

## FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

January 11, 2008

### THE ETIQUETTE

#### Dear Mumins!

The Prophet (s.a.w.) has taught what Muslims should pay attention in their daily behavior, such as while they are sitting, standing up, eating, drinking, talking or laughing. Today, let's remember Islamic etiquette on the light of His advices once again.

Let's consider several examples. A Muslim who cares the etiquette should respond for the question of "who is that?" coming from the inside of the house s/he is visiting by saying his/her own name like "It is Ali, It is Hasan", not only saying "It is me". S/he should withdraw to right or left side of the front door in order not to see inside, when the door is opened. After s/he knocks at the door or rings the bell three times if nobody answers s/he should go back without insisting much more. If s/he is invited to come in, s/he should take a step saying the "basmala" then should give "as-salam" in a hearable way. It is better to get off the right shoe first, then the left. Legs shall not be crossed during the visit, and sitting manner should be maintained. Additionally, visit time must be kept short without talking about unnecessary matters.

If s/he is invited to the meal, s/he should eat and drink with his/her right hand. Bites shall be small and there should be not talk and smacking the lips while eating. Rather than eating excessively, only one third of the stomach should be allocated for meal, one third for drinking and one third should be left empty in order to breath comfortably. In order to avoid waste, no food service much more than s/he can eat should be accepted. If s/he is host, s/he shall not sit down before the guest sits and insist on eating more excessively. It is no doubt that to wash

hands, rinse mouth and brush teeth immediately after eating are better, if it is available.

A sâlih mumin should care to talk about useful things whenever s/he talks or should remain silent. S/he should never hurt, gossip, insult, mock or curse anybody. If three persons are together, two of them should never talk between themselves, excluding the third one. It should not be ignored that in such a case, s/he may feel bad or offended.

A courteous mumin talks to the people with soft words and a smiling face. S/he knows that to talk to the people in this way is good deed by Allah (s.w.t.). Again, s/he tries not to use slang. S/he makes things easier while buying, selling or collecting debt. And s/he greets when s/he meets a Muslim brother. Salam must be give in the following order:  
From the little one

to the older; from a small group to the larger one, from those sitting in a vehicle to the pedestrian and from the pedestrian to the sitting one.

S/he responds to the person, who did a favor, with an equivalent favor if possible. If it s/he is not able to do this, s/he thanks and makes dua. And never forgets hadiths of the Prophet (s.a.w.) about this matter: *whoever does not thank people does not thank Allah*. It is not permissible for any Muslim to desert (not talk to) his brother (Muslim) for more than three days.

#### Dear My Brothers and Sisters!

Let's perform this etiquette and the similar ones, saying that "my beloved Prophet (s.a.w.) used to do such this. And He would have wanted me to do like that". And also let's try to train our children with the same intention.

May our Lord help us to follow our Prophet (s.a.w.).

