

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

February 13, 2009

MIRACLES AROUND US

Dear Mumins!

Allah (s.w.t.) has created human beings and demanded them to worship Him. However, due to some pretexts like excessive leaning toward worldly desires, ignorance, and self-assurance through excuses, people have forgotten Allah and have abandoned their relationship with Him. Because of this, man satisfies his birthly motives of believing and seeking refuge by seeking so-called gods that he puts before Allah. Allah (s.w.t.) sent His messengers as prophets in order to warn people in the midst of such conditions.

Holy books (kitabs) have been sent to these prophets, and some of them showed miracles according to each tribe's situation. Our Prophet's biggest miracle is the Quran itself, which he has brought. Allah (s.w.t.) says in the Quran, **'And if you are in doubt concerning that which we have sent down to our slave, then produce a Sûrah of the like thereof and call your witness besides Allah, if you are truthful.'**¹

As it is known, a miracle is something we are incapable of creating ourselves. If we look at miracles from this perspective, we realize that the Noble Qur'an will remain as a miracle until the last day. In addition, the Quran is a written miracle. There are other endless miracles people are able to comprehend, and it has been taught that the prophet Ibrahim (a.s.) found Allah (s.w.t.) in that way: **"When the night covered him over with darkness, he saw a star and said, 'this is my lord.' When the star set, he then said, 'I like not those that set.' When he saw the moon rising up, he said, 'This is my lord.' But when it set, he said, 'Unless my lord guides me, I shall surely be among the people who went astray.' When he saw the sun rising up, he said, 'This is my lord. This is greater.' But when it set, he said, 'O my people! I am indeed free from all that you join as partners (in worship with Allah). Verily, I have turned my**

face toward him who has created the heavens and the earth hanîfa, and I am not of al-mushrikûn.'²

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

To function within the cosmic universe exceeds man's capacity. For example, is it not a miracle that the earth turns both on its orbit and around the sun, Polaris is always to our north, the formation of the winds and the seasons, and the existence of fruits in a variety of tastes? Is it not also a miracle that thousands of animals exist wonderfully without training, that the bee produces without objection, that we can get milk from a cow without rebellion, that a baby duck swims as soon as it hatches out of its egg, and that a vulture can consume harmful microorganisms and survive? Sometimes we see news stories about miracles such as those written of Allah in the seed of a watermelon or the branches of the trees

bound each other like Kalimatu't-Tawhed. However, these are not bigger miracles than nature itself, considering the examples above. Truly, the Quran has attracted attention to these endless miracles in the universe. I will finish my khutba by providing a verse from the Quran as an example: **'Verily! In the creation of the heavens and the earth and in the alternation of night and day and the ships which sail through the sea with that which is of use to mankind and the water (rain), which Allah sends down from the sky and makes the earth alive therewith, after its death and the moving (living) creatures of all kinds that he has scattered therein and in the veering of winds and clouds which are held between the sky and the earth are indeed Âyât (proofs, evidences, signs) for people of understanding.'**³

I pray that my Lord will help us become disciples who can consider and gather lessons from the universe as it is expressed in this verse.



¹ Al-Baqarah, 23.

² Al-An'âm, 76-79.

³ Al-Baqarah, 164.