

Ministry of Islamic Affairs,  
Male', Republic of Maldives.



26<sup>th</sup> Safar 1446 (30<sup>th</sup> August 2024) Friday Sermon

## Serving the Religion.

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي اخْتَرَعَ الْأَشْيَاءَ بِلَطِيفِ قُدْرَتِهِ، وَبَدِيعِ صُنْعَتِهِ فَأَحْسَنَ فِيمَا  
اخْتَرَعَ. وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ  
وَرَسُولُهُ، صَلَّى اللَّهُ وَسَلَّمْ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ، وَعَلَى كُلِّ مَنْ اهْتَدَى بِهَدْيِهِ، وَاسْتَنَّ  
بِسُنَّتِهِ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ: فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ! أُوصِيكُمْ وَنَفْسِي بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ، قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى:  
﴿وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا﴾<sup>1</sup>

I praise Allah the Almighty. He is the One who, with the perfect attribute of being All-Capable, created everything for the first time. I bear witness that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah, the Almighty, to his Oneness, and that He has no partners. I bear witness that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is His servant and Messenger. O Our Creator and Sustainer! Send salutations and peace upon him, his family, his companions and all those who follow his guidance and his Sunnah until the Day of Judgement!

(1) Surah At-Talaq (65:2)



Then know! O Servants of Allah the Almighty! I urge and advise myself and all of you to be mindful of Allah the Almighty. Allah says: “And whoever fears Allah, He will provide a way out for him.” (2)

O Brothers and Sisters who have entered the realm of sins and are unable to escape from it! Restrain your desires! Create fear in yourselves from committing sins! The worldly life is only a few days. Wake up! Recall the years you have spent in the sleep of ignorance! Whoever controls and conquers their desires is a truly brave person. Everyone who wakes up from this sleep of ignorance say involuntarily:

(لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ الْعَظِيمِ) and (إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ)

O Man who has transgressed! Be sad and cry over the trouble that you have been afflicted with. Know that once life perishes, it will not be returned! You listened to admonitions. It is apparent from the color of your hair that death is closing in on you. As if your situation is saying: “O Man! indeed you are laboring toward your Lord with (great) exertion and you will meet him with it.” (3) Try to correct your deeds before it is too late.

O Muslim brothers! Become people, whose hearts are filled with faith! Listen to talks that remind you of Allah! Take heed from what you see! Listen to the story I'm sharing with you! This is the story of a brother I see in all prayers. I see him everywhere. He can be seen in every Muslim who believes in Allah as his Lord, Islam as his religion, Muhammad (peace be upon him) as his Prophet and

(2) Ibid

(3) Surah Al-Inshiqaq (84:6)



Messenger. This is the story of a brother who could not avoid wrongdoing. Everyone is capable of committing sins. I am telling this story with feelings of brotherhood and love. What I am about to say is directed at you. Open the door of your heart and your mind to me! I swear by Allah, without him there is no God that I love you. It is a love that brings me joy every time you take a step forward. I swear by Allah, with every step you take back, my heart is filled with sadness.

O Muslim brother! The story that I am telling you is a heartfelt, sincere story. Listen carefully! The story related to life is very easy to grasp.

O Muslim brothers! Do you think that we are alone in committing crimes? Not at all. We never claimed to be angels. The angels will not disobey Allah. And they will do what they are commanded. But humans have the choice of sinning. When you ask forgiveness from Allah, He will forgive you. All the righteous servants you that see are sinners. It is reported in meaning that the beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: "If you do not commit sins, Allah will replace you with a people who would commit sins. And when they seek forgiveness from Him, He will certainly forgive them." (4)

O Muslim brothers! Sin causes us pain. Listen carefully! We are not free from sinning. And neither will we be free from it in the future. But sadly, Satan is given the opportunity to take advantage of your sins. Do you know how it happens? He will make us think that

