

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

December 4, 2009

DUA (Supplication)

Dear Mumins!

One of the never changing needs of human beings is to feel the support of a mighty and compassionate force besides oneself and to ask help of this force whenever he or she needs. Therefore, we frequently need to make supplications, namely dua. All of our humble prayers and submissions in front of Allah, the Exalted are a kind of dua. Similarly, all of our steps in order to gain His pleasure are dua. Our Prophet (S.a.W.) asks our attention saying, **"Dua is a kind of prayer"**¹. We make dua during our five-times-daily prayers, reading Surat-ul Fatiha, and saying **"You alone we worship and You alone we ask for help. Show us the straight path. The path of those whom Thou hast favoured; Not the (path) of those who earn Thine anger nor of those who go astray!"**².

Our exalted Lord says in the Quran as follows: **"When My servants ask you concerning Me, I am indeed close (to them): I answer to the prayer of every supplicant when he calls on Me."**³ We should not show any doubt as to the acceptance of our duas done with ikhlas, namely with the sincerity of all our heart and soul. Our duty is to make dua, and Allah's promise to us is to answer it. Allah knows all the best for us without any negligence. About this, our dear Prophet (S.a.W.) emphasizes that all duas will be answered and compensated by saying, **"Allah never rejects the request of a Muslim making dua on the earth. He either grants what one asked for, or save him from an evil that was going to happen to him, or keeps what he asked for for the next world."**⁴

Dear brothers and sisters!

A believer does not make dua to his Lord only in hardship, but he makes dua in prosperity as well, so that Allah will be with him during any difficulties. Our Prophet (S.a.W.) advised us to make dua during prosperity, saying **"Whoever wants his dua to be accepted in hardship and difficulties, should make dua in prosperity and happiness abundantly"**⁵, since dua is a kind of prayer. A believer should

prepare him- or herself by fulfilling the conditions for acceptance of the dua. He or she must spend his or her life in the way that Allah (S.w.T.) is pleased with. The first condition for the acceptance of dua is to be clean with the soul and body and to be full with iman and sincerity. As the Quran says **"For Allah loves those who turn to Him constantly and He loves those who keep themselves pure and clean."**⁶ The duas of those who are loved by Allah will be accepted.

Haram (unlawful) food and violations of Allah's servants' rights are typical obstructions to the acceptance of duas. If a believer earns his or her living the halal (lawful) way, and nurtures him- or herself with those earnings, his or her dua will be accepted. The Prophet (S.a.W.) mentions a person who travels widely, whose hair is disheveled and covered with dust **"He lifts his hand towards the sky and cries (thus makes the supplication): "O Lord, O Lord," whereas his diet is unlawful, his drink is unlawful, and his clothes are unlawful and his nourishment is unlawful. How can then his supplication be accepted?"**⁷

Dear brothers and sisters!

We should never doubt about the acceptance of our duas, when we have done obeyed these conditions. Because Allah (S.w.T.) gives us glad tidings about the acceptance of our duas, saying **"Pray upon me, and I will answer you"**⁸

I will finish my khutbah with the translation of some duas, which are recommended by our Lord in the Quran: **"Our Lord! do not punish us if we forget or make a mistake; Our Lord! do not lay on us a burden as You laid on those before us, Our Lord! do not impose upon us that which we have not the strength to bear; and pardon us and grant us protection and have mercy on us, You are our Patron, so help us against those who stand against faith! Our Lord! Give us good in this world and good in the Hereafter, and defend us from the torment of the Fire!"**⁹

¹ Ebû Dâvûd, "Vitr", 23.

² Fâtiha, 1/5-7.

³ Bakara, 2/186.

⁴ Tirmizî, "Dua", 15.

⁵ Tirmizî, "Dua"

⁶ Bakara, 2/222.

⁷ Müslim, "Zekât".

⁸ Mü'min, 40/60.

⁹ Bakara, 2/286, 201.