



“AVOIDING THE FITNAH OF SOCIAL MEDIA”

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: وَاتَّقُوا فِتْنَةَ لَا تُصِيبَنَّ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا مِنْكُمْ خَاصَّةً^ط وَعَلَمُوا
أَنَّ اللَّهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ^١
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ
الْمُتَّقُونَ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى:
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ ۖ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ .

Dear blessed Muslims,

Let us altogether strive to increase our *taqwa* of Allah by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we become among His slaves whom attain the love, mercy, and protection of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

On this very occasion of Friday, *as-sayyid al-ayyaam* (the master of days), let us ponder upon a *khutbah* titled “**AVOIDING THE FITNAH OF SOCIAL MEDIA.**”

Dear blessed audience,

The world today is witnessing the rapid development of social media. Islam does not at all deter any form of progress or modernization, however it is not outrageous to say that social media today has reared its ugly face in generating a very worrying predicament. In addition to the positive outcomes, there are also elements of *munkar* (evil) arising, growing, multiplying, and spreading within our society through social media. Not just the uncovering of the *'awrah*, but exposing and shaming others is no longer uncommon. Hurling accusations, slandering others, blaming one another, and spreading unverified information, have all become the cause for disputes and divorce between spouses.

Some Muslims today would waste most of their time browsing through social media compared with the time spent in reciting the Holy Qur'an or reading Islamic and spiritual materials that could develop noble *akhlaaq*.

Even though Allah has honored us with the intellect, bestowed upon us countless favors, the internet and the virtual world at times would succeed in transforming us into a creation with a foul tongue and despicable writings, deceitful and transgressing, hasty, reckless soul, always rushing, weak, and clouded by the cluttered mind, *وَالْعِيَاذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ ذَلِكَ*. (may Allah forbid us from those).

¹ al-Anfaal 8:25



It is due to the bounty of the intellect that mankind has been successful with various inventions and innovations whether to be used on land, in the air, or in the water. Look at the capability of the human intellect that can turn today's world into a small borderless village. With proper utilization of the *ni'mah* (bounty) of the mind that is firmly based upon Islamic guidance, the use of modern technology invented by humans will drive towards righteousness and wellbeing within human's lives. Al-Imaam al-Ghazzaali *rahimahullah* stated:

الْعَمَلُ خَيْرٌ إِذَا وَافَقَ الْعَقْلَ وَالِدِّينَ ، وَشَرٌّ إِذَا خَالَفَ الْعَقْلَ وَالِدِّينَ

"A task is rendered as something good if it fulfills the criteria required by the religion and 'aql, while a task is deemed as evil if it violates the requirements of the intellect and religion."

All these proves that in dealing with the social media phenomenon, religious teachings and the 'aql (intellect) must go hand in hand. Any news or story that appears on the social media will be harmonious if it is scrutinized by the sound 'aql that is based upon authentic religious teachings. The wisdom in processing the news or story received truly necessitates bashfulness and *taqwa*. Are we not afraid that our righteous deeds may just wither away just like that because we heedlessly clicked "share" or shared matters that are inaccurate and non-beneficial, only causing confusion and anxiety among Muslims such as spreading the juristic rulings stated by certain scholars which were never true to begin with. Or spreading certain *fataawa* which were never officially released as such. Are we not afraid of the severe warnings from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* such as the ones mentioned in verse 22 of soorah al-Anfaal:

﴿ إِنَّ شَرَّ الدَّوَابِّ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الصُّمُّ الْبُكْمُ الَّذِينَ لَا يَعْقِلُونَ ﴾

"Indeed, the worst of living creatures in the sight of Allah are the deaf and dumb who do not use reason."

Dear beloved Muslims,

Day after day, this worrying phenomenon is becoming increasingly disturbing when more people are becoming addicted to browsing through the social media regardless of time and place, including inside the mosque while the *khateeb* is delivering the Friday *khutbah*. Surfing through social media, where one is no longer concentrating on the sermon being delivered will only render such action as *laghw* or in vain, and nullifies the deeds of listening to the *khutbah*, as well as reducing the rewards of performing the Friday prayer. This can be understood from the meaning of the *hadeeth* collected by Imaam Muslim where the Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم stated that one who distracts himself with pebbles during the *khutbah* will not get the (Jumu'ah) reward.