---

(4) Sahih Muslim (2749)





we no longer have the ability to live as a pious person because of our sins. Do not listen to that voice! There is no doubt, you are a pious person. You worship Allah. You believe in His Oneness. You perform ablution. You bow and prostrate and exalt Allah, the Almighty. You are someone who supplicates to Allah, the Almighty and has tasted the sweetness of remembering Him. You are someone who has enlightened your heart by exalting Him. Salute to your Monotheism and Faith! Salute to your confidence, sincerity and drawing closer to Allah! Glory be to the Names and Attributes of Allah! Nay, What Satan says is not going to happen. You have sound faith. Your problem is not like a football team, sometimes winning and sometimes failing. Temporary pleasure, food and drink are not important to you. They are important to others. Allah, the Almighty says regarding such people: “Those who disbelieve enjoy themselves and eat as grazing livestock eat, and the Fire will be a residence for them.” <sup>(5)</sup>

O Muslim brothers! You are living on earth for a far more important purpose. That is to worship Allah. That is the purpose of your life in this world. Allah, the Almighty says: “And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me.” <sup>(6)</sup> Islam has been completed. There is no crookedness in this religion. This is the religion attributed to Allah Himself. “Indeed, the religion in the sight of Allah is Islam.” <sup>(7)</sup> The followers of this religion are the best of people. This is the only religion that Allah has approved. He has fulfilled the

(5) Surah Muhammad (47:12)

(6) Surah Az-Zariyat (51:56)

(7) Surah Aali-Imran (3:19)



blessings of both worlds with this religion. Allah says: “This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed My favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion.” <sup>(8)</sup>

O Muslim brothers! There is no way to salvation except by following this religion. Whoever believes in this religion has found the right path and has succeeded. Allah will not accept any obligations, Sunnah or any other deed from anyone who leaves this religion and adopts another religion. Allah, the Almighty says: “And whoever desires other than Islam as religion never will it be accepted from him, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.” <sup>(9)</sup>

O Muslim Brothers! This religion is the pride of the Ummah. The law of this religion is honorable. This religion unifies the ranks of the Muslims and strengthen their hearts. It is this religion that saved the entire mankind from destruction and brought to its highest level of glory. This religion is a correct and pure creed. It is the perfect faith. Its rulings are explained. It brought justice and equality and preached respect for the rights of the general and the specific. Promoting benefits, avoiding harm and considering the traditions and customs is the basis of this religion. This is a religion that does justice to all aspects of life. It preaches creed, worship, family ties, transactions, criminal laws and how the relationship between the leaders and their subjects must be. This is the basis of civilizations. This religion only contains equivalent rulings. They are guidelines that guide to the Straight Path. Wise principles. Allah, the Almighty says:

---

(8) Surah Al-Ma'idah (5:3)

(9) Surah Aali-'Imran (3:85)





“We have not neglected anything in the Book (of Our decrees).” <sup>(10)</sup>  
 He also says: “And We have sent down to you the Book as clarification for all things.” <sup>(11)</sup>

O Muslim brothers! The Ummah that Islam had built yesterday, was previously a poor and weak nation. Then, by the grace of Allah, it became the most noble Ummah. A beacon for the lost. If we make Islam our way of life, we will be able to educate renowned great people. A generation will be built that dares to sacrifice its life to attain Paradise. If they can return home, they will honorably protect their homes.

O Muslim brothers! Our negligence in obeying Allah and our sins is not an excuse to avoid serving the religion. This is not an excuse to avoid this great responsibility. Our duty is to serve this religion. Ponder about this important duty. Look at this from the perspective of Faith! Put this under the microscope of your conscience! Listen to the story of Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him)! He was a companion of the prophet who was addicted to alcohol. He was presented again and again and flogged. However, he did not see it as an excuse from being a practicing Muslim or something that prevents him from giving victory to the religion. Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him) took part in the Battle of Qadisyyah. In the Battle of Qadisyyah, Abu Mihjan was also brought before Sa'd bin Abi Waqqas (may Allah be pleased with them both) and was severely punished. By confining him in a lock-up. He was forbidden

---

(10) Surah Al-An'am (6:38)

(11) Surah An-Nahl (16:89)



to participate in Jihad with the Muslims. This turned out to be a very painful punishment to Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him). When he heard the sounds of swords and spears, and the neighing of the horses, he knew that the battle had begun. He knew that the doors of Paradise had opened. Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him) was restless because of his desire to participate in Jihad. He then said while being in the lock-up: "When the horses get tired in battle, it is unbearable for me to sit here in chains. If I am taken out of this lock-up, I will not join with my former comrades." Then he pleaded with the wife of Sa'd ibn Abi Waqqas (may Allah be pleased with them both). "Save me from this lock-up. If I return from the battle, put the chains on my feet again. And if I am martyred, pray to Allah to have mercy on me." So, she let him go.

