

# FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010

## PROBLEMS OF OUR DAY

### Dear Mumins!

Humanity is progressing at a dizzying speed in the field of science and technology. Every day, new inventions and discoveries join our daily life. With these alterations, our lifestyle, standard of judgment, and relationships of kinship, neighborliness, and friendship mutate to an extent. Remarks like "previous neighborliness has vanished," "recently nobody trusts anybody," and "life has no charm whatsoever" have been frequently made. All of these sentiments indicate that technologic improvements and a modern lifestyle by themselves cannot make people happy, and the balance between material and sense has been upset.

### My Dear Brothers and Sisters!

We witness the extent to which living far away from the principles of the divine revelations to the prophets (a.s.) may damage human life. Again, we see how destructive the denier and materialist movements are in the present days and today even so-called developed countries pay a high price, as do the undeveloped countries.

We see those who die from hunger on one side and those who get sick from excessive eating on other; those who live in luxury on one side, and those who have no shelter on the other; those who utilize all kinds of technological facilities on one side, and those who are forced to live in the most primitive conditions on the other; those happy minorities who enjoy 80 percent of the richness of the world but are not satisfied and try to get more on one side, and those who are content to have the remaining 20 percent and live in apprehension that this quantity would be wrested from them on the other. The consequences of staying away from

the revelation (*wahy*) are wars, tears, injustice, and oppression. This is the harsh reality of an unprincipled and measureless life.

Nevertheless, the current situation should never drive Muslims to hopelessness. If there is faith (*eiman*), there are unlimited possibilities. Please remember that our prophet who was sent as a mercy to the realms (*'alamîn*) came to a land where ignorance and injustice were intensive. He was only one person, and when he was charged in the Cave of Hira with the duty of reviving the people whose life veins had run dry, he struggled fearlessly. He produced a society of happiness

from a community of ignorance and injustice with the refreshing knowledge of revelation. He converted bandit into saint (*walî*) and taught love and compassion to the people. He became a mercy (*rahmah*) for all creatures.

So we should regain the confidence that we

have lost with His characteristic of "*Muhammad Al-Amîn*." Again, we should revive the love and compassion that has disappeared with His being of mercy for the realms. Then we should get rid of the feelings of rancor and hate with the consciousness of brotherhood, and we should also hinder injustice and oppression with the feeling of justice. Furthermore, we should put into practice the relations of neighborhood and friendship that we long for with the principle of "*He who sleeps on a full stomach while his neighbour goes hungry is not one of us*." As though the Qur'ân had been revealed during our time, we should construct our personalities with a refreshed knowledge of *wahy* and good deeds.

May Allah (s.w.t.) help us see those days when justice, love, peace, and happiness dominate the world.

