



Islamic Religious Council of Singapore

Friday Khutbah

8 February 2019 / 3 Jamadilakhir 1440H

Appreciating Allah S.W.T's Name: Al-Khalig

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِيْنَ، الَّذِيْ بَعَثَ مُحَمَّدًا بِشِيْرًا وَنَذِيْرًا
وَدَاعِيًا اِلَى اللّٰهِ وَسِرَاجًا مُنِيْرًا. اَشْهَدُ اَنْ لَا اِلٰهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا
شَرِيْكَ لَهُ، وَاَشْهَدُ اَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ
وَسَلِّمْ عَلٰى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلٰى اٰلِهِ وَاَصْحَابِهِ وَالتَّابِعِيْنَ، صَلَاةً
وَسَلَامًا دَائِمِيْنَ مُتَلَازِمِيْنَ اِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ. اَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللّٰهِ،
اِتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ، اُوْصِيْ وَنَفْسِيْ وَاِيَّاكُمْ بِتَقْوَى اللّٰهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُوْنَ.

Blessed Friday Congregation,

Let us together increase our taqwa in Allah s.w.t. Let us obey His commands and abstain from His prohibitions, so we may achieve success in this world and the hereafter.

My Brothers,

Ibn Abbas once spent the night at his aunt's home, who was also one of the Prophet's s.a.w. wives. He witnessed how the Prophet s.a.w., upon awakening in the middle of the night, recited a verse from Surah Ali Imran while marvelling at the creation of the sky. The verse reads:

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَأَخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لآيَاتٍ
لِّأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ ﴿١٩٠﴾

Meaning: *“Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of the night and the day are signs for those of understanding.”* (Ali Imran: 190) [Reported by Al-Bukhari.]

Observing and pondering upon Allah's creation was a common practice of the Prophet s.a.w. Behind it lies a wealth of wisdom and lessons to be learnt for all of mankind. I would like to invite us all to listen to the lessons and meaning behind yet another one of Allah's s.w.t. names - *Al-Khaliq*, or The Creator. Allah s.w.t. says in verse 62 of Surah Az-Zumar:

اللَّهُ خَلِقُ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ ۖ وَهُوَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَكِيلٌ ﴿٦٢﴾

Meaning: *“Allah is the Creator of all things, and He is, over all things, Disposer of affairs.”*

Brothers,

Every single being that exists in this world is evidence of Allah's greatness. He s.w.t. has created all of it without assistance. His design does not require improvement, nor was it conceived through any guide or blueprint. Each of His creation has a role to play, a function to serve and a wisdom behind its existence.

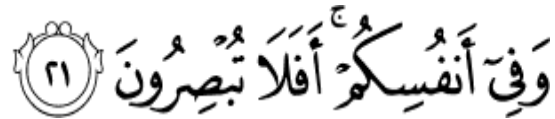
With that understanding in mind, Islam calls upon humankind to constantly observe and reflect on His creations, such as the skies and the earth as mentioned in the verse recited at the beginning of this khutbah. For within the creation of the skies and the earth are signs of Allah's might and power for the people of intellect.

We are also told to reflect on the various bounties which Allah s.w.t. has given us. Allah s.w.t. says:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اذْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ هَلْ مِنْ خَلْقٍ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ يَرْزُقُكُمْ
مِّنَ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ فَانظُرُوا كَيْفَ تَتَوَفَّكُونَ

Which means: "O humankind, remember the favour of Allah upon you. Is there any creator other than Allah who provides for you from the heaven and earth? There is no deity except Him, so how are you deluded?" [Surah Fathir: 3]

Even within our own selves we can find signs of Allah's greatness. Thus Allah instructs us to look within the creation of our own being, as He has revealed in Surah Az-Zariyat, verse 21:



Which means: *“And in yourselves. Then will you not see?”*

Dearest Brothers,

Learning about the holy names of Allah s.w.t. serves only to humble ourselves towards the One to whom they belong – Allah s.w.t. – because the way for a person to comprehend the greatness and sheer might of Allah s.w.t. is through appreciating the majestic beauty of His creation.

The analogy of this is that of a person who witnesses a beautifully constructed building. He praises not only the design, but ability of the architect to design, plan and execute it such that the end result is a work of art.

This is what a mukmin experiences when he reflects on Allah's creations in the natural world – the countless species of flora and fauna, and the seemingly infinite colours they come in. This experience is not merely a visual one as the heart and soul are also witnesses to the greatness of Allah s.w.t., the Creator, the Perfect.

However, one might ask, what is the desired outcome of this experience in the life of a mukmin?

Through a mukmin's reflection of Allah's creation, there is no doubt that he will worship Allah s.w.t. more sincerely, obeying Allah and avoiding all forms of evil. He realises his role as a servant towards his Creator. How can he disobey Allah when he himself acknowledges that everything belongs to Allah? The earth beneath his feet, the skies above, every beat of his heart and every breath he inhales – they are all created by Allah. Gifted to him by Allah, and always under the care of Allah.

Brothers,

I wish to highlight another aspect of the practice of reflecting on Allah's creation.

If we look into the teachings of our religion, we will find that it encourages every mukmin to be mindful of his actions. We are told to scrutinise our intentions before performing any deed and to ensure that our hearts are sincere. We are told to make du'a to Allah before we begin any endeavour, so that we are reminded of Allah's favours toward us. We are told to be conscious of Allah in prayer. And, we are told to reflect on our past deeds.

That is how a mukmin lives his life. He acts carefully and meticulously, not lazily or haphazardly. It is only by appreciating

the importance of our actions that they can become a form of 'ibadah that we do with sincerity. Even if it is a job that we do in order to put food on our families' table.

Therefore, let us all place the best of intentions in our hearts. Always reflect on our past actions. Let us ensure that we are always sincere, as all of it begins from the heart.

May Allah grant us sincerity and strength in our faith, and may He count us amongst those with whom He is satisfied. Amin Ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

بَارِكْ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ
الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ يَا
فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ يَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.