O Muslim brothers! Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him) then leapt onto a horse belonging to Sa'd which was called Al-Balqaau. Then he picked up a spear and started fighting. He advanced scattering every group of enemies that he encountered. Sa'd (may Allah be pleased with him) was looking at the battlefield in amazement. He kept saying: "Today, all you can see in the battlefield is Al-Balqaau. and the attacks of Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him). When the battle was won, Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him) came and chained his feet. Soon Sa'd's wife informed her husband (may Allah be pleased with them both) of this news. Seeing Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him) zeal for the religion and his love for Jihad, Sa'd encouraged him and promised not to limit him for the victory he had gained for the religion and





Muslims. Abu Mihjan (may Allah be pleased with him) was pleased with it and said: "I will never drink from today onwards." (12)

O Muslim brothers! Look at this incident! Crime and sins do not prevent you from practicing the religion, your love for the religion and your support for the Muslims. It is everyone's responsibility to serve religion. Whether it is a man, a woman, a child, an adult, a young man, or an old man. Allah, the Almighty has created people who know the honor of this religion. They sacrificed everything for this religion. They did Jihad against the desires of their soul. They viewed working for the religion was as being obligatory. They lived an honorable life and passed away blessedly. Some people were brought and lowered into a great pot of boiling oil. This is something that will make the onlookers shiver with fear. When he started crying, he was asked: "Why are you crying?" He replied: "I have only one soul once I am put in this (pot of oil) it will perish. But I wish that I had as many souls as the number of hairs on my body and with the love for Allah to sacrifice every one of them in the cause of his religion." (13)

Another such person was Jabir's father, 'Abdullah ibn 'Amr and ibn Haram (may Allah be pleased with them both). He was martyred in the Battle of Uhud. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said about him. "(In the Barzakh) Allah, Glorified and Exalted be He spoke to him without any intermediary: 'O My Servant! If you have any requests, ask Me!' He replied: 'I ask to be resurrected and returned

(12) Sunan Sa'eed bin Mansur (2/235) (2502)

(13) Shu'ab Al-Iman Al-Bayhaqi (2/179-180) (1522)





to the world so that I may fight in Your cause once more. And to be resurrected and martyred in the same way."<sup>(14)</sup> Isn't all this a because of his desire to serve this religion and his love for it?

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِهِدْيِ خَيْرِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ أَقُولُ  
مَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Second Sermon

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ مُعِزِّ مَنْ أَطَاعَهُ وَاتَّقَاهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ  
لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، الْمَبْعُوثُ إِلَى النَّاسِ كَافَّةً. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ  
عَلَى عَبْدِكَ وَرَسُولِكَ مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

I praise Allah, the Almighty who honors and exalts those who are mindful of Him. I bear witness that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah, I bear witness to his Oneness, and that He has is no partners. I bear witness that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is His servant and Messenger. O Our Creator and sustainer! Send salutations, peace and blessings upon Your servant and Messenger Muhammad (peace be upon him), his family and his companions!

O Muslim brothers! Be mindful of Allah, the Almighty! Committing a sin is not a reason to prevent us from loving the religion, serving it, giving victory to it, or being jealous of it. If it

(14) Suann At-Tirmidhi (3010) and Sunan Ibn Majah (190)

had gone that way, there would have been no one to give victory to religion. And the religion would not have been established.

O Muslim brother! While nations are building the future, do you not feel that you should be at the forefront of this Ummah? We have reached an age where we have to work together. Do you ever consider making a practical contribution to the victory of your religion? Do you believe that the religion of Allah in which you believe has become the target of the schemes of the enemies? Doesn't it hurt you to see Muslims being slaughtered? Today, Muslim blood is cheaper than salt in the vast ocean. While the Muslim countries are being destroyed and taken over, the whole world is sleepless for a single hostage of the enemy. Where is the spirit of unity among Muslims today?

