

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الْإِنْسَانُ مَا غَرَّكَ بِرَبِّكَ الْكَرِيمِ
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
الْمُؤْمِنُ غَرٌّ كَرِيمٌ وَالْفَاجِرُ خُبٌّ لَئِيمٌ.

HUMAN BEING: THE APPLE OF THE UNIVERSE'S EYE

Honorable Muslims!

Every day that rises will eventually set, and every soul shall taste death. Everything that has been created will ultimately face its end. The seas will boil, the mountains will be displaced, and the stars will fall. Those in the graves will be brought forth, and every person will come to understand what they did and what they failed to do in the world.

Dear Believers!

There are some people who never reflect on why they were created, where they came from, and where they are headed. They forget themselves, forget their Lord, forget death, forget the reckoning, and forget Paradise and Hellfire. They wander in the shadow of evil, wounding hearts and breaking spirits. They become like Qabil, taking a life; like Qarun, growing arrogant through their wealth; like Nimrod, boasting of their possessions; like Abu Jahl, unable to perceive truth and reality. And there are others who regard this world as a field for the Hereafter, striving both for this life and the next. They become like Ahmad Yasawi, Haji Bayram Veli, Haji Bektash Veli, Rumi, and Yunus Emre, conquering hearts through their words.

O Noble Human Being!

You are the essence of the universe, the apple of the universe's eye. You are the beloved of the Creator, the Lord of Majesty. It is Allah the Almighty Who created the world and all that is within it, placing it at your service. It is He Who fashioned your creation in the most excellent manner. It is He Who granted you the insight and awareness to distinguish between good and evil. It is He Who sent down books to show you the paths to peace and happiness, and made the prophets guides for you. Despite all of this, **“O humanity! What has emboldened you against your Lord, the Most**

Generous”¹ What is it that prevents you from being a servant to Allah? What is it that hinders you from fulfilling His commands and avoiding His prohibitions?

Esteemed Muslims!

Today, unfortunately, we are experiencing an even greater number of contradictions side by side. On one hand, there are those who strive to make the world a paradise for themselves, their families, their nation, and all of humanity; on the other hand, there are those who, by oppressing the innocent and the vulnerable, seek to turn the earth into a hell. On one hand, there are people of kindness and grace who would not even harm an ant; on the other hand, there are those who, with arrogance and pride, lay waste to the paths they walk and the lands they pass through. On one hand, there are those who strive to give life to goodness and mercy; on the other hand, there are those who, through their evil deeds, seek to condemn humanity to utter darkness. The Prophet Muhammad (saw) expressed this contrast in his hadith as follows: **“The believer is noble and generous, while the wicked is disrespectful and miserly.”**²

Honorable Believers!

Everything flows—water, history, stars, human beings, and ideas.

The channels are two: from one flows light; from the other, filth.

Indeed, in this world where both light and filth flow side by side, it is incumbent upon us as believers to transform every place we inhabit into a land of trust through our faith, into a realm of peace and happiness through our worship, and into an environment of harmony and affection through our noble character. It is to stand firm against evil and injustice, and to make love and compassion prevail in every part of our lives.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following hadith of the Messenger of Allah (saw): **“Some people open the door to good and close the door to evil, and some people open the door to evil and close the door to good. Glad tidings to those in whose hands Allah places they keys to good...”**³

¹ Infitar, 82/6.

² Abu Dawud, Adab, 5.

³ Ibn Majah, Sunnah, 19.

