

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO MOSQUE

6 JANUARY 2012

TOLERANCE IN ISLAM

Dear Mumins!

In Islam tolerance means to show justice, love, and compassion to the people. Even if some people believe in different religions we must still be tolerant to them and treat them nicely. We must always remember that Islam is a religion of love and brotherhood. Almighty Allah (swt) says in this regard "And by the mercy of Allah, you dealt with them gently. And had you been severe and harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from about you, so pass over (their faults), and ask (Allah's) Forgiveness for them, and consult them in the affairs. Than when you have taken a decision, put your trust in Allah, certainly, Allah loves those who put their trust (in Him)." [1]

Dear brothers and sisters of Islam:

The prophets who were sent to this world by Allah (swt) showcased great examples of tolerance. When prophet Moses (as) met the king of Egypt, Moses (as) treated the king kindly and he (as) used soft language to explain about his (as) mission which was commended to him (as) by Allah (swt). Our prophet (pbuh) went to talk with Abu Jahl many times, and our prophet (pbuh) was always kind to him. Our prophet (pbuh) did not show any anger to people who stoned him (pbuh) during his (pbuh) journey to Taif. Instead he (pbuh) asked Allah (swt) to help them to find the true path and prayed for their forgiveness.

Our prophet (pbuh) stated that "the most honorable faith is the faith that the people trust. The most honorable Islam is the one that gives trust to the people." [2]

We can clearly understand that by showing love and compassion we can help others better understand Islam. Tolerance and understanding do not mean that we have to close our eyes and turn away when unfair acts take place. Tolerance and understanding must be used when helping others to understand the true path, so that they can stray away from wrong path. Our common goal is to help those find the true path, so that they will be among us.



The only way we can be happy and have peace in this world is by implementing tolerance and love into our lives. We must be tolerant to our families, neighbors, colleagues, and believing brothers

and sisters, so that we all can continue living happy and peaceful lives. Tolerance plays an important role when it comes to world peace, so everyone should do their part. As Yunus Emre stated "let's be tolerant to the created, because of the creator." [3]

1- Al-Imran 3/159

2- Tirmidhi

3- Yunus Emre