O Muslim brothers! What is the size of the map of Islam in our souls? How much are we spending for our religion? What service are we doing for it? How much of a priority is the issue of religion in our lives? Or have we sufficed with the acts of worship that have become habits?

O Muslim brothers! I swear by the lord of the Ka'bah, if we do not stand up for this religion, "The heavens almost rupture therefrom and the earth splits open, and the mountains collapse in devastation" <sup>(15)</sup> We might fall in the warning that Allah, the Almighty has revealed. O Muslim brother! Listen to the warning of Allah the Almighty! He says: "If you do not go forth, He will punish you with a painful punishment and will replace you with another (group of)

---

(15) Surah Maryam (19:90)





people, and you will not harm Him at all. And Allah is over all things competent.”<sup>(16)</sup> He also says: “O Mankind! you are those in need of Allah, while Allah is the Free of need, the Praiseworthy. If He wills, He can do away with you and bring forth a new creation. And that is not difficult for Allah (at all).”<sup>(17)</sup>

O Muslim brother! Will you not strive to uphold the following promises of Allah? He says: “And those who strive for Us - We will surely guide them to Our ways. And indeed, Allah is with the doers of good.”<sup>(18)</sup> In another verse. “And be patient, ‘O Muhammad!’ and your patience is not but through Allah. And do not grieve over them and do not be in distress over what they conspire. Indeed, Allah is with those who fear Him and those who are doers of good.”<sup>(19)</sup>

O Muslim brother who loves this religion! I will tell you what you must do for your religion. Act according to it! Then your whole life will be happy. You will end up as a martyr. You will meet your Lord while He is pleased with you. And you will abide with Al-Hoor Al-'iyn in the Gardens of Eden forever. Exalt Allah! And hold on to the noble rope of Allah! Observe the five obligatory prayers! Pray the voluntary acts of worship! Fast on Mondays, Thursdays and the white days (Ayyamul Beed)! Be kind to your mother! Obey your father! Recite the Quran! Try to memorize part of the Quran! Listen to beneficial religious lectures! Keep friendship with righteous people! Leave the dissolute! Pray the Tahajjud prayer! Safeguard your tongue!

(16) Surah At-Tawbah (9:39)

(17) Surah Fatir (35:15-17)

(18) Surah Al-'Ankabut (29:69)

(19) Surah An-Nahl (16:127-128)



Speak less! Stop arguing and speak good! Lower your voice! Let the truth be heard! Be kind to the children and respect the elderly! Protect your reputation! Avoid immorality! Honor your guests! Maintain family ties! Visit the sick! Help the poor and needy! Give Zakat and contribute to charity! Advice those who have gone astray! Give advice to friends!

O Muslim brothers! Serving the religion is the basis of happiness. It is a deed that satisfies needs and relieves sadness. Start serving the Islam from now on! Indeed, saying good things is a charity. Enjoying good and forbidding evil is an act of salvation. Calling people to the religion of Allah is the way of the Messengers and the Prophets. A little action done constantly is better than a lot of action done without consistency.

O Muslim brothers! Send salutations and peace upon Muhammad (peace be upon him)! Allah the Almighty has commanded us to do so.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ. اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ، كَمَا بَارَكْتَ عَلَى إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ. وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنِ الْخُلَفَاءِ الرَّاشِدِينَ، وَعَنْ سَائِرِ الصَّحَابَةِ وَالتَّابِعِينَ، وَعَنْ مَعَهُمْ بِكَرَمِكَ وَجُودِكَ وَإِحْسَانِكَ يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ.

O Our Creator and Sustainer! Forgive our sins! Save us from the evil of our souls, our greatest enemy! Enable us to do good deeds that bring us closer to you! Make us those who love you and those whom you love! Grant us the ability to do good deeds that lead to





Paradise! O Exalted Lord who fulfills His promises! Grant us Paradise!

And grant us the noble opportunity to see Your Face!

﴿وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ إِنَّ الصَّلَاةَ تَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ

أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ﴾ (20)

Sheikh Dr. Hamdan bin Humaid Al-Sulami



Ministry of Islamic Affairs