

وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي
الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ...
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
يُوشِكُ الْأُمَمُ أَنْ تَدَاعَى عَلَيْكُمْ كَمَا تَدَاعَى الْأَكْلَةُ إِلَى قَصْعَتِهَا...

WAHN: THE GREAT OBSTACLE TO OUR UNITY AND SOLIDARITY

Dear Muslims!

In one of his hadiths, our Prophet (saw) said to his Companions, “The people will soon summon one another to attack you as people when eating invite others to share their dish.” One of the Companions asked, “Will that be because of our small numbers at that time?” The Messenger of Allah (saw) replied,

“No, you will be numerous at that time. But you will be scum and rubbish like that carried down by a torrent.” and continued, “Allah will take fear of you from the breasts of your enemy and last wahn (enervation) into your hearts.” When a Companion asked, “O Messenger of Allah! What is wahn?”, our beloved Prophet (saw) said,

“Love of the world and dislike of death.”¹

Dear Believers!

Our Prophet (saw) reminds us in this hadith that Muslims can safeguard their existence by embracing unity and solidarity. They can maintain their noble and virtuous attitude when they act with ‘ummah consciousness. They can retain their dignity as long as their hearts beat as one. They can strengthen the bonds of brotherhood when they do not allow sedition, corruption and dissension to take place. However, if Muslims forget the purpose of their creation, death, reckoning, heaven and hell and become overly inclined to the world, they will lose their power and fall into weakness. If they put in their hearts the love of wealth and worldly possessions, position and status, fortune and fame, rather than the love of Allah (swt) and His Messenger (saw), they will be scattered like leaves in the wind. If they choose to put their personal interests, luxuries and comforts above spreading the word of Allah (swt), they risk being divided and disintegrated.

Dear Muslims!

From time to time, we happen to become distracted by worldly concerns and ignore the life-giving principles of Islam. We happen to ignore our responsibility to our Lord (swt), the environment and the people, and turn our full attention to the world. We happen to forget about our servitude to Allah (swt) and remove human and moral values from our lives. However, Allah the Almighty warns us in the following verse, “You believers settled with the fleeting gains of this world, Allah’s aim for you is the

Hereafter.”², and recommends that we live on without neglecting our eternal home in the Hereafter. According to our sublime religion, Islam, this worldly life is temporary, empty and no more than play and amusement compared to the Hereafter. This is not to say that the world and its blessings are bad, worthless, or insignificant. What is bad is the worldliness that leads a person away from Allah and from His approval. Let us not forget that the world is the cropland of the Hereafter. It is where heaven is deserved. It is the place where we are put to the test of servitude to Allah, and where it will be determined which of us will do better deeds. What our religion demands of us is neither abandonment of the Hereafter for the world nor abandonment of the world for the Hereafter. It is to work for both of them in the direction of the pleasure of Allah. In this regard, Allah the Almighty states, “Rather, seek the reward of the Hereafter by means of what Allah has granted you, without forgetting your share of this world.”³

Dear Believers!

Today, when hatred, anger, evil and cruelty surround the earth and human rights and moral values are trampled underfoot, it is not only because the oppressors are powerful. The real reason is that Muslims forsake working hard for laziness. It is that they do not fulfill their responsibilities as required by their faith. It is that they do not make the necessary preparations in every field against their enemies in order to protect their homeland and their values. It is that they do not build their world in accordance with faith, righteous deeds and good morals. The warning of our Almighty Lord (swt) in this regard, however, is quite clear: “Allah has promised those of you who believe and do good that He will certainly make them successors in the land, as He did with those before them; and will surely establish for them their faith which He has chosen for them; and will indeed change their fear into security...”⁴ Today is the day to shed excessive worldliness, individualism and selfishness, and curb our boundless desires. It is time to embrace our differences as riches and to walk together towards unity and peace. It is time to be compassionate and merciful to the believers and to be firm and dignified with the unbelievers and the oppressors.

Dear Muslims!

As I conclude this Friday’s khutbah, I would like to remind you that the pre-registration and registration renewal period for the Hajj 2025 is underway and will continue until September 16, 2024. Our citizens who wish to perform Hajj must pre-register themselves through the e-Devlet system. As the registration renewal process will not be carried out by the Presidency of Religious Affairs this year, our citizens who have registrations in place from previous years will also need to update their registrations through the e-Devlet system. Please contact our provincial and district mufti offices for more information.

¹ Abu Dawud, Malahim, 5; Ibn Hanbal, V, 278.

² Anfal, 8/67.

³ Qasas, 28/77.

⁴ Nur, 24/55.