered us to make peace among the believers. Allah (S.W.T.) says in, what can be translated as, ***"The Believers are nothing else than brothers, So make reconciliation between your brothers..."*** (49:10) He (S.W.T.) also says in, what can be translated as, ***"So have Taqwah of Allah, and adjust all matters of differences among you..."*** (8:1)

The prophet (S.A.W.) commanded us to be merciful with those who are younger than us and respect those who are older than us, from what was reported by Imam Abu-Dawud, **"He is not from us (Muslims) who is not merciful with the young and does not know the right of our elders."**

The prophet (S.A.W.) taught us through his manners and behavior how to tolerate the misbehavior of others from what was reported by Imams Bukhari and Muslim: **A Bedouin came to the Prophet and grabbed his gown strongly until it left a mark on his neck; the Bedouin said, "O' Muhammad, give me from the money of Allah that you have." The prophet (S.A.W.) looked at him and smiled. Then ordered money for him.**

Dear Muslim Brothers and Sisters, after we heard all of this, we know what is the right way that we have to follow to achieve the brotherhood among us and to protect it against what might threaten it.

We in this blessed gathering in this happy day have to start true steps towards love and harmony. Let's forget what might have happened among us from faults or anything that was not done on purpose. Let's decide on achieving more ties of relationships among us. Let's remember everything that Allah asked us to do. Look at what Allah (S.W.T.) says, what can be translated as, ***"Let them pardon and forgive. Do you not love that Allah should forgive you?"*** (24:22)

Dear Muslim Brothers and Sisters, there are many things that could increase our brotherhood. Let's bring all things that will protect our relationships and that will increase it. And may every year come and you are in good condition.

I ask Allah to make this Eid return while the Muslims are enjoying the good and the blessed. Allah (S.W.T.) says, what can be translated as, ***"Say: "In the Bounty of Allah, and in His Mercy; therein let them rejoice. That is better than what (the wealth) they amass."*** (10:58)

Finally, the companions of the prophet, may Allah be pleased with them, used to say when they meet each other on the day of Eid, "May Allah accept all our good deeds."