

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

أَيُخَسِبُ الْإِنْسَانُ أَنْ يُتْرَكَ سُدًى.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

لَيْسَ مِنَّا مَنْ لَمْ يَرْحَمْ صَغِيرَنَا وَيُوَقِّرْ كَبِيرَنَا.

O HUMAN BEING!

Esteemed Muslims!

Allah the Almighty has created human beings as exceptional beings who think with their minds, feel with their hearts, exercise their free will, and give meaning to their lives through the choices they make. Indeed, being born human is a great blessing, but what truly matters is remaining human throughout our lives. It is about seeking Allah's pleasure and leading a life in accordance with the purpose of our creation. It is about keeping the doors of our hearts open to goodness while preventing evil from entering.

Dear Believers!

We often look for humanity in great deeds. Yet, true humanity lies in the small moments of everyday life. The following incident from the Age of Bliss holds profound lessons for us. One day, an elderly man came to see our Prophet (saw). When those present were slow to make room for him, the Messenger of Mercy (saw) said, **“Those who do not show mercy to our young and respect to our elders are not among us.”**¹ Indeed, those who show respect to the elderly will be treated with respect throughout their lives. Those who treat children with compassion will soften their hearts. Those who show kindness to their parents will find peace and happiness close at hand. Those who visit the sick will bring tranquility to their souls. Those who share their tables with orphans and those who have no one to care for them will bring divine mercy and blessings into their homes. Those who greet their neighbors will help spread love and affection throughout society.

Esteemed Muslims!

While Allah the Almighty draws our attention to the question, **“Do people think they will be left without purpose?”**², human beings may easily forget the value their Lord has bestowed upon them. They may come to regard their positions as a source of superiority, their wealth as a reason for boasting, their knowledge as a means of arrogance, and their power as an excuse to hurt others. Yet, our religion, Islam, teaches us that our worth does not stem from our physical appearance, wealth, titles, or social status. True wealth lies in caring for those in need; true strength lies in controlling our anger; and true superiority lies in having taqwa.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Sometimes, we fail to show our hearts the same care we devote to our outward appearance. We do not spend as much time reflecting on ourselves as we do looking in the mirror. We may turn a minor remark into deep-rooted resentment. We may harbor grudges for years rather than choosing the path of forgiveness and reconciliation. We may stop visiting our siblings because of disputes over inheritance. We may cease exchanging greetings with neighbors with whom we stand shoulder to shoulder in the same row during prayer, and we may sever ties of kinship with our relatives.

Dear Muslims!

I would like to reiterate a point I made at the beginning of our khutbah because of its great importance. Being born human is a great blessing, but what truly matters is remaining human throughout our lives. Therefore, let us take action without delay to restore compassion to our homes, mercy to our streets, and honesty to our business dealings. Let us purify our tongues of backbiting and our hearts of arrogance. Let us use our strength to provide refuge for the weak and our words to mend broken hearts. Only then will our fleeting journey on earth gain meaning, and the seeds of mercy we sow in this world will blossom into everlasting divine mercy in the Hereafter.

¹ Tirmidhi, Birr, 15.

² Qiyamah, 75/36.

