

## FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO MOSQUE

13 JANUARY 2012

### INSULTING, MAKING FUN OF AND LOOKING DOWN ON PEOPLE

Dear Mumins!

Insulting and making fun of and looking down on others are all strictly forbidden in Islam, because these kinds of behaviors offend others. A verse in the Holy Quran states that "O you who believe! Let not a group scoff at another group, it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor let (some) women scoff at other women, it may be that the latter are better than the former. Nor defame one another, nor insult one another by nicknames." [1] To insult, make fun of, or look down on a man means to see him as worthless. We must never forget that the human beings are the creation of Allah (swt). That is why