Khutba, 30.10.2026

Empathy, Social Responsibility and Peace

بِسْمِ اللهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿... وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوٰى ۖ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْاِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ ۖ وَاتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ ۖ اِنَّ اللّٰهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ ﴿٢﴾﴾

سورة المائدة، ٥:٢

عَنْ أَنَسٍ عَنِ النَّبِيِّ (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَ سَلَّمْ) قَالَ:

" لاَ يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّى يُحِبَّ لأَخِيهِ مَا يُحِبُّ لِنَفْسِهِ. "

الترمذي، كتاب صفة القيامة ، ٥٩

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Peace, or salaam, is at the heart of our beautiful religion, Islam. Allah (swt) calls His servants to Dar al-Salaam, the home of peace. Our Prophet (saw) was sent as a mercy to the world. Islam therefore teaches us to build our relationships with Allah (swt), our families, our neighbours and society on peace and trust. True peace needs more than the silence of weapons or wars. It comes when hearts are freed from hatred, people trust one another, justice prevails and mercy guides our lives.

Dear Jama'ah!

Allah (swt) says: "**The believers are brothers, so make peace between your brothers. Be mindful of Allah, so that you may receive mercy.**"[1] In another verse, He says: "**Help one another in goodness and righteousness, and do not help one another in sin and aggression.**"[2] This divine call places on us the responsibility to do good and protect peace in society.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Today, we can reach one another more easily than ever, yet we struggle more than ever to understand one another. People living under the same roof do not listen to each other. Neighbours do not know one another. Rather than trying to understand different views, people push each other away. Many great conflicts that destroy peace begin with small problems that were never resolved.

This is where empathy matters. Empathy means putting ourselves in another person's place, sharing their joy and feeling their pain. It is a sign of mature faith, not weakness. Our humanity calls us to care about the suffering of others. We can only treat someone fairly when we try to understand them. When we judge without understanding, we often cause injustice.

The Messenger of Allah (saw) said: "*None of you truly believes until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself.*"[3] In another hadith, he said: "*Allah will not show mercy to those who do not show mercy to people.*"[4] Our Prophet (saw) upheld justice and mercy even towards those who wronged him. He gave us the finest example of forgiveness, winning hearts and seeking to understand others.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Social responsibility is a duty we all share, alongside our leaders and institutions. Every believer is responsible for the peace of their community. The way we speak to our spouse and children, respect our neighbours' rights, honour the elderly, support the young, help orphans and care for public property are all part of this responsibility.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Today, more than strong economies, the world needs strong ethics. Alongside advances in technology, we need good character. We need people who know how to listen to one another, rather than simply raise their voices. Let us remember, true peace begins with filling our own hearts with mercy, justice and compassion, before trying to change others. Empathy nurtured at home spreads to the neighbourhood. Trust between neighbours strengthens society and peace in society brings hope to all humanity.

May Allah (swt) make us servants who build peace rather than destroy it, spread love rather than anger and bring hearts together rather than divide people. Ameen!

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[1] Surah al-Hujurat, 49:10
[2] Surah al-Ma'idah, 5:2
[3] Al-Tirmidhi, Sifat al-Qiyamah, 59
[4] Al-Bukhari, Tawhid, 2