

Date: 02.04.2021

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

الْمُؤْمِنُ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ كَالْبُنْيَانِ يَشُدُّ بَعْضُهُ بَعْضًا.

BEING AWARE AND CONSIDERATE OF EACH OTHER

Honorable Muslims!

We each are going through a test and trial. We all are in pursuit of happiness in this world and in the Hereafter as well as of overcoming challenges. We experience happiness and sadness, joy and sorrow at the same time as required by the way we are created. In addition to a variety of diseases, troubles and handicaps, we also come across developmental differences as in Down's syndrome and autism.

Every hardship we face and every trouble we endure have a dimension that teaches us something and improves us. Standing up to difficulties and problems and observing the pleasure of Allah the Almighty (swt) in all situations are conducive to our developing perfectionate and maturational attributes.

Dear Believers!

We need to be well informed of developmental differences, search for opportunities for treatment and rehabilitation,

and get support from competent persons. Early diagnosis and correct treatment, and particularly suitable and timely education are crucially important in such cases.

Dear Muslims!

There are responsibilities upon all of us to not let our brothers and sisters with Down's syndrome and autism and their families feel alone and abandoned in any aspect of life. It is a religious and human duty of ours to be sensible and responsible towards our brothers and sisters, prove the necessary support for them, and facilitate their lives.

Dear Believers!

Allah the Almighty (swt) states in the Holy Qur'an as follows, **"The believing men and believing women are allies of one another."**¹ Therefore, let us be aware and considerate of each other. Let us form relations and sincere closeness with our brothers and sisters as would suit human dignity. Then, let us open our hands up to pray to Allah (swt) and ask Him to grant us patience and healing by bowing down before Him in full submission. Let us pray to Him (swt) to enable us to develop a sense of servitude to Him that will make us happy both in this world and in the Hereafter.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following hadith of the Prophet Muhammad (saw): **"A faithful believer to a faithful believer is like the bricks of a wall, enforcing each other."**²

¹ Tawbah, 9/71.

² Bukhari, Adab, 36.