The meaning from this *hadeeth* indicates that if just playing with pebbles is deemed as *laghw*, what more with being preoccupied with social media causing one to lose concentration from listening and comprehending the *khutbah* being delivered by the *khateeb*.

Dear blessed Muslims,



This is the reality that must be changed and improved so that the *imaan* nurtured for so many years will not be easily hoodwinked by the *fitnah* of social media. When faced with stockpiles of stories and news that are mushrooming all over the social media and its like, let us remain vigilant and remind our selves, our children, and our colleagues upon the reminder from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentioned in verse 36 of soorah al-Israa':

وَلَا تَقْفُ مَا لَيْسَ لَكَ بِهِ عِلْمٌ إِنَّ السَّمْعَ وَالْبَصَرَ وَالْفُؤَادَ
كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ مَسْئُولًا

"And do not pursue that of which you have no knowledge. Indeed, the hearing, the sight and the heart - about all those [one] will be questioned."

In another *hadeeth*, it was reported from Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh* that Rasulullah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said:

إِنَّ الْعَبْدَ يَتَكَلَّمُ بِالْكَلِمَةِ مَا يَتَّبِعُن فِيهَا يَزُلُّ بِهَا إِلَى النَّارِ أْبْعَدِ مِمَّا بَيْنَ
الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ

"A slave of Allah may utter a word without thinking whether it is right or wrong, he may slip down in the Fire far away than the distance between the east and the west."

(Agreed Upon)

Both of these guidelines call upon us to utilize the social media in the best manner possible, according to the *Shara'*, and to always remain knowledgeable or well informed in the matter being discussed, and to be extra cautious with our words especially in the social media. Let us utilize the social media as an avenue in attaining nearness to Allah, strengthening the brotherhood, fostering unity, and spreading beneficial knowledge, which in turn will increase in benefit, attaining the mercy of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Dear beloved audience,

To end today's *khutbah* on this blessed day, let us give our attention and take note of the following reminders:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that each and every word and actions will be held accountable before Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in the Hereafter.
2. The Muslim *ummah* must utilize each and every second available as an opportunity to perform righteous deeds and accumulating provisions for the Afterlife.
3. The Muslim *ummah* must benefit from the social media in securing the interest of Islamic development, and not abuse it on matters that would only increase in sins.



أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
يَوْمَئِذٍ يَصْدُرُ النَّاسُ أَشْتَاتًا لِيُرَوْا أَعْمَالَهُمْ ﴿٦﴾ فَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ خَيْرًا يَرَهُ
﴿٧﴾ وَمَنْ يَعْمَلْ مِثْقَالَ ذَرَّةٍ شَرًّا يَرَهُ ﴿٨﴾

"That Day, the people will depart separated [into categories] to be shown [the result of] their deeds. So whoever does an atom's weight of good will see it, and whoever does an atom's weight of evil will see it."

(al-Zalzalah 99:6-8)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

Aina/Nurul

25.01.2018



THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ، وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنْ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَابَتِهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ مُجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزِّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَهْلِكَ الْكُفْرَةَ وَالْمُبْتَدِعَةَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَكَ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ. وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصِّمْدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعْظَمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَغُورِ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ ادريس شاه الحاج، ابن المرحوم سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عبد العزيز شاه الحاج. اللَّهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعُونَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لِوَلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَغُورِ، تَعَكَوْ أَمِيرِ شَاهِ، ابْنِ السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ ادريس شاه الحاج، فِي أَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَطْلُ عُمْرَهُمَا، مُصْلِحِينَ لِلْمَوْظُفِينَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرِّشَادِ.



رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا. رَبَّنَا
ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ
وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿١٠﴾
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُواهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ
فَضْلِهِ ۗ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.
