FOLLOW THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE HOLY QURAN

SERMON DELIVERED BY HADHRAT
MIRZA MASROOR AHMAD (ABA);
HEAD OF THE AHMADIYYA MUSLIM
COMMUNITY

RELAYED LIVE ALL ACROSS THE
GLOBE

26th July 2013

NOTE: Al Islam Team takes full responsibility for any errors or miscommunication in this Synopsis of the Friday Sermon
As explained in last Friday sermon, the month of Ramadan and the Holy Qur’an have a particular affinity. Therefore, we should recite the Qur’an during Ramadan, reflect over its directives and commandments and make these as part of our lives.

Some of the Commandments God.

Do not associate anyone or anything with God

Show Kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.

Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.

26th July 2013
Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity

Directives of God

Do not associate anyone or anything with God

Show Kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden

Do not Kill Your Children

26th July 2013

Hadhurat Khalifatul Masih recited the following verses 152-154 of Surah Al An’am

‘Say, ‘Come, I will rehearse to you what your Lord has made inviolable for you: that you may not associate anything with Him as a partner and that you must treat parents with exceeding kindness, and that you kill not your children for fear of poverty – it is We Who provide for you and for them – and that you approach not foul deeds, whether open or secret; and that you kill not the life which Allah has made sacred, save by right. That is what He has enjoined upon you, that you may understand.
Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity

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Hadhrat Khalifatul Masih recited the following verses 152-154 of Surah Al An’am

And approach not the property of the orphan, except in a way which is best, till he attains his maturity. And give full measure and weight with equity. We task not any soul except according to its capacity. And when you speak, observe justice, even if the concerned person be a relative, and fulfil the covenant of Allah. That is what He enjoins upon you, that you may remember.

And say, ‘This is My path leading straight. So follow it; and follow not other ways, lest they lead you away from His way. That is what He enjoins upon you, that you may become able to guard against evils.’
As explained in last Friday sermon, the month of Ramadan and the Holy Qur’an have a particular affinity because the revelation of the Qur’an began in this month.

However, this connection can only avail if our recitation of the Qur’an during Ramadan is done in conjunction with reflecting over its directives and then these directives are made part of our lives.

Otherwise we would not be fulfilling the objective of it being revealed in Ramadan.
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said ‘The objective of the Holy Qur’an was to turn savage state into humanness and then through good manners make people civilised so that matters could be resolved within the prescribed limits and directives and then turn them into godly people.’

‘It should also be remembered that the Holy Qur’an carries guidance for academic and practical accomplishments. As such, ‘Guide us on the right path’ indicates seeking knowledge while ‘The path of those on whom Thou hast bestowed Thy blessings…’ refers to its practical implementation, so that the best and perfect results may be achieved. Unless a sapling grows and develops properly it cannot bear flowers or fruits. Similarly, any guidance that has does not have most excellent results, is a dead guidance.’

Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity

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A distinct change comes about in a person who reads the Qur’an as it ought to be read and follows its commandments.

High moral values are created and one becomes a civilised and godly person …

… and God has likened this condition to a blessed tree ‘…It is like a good tree, whose root is firm and whose branches reach into heaven. (14:25)

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said. ‘The Holy Qur’an is a guidance through which its follower attains excellence and he develops a connection with God Almighty. His good deeds, which are in accordance to the directives of the Holy Qur’an, grow liked a blessed tree, as mentioned in the Holy Qur’an. They bear fruit which develop a distinctive sweetness and flavour.’
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:

‘Elucidating this Allah the Exalted likens such a faith to seed and tree here and deeds to watering/irrigation. The Qur’an gives the similitude of a farmer who sows seeds and calls this sowing the seeds of faith. There irrigation works and here, deeds work. It should therefore be remembered that faith without any deeds is like a garden without any water/streams. A tree will dry out if after planting it its owner does not pay attention to water it. It is the same with faith. ‘And as for those who strive in Our path...’ (29:70), that is, do not suffice on small attempts, this path requires great striving.’

Indeed, Ramadan draws our attention to [spiritual] striving. While reflecting over the Holy Qur’an and while trying to understand it, we should also put its teaching in practice so that we become those fresh and verdant branches which reach into heaven and which are connected to God.
In the verses recited at the start of the sermon God has drawn attention to a few directives.

- **Do not associate anyone or anything with God.**
- **Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.**
- **Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.**
- **Avoid every hidden and apparent indecency; in fact do not even go near it.**
- **Do not take life that God has made sacred.**

Directives of God:

- Do not associate anyone or anything with God
- Show Kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden
- Do not Kill Your Children

Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity

26 July 2013
In the verses recited at the start of the sermon God has drawn attention to a few directives.

**Directives of God**

- Do not go near the property of an orphan.
- When the orphans reach adulthood, hand over their property to them.
- Give full measure and weight with fairness.
- Be fair and just in all circumstances, no relative or dear one should be an impediment in this.
- Fulfil your promises and pledges.
- Under all circumstances try to stay on the right path.

**Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity**

- Do not associate anyone or anything with God.
- Show Kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.
- Do not Kill Your Children.

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Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity

Directives of God

Do not associate anyone or anything with God

Show Kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden

Do not Kill Your Children

The first commandment forbids associating anyone with God.

God has created us, nurtures our mental, physical and spiritual capacities and gives us all the blessings?

Yet, people do not understand and associate partners with God.

... and this is why the first message of Prophets of God is teaching against Shirk; indeed Shirk is an unforgivable sin
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:

Every sin is forgivable but associating partners with God is an unforgivable sin.

