

Date: 17.11.2023

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَحْظِيئَهُ حَيَاةٌ طَيِّبَةً

وَلَنَجْزِيَنَّهُمْ أَجْرَهُمْ بِأَحْسَنِ مَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ صِحَّةَ إِيمَانٍ، وَإِيمَانًا فِي خَلْقٍ حَسَنٍ، وَتَجَاوُزًا

يَتَّبِعُهُ فَلَاحٌ.

## INTEGRITY OF FAITH, WORSHIP AND MORALS

### Honorable Muslims!

Our sublime religion, Islam, enjoins faith, worship and good morals. Islam resembles a tree, with its roots being faith, its trunk being worship, and its fruits being good morals. Just as a tree is meaningful, valuable and beneficial with its root, trunk and fruits, a believer also becomes a perfect human being, a mature Muslim and a beneficial person with faith, worship and good morals.

### Dear Believers!

Faith is the belief in the existence and oneness of Allah, His angels, His books, His prophets, the Last Day, and that qada (decree) and qadar (destiny) are controlled by Him (swt). It is to acknowledge all the truths revealed to us by our Prophet (saw) with our tongues, and to accept them with our hearts.

### Dear Muslims!

Our Almighty Lord (swt) states in the Holy Qur'an as follows:

“Do people think once they say, ‘We believe,’ that they will be left without being put to the test?”<sup>1</sup> This verse informs us that it is not enough to say “I believe”. Because faith is not only a bond between Allah and His servants. Nor is it a mere word abstracted from life and reserved for the minds. Faith involves acting in accordance with the purpose of our creation. It means striving to meet our responsibilities. It is about being sensitive to what is going on in the world around us. It is to be concerned with the problems of all those who are persecuted wherever they are in the world, and to feel their pain in our hearts.

### Dear Believers!

The manifestation of our faith in our lives is worship. Worship is a set of words and behaviors

that lead us to the pleasure of our Lord (swt). They are the expression of our gratitude for the blessings Allah the Almighty bestows.

Without our worship, our faith cannot fully guide our lives. Saying “I have a pure heart” does not make our hearts pure. When confined to a single day of the week or a single month of the year, worships cannot bring us happiness in this world and in the Hereafter. Allah the Almighty states, “Whoever does good, whether male or female, and is a believer, We will surely bless them with a good life, and We will certainly reward them according to the best of their deeds.”<sup>2</sup> Although his past and future sins were forgiven, our beloved Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw) never abandoned his worships even under the most difficult conditions.

### Dear Muslims!

What will perfect our faith is morality. It is the greatest legacy left to us by our Prophet (saw) after the revelation. Morality is the essence of Islam. It is the essential condition to be a good person and a virtuous society. Morality is about making good qualities such as compassion and mercy, truthfulness and honesty, justice and benevolence dominant in our lives. It means freeing ourselves from bad qualities like hatred and enmity, envy and ambition, and wastefulness and stinginess. It is to avoid violating human rights and the rights of the public.

### Dear Brothers and Sisters!

May our faith give meaning to our lives. May our acts of worship build our identity. May our morals guide us in all our actions. Only then will our hands be away from haram, our eyes from sins, and our tongues from lying. Our family will be the home of peace and happiness. Our neighborly relations will continue in a spirit of trust and affection. Our trade will be halal and our profits will have barakah. Only then will the faces of all the oppressed and victims on earth smile, and our world will continue to be a land of peace and prosperity.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following invocation from our Prophet (saw): “O Allah! I ask You to grant me strong faith that is equipped with good deeds, and help me do deeds that will lead me to eternal salvation.”<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> ‘Ankabut 29/2.

<sup>2</sup> Nahl, 16/97.

<sup>3</sup> Ibn Hanbal, II, 321.