

Date: 27.02.2026

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنَّمَا الْخَمْرُ وَالْمَيْسِرُ وَالْأَنْصَابُ  
وَالْأَزْلَامُ رِجْسٌ مِنْ عَمَلِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَاجْتَنِبُوهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ  
تُفْلِحُونَ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

لَا تَشْرَبِ الْخَمْرَ فَإِنَّهَا مِفْتَاحُ كُلِّ شَرٍّ.

## RAMADAN IS AN OPPORTUNITY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ADDICTION

### Honorable Muslims!

Our Exalted Lord has graciously bestowed upon us certain blessed times so that we may open a pure and unblemished page in our lives, review our mistakes, and repent of our sins. Indeed, Ramadan al-Sharif in which we now find ourselves is a great opportunity to become servants beloved to Allah the Almighty, to discipline ourselves, and—if we have any—to abandon our evil words and improper conduct.

### Dear Believers!

In this week's khutbah, taking Ramadan al-Sharif—the month of mercy and forgiveness—as a means, we wish to draw your attention to the danger of addiction, which drives families into misery and leads humanity toward ruin.

Addiction is not a simple habit. It is a disease that renders people captive to false happiness and fleeting pleasures. It is a grave threat that causes them to waste their time, fall into sin, resort to violence, and even attempt against their own lives and the lives of their families.

### Esteemed Muslims!

Foremost among addictions—each one more dangerous than the other—are alcohol and narcotic substances. These two scourges weaken the intellect and the will, corroding the human body and soul from within. They destroy peace and happiness within the family, shatter homes, and extinguish hearths. The Messenger of Allah (saw) draws our attention to this danger in a noble hadith, stating: **“Beware of drinking alcohol, for indeed it is the key to every evil.”**<sup>1</sup>

### Honorable Believers!

Another addiction that has entered even our homes with the widespread use of communication tools today is digital gambling. Regrettably, digital gambling has spread to a considerable segment of society. Beginning with very small amounts, it leads individuals to sell their homes and cars, exhaust all their means on this path, and fall into a spiral of debt. It causes family ties to be severed. Allah the Almighty warns us concerning this matter as follows: **“O believers! Intoxicants, gambling, idols, and drawing lots for decisions are all evil of Satan's handiwork. So shun them so you may be successful.”**<sup>2</sup>

### Noble Muslims!

Another addiction that enslaves not only youth and children but also mothers and fathers is digital addiction. Digital addiction distracts attention and isolates individuals. It can transform people's suffering from “a situation that requires assistance” into “content to be watched.” Because of digital addiction, hours of time are squandered and lives are wasted on shopping websites, virtual games, and online entertainment.

### Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The most effective way to protect ourselves from every substance that clouds the mind, as well as from gambling and digital addictions, is never to approach these evils in the first place. It is to provide our youth and children with a family environment founded upon love and trust. It is to extend our hands to our brothers and sisters and not abandon them to the mercy of the evil if they fall into harmful habits despite all precautions. Moreover, it is not to place phones and tablets into the hands of our children for the sake of our own comfort. It is not to leave our little ones alone with harmful games, cartoons, and entertainments merely so that they may eat their meals or remain quietly in a corner.

Dear Brothers and Sisters! Let us benefit from the blessings of Ramadan al-Sharif and review our lives. Let us free ourselves from harmful habits and start off with a clean slate. Let us not forget that human life is not so insignificant or worthless as to be left to corruption by addictions or be consumed in digital platforms.

<sup>1</sup> Ibn Majah, Ashriba, 1.

<sup>2</sup> Ma'idah 5/90.