‘...Surely, associating partners with God is a grievous wrong.’ (31:14) and

‘...will not forgive that any partner be associated with Him...’ (4:48)

Here, Shirk does not simply mean worshipping idols made of stone. In fact it is also Shirk to venerate worldly means and give importance to worldly idols.

This indeed is Shirk. The example of sinning is like smoking Huqqah, giving it up is not that difficult and inconvenient while the example of Shirk is like taking opium, which is an impossible habit to break.'
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:

‘Shirk is three-fold. The first kind is general idol-worship and worship of trees. This is a broad, common Shirk.

The second kind of Shirk is when too much reliance is placed on ways and means.

The third kind of Shirk is whereby one considers oneself to something compared to God.

‘...in this time of material advancement, the Shirk of ways and means has increased a lot.’
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:

‘O people, worship the God Who has created you, that is, know that all your tasks come to pass through Him and rely on Him. Loyalty is in keeping a special connection with God and everything else should be considered nought in comparison. ’

A person who holds his children or parents so dear that he remains concerned about them all the time also does a kind of idol worship. Idol worship does not only mean to worship idols like Hindus, too much love is also a kind of worship.’
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said:

‘The real reason for the creation of mankind is worship. Just as it is stated elsewhere: ‘And I have not created the Jinn and the men but that they may worship Me.’ (51:57).

True worship is when man removes all hardness and crookedness and makes the terrain of his heart as clear as a farmer clears his field.

This is the reason for our creation and this is the purpose of Ramadan and this is the standard of worship that the Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) has taught us. Once this standard is attained, man is free from all kinds of Shirk.

May God enable us to worship in this manner this Ramadan.

Do not associate anyone or anything with God.
The second commandment is about kindness to parents. After God it is the parents who look after us and nurture us. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that he sadly received complaints that some people show disrespectful behaviour towards their parents. Sisters write in that brothers even raise their hands to the parents especially in matters of property settlement.

‘Thy Lord has commanded, ‘Worship none but Him, and show kindness to parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age with thee, never say unto them any word expressive of disgust nor reproach them, but address them with excellent speech.’ (17:24)
In this country adolescents turn to rudeness in the name of freedom.

Generally speaking after a certain age youngsters are considered independent here, it must be understood that not to show respect to your seniors is in fact ignorance.

The beautiful teaching of Islam is not to express any disgust to parents, rather repay their kindness with kindness although it is not really possible to repay the kindness of parents.

Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.
Month of Ramadhan and Holy Quran has particular affinity

Directives of God

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Do not Kill Your Children

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The beautiful teaching of Islam teaches the prayer:

‘My Lord, have mercy on them even as they nourished me in my childhood.’
(17:25) ‘

This indeed should be our standard.

This prayer can be said for parents even after they have departed from this world for elevation of their station in the Hereafter.

Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.
The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: ‘.. Rububiyyat (Divine quality to sustain and nurture) is a wonder! A baby does not have any kind of strength and his mother takes great care of him in that state and the father gives the mother support in her undertakings. Out of His sheer grace, Allah the Exalted has made two sources to look after fragile creation and has placed a ray of love in them out of the luminosity of His love.

However, it should be remembered that parents’ love is limited and God’s love is real. Unless hearts are inspired by Allah the Exalted, no person, be he a friend, a peer or a ruler, can love another. It is the secret of the perfect Rububiyyat of God that parents love their children so much that they bear all kind of pains most sincerely while caring for them, so much so that they do not even hesitate to die for the life of their child.’

Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.
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After God’s Rububiyyat, they [parents] too have a Rububiyyat and the strength of this Rububiyyat is also from God Almighty.’

‘Worship none but Him, and show kindness to parents…’.

Hadith relates that the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said that disgraced be that person who experienced old age of his parents and did not earn Paradise by serving them.

Show kindness to parents, their mistreatment is forbidden.
The next commandment is: ‘…you kill not your children for fear of poverty…’. This has many connotations.

Pay such attention to education and training of children that they do not end up being spiritually dead.

When God gave parents the status of Rububiyyat, He made it obligatory on them to look after their children and not kill them.

One meaning of ‘…you kill not your children…’ is not giving them good upbringing.

Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.
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26th July, 2013

Some fathers do not give enough time and attention to their children due to business commitments and mothers complain that as fathers are not home children go off track.

When children reach teenage, they do particularly need the presence and friendship of fathers as they learn wrong from outside influence.

This is moral killing of one’s children. Fathers may say that their time is taken by working hard to make a living for their children but what good is wealth that causes children to lose their way?

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At times mothers go out to work or do not pay attention to the family home

These women say they work to meet household expenses and when they return home tired, and they can’t pay attention to the family and neglect which gravely affects children.

Some working women say that they have to go out to work because of their idle husbands.

Such husbands need to fear God and being sources of ‘killing their children.’

Do not kill your children for fear of poverty.

26th July, 2013
Parents should sacrifice their egos and preferences for the sake of their children.

The trends towards increasing divorce rate and hence increase in single parent families in our Jama’at needs to be addressed.

Children receive best upbringing when it is done by both mother and father playing their respective roles.

Home environment should be made conducive to pious upbringing so that children can grow up to be useful members of society.

Children should be given time and attention.

Parents should give priority to the education, good affiliation with the Jama’at, pious upbringing of their children.

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May God enable all of us to practice the commandments of the Holy Qur’an during Ramadan.

Three commandments [from the verses recited at the start] were explained in today’s sermon, the rest will be explained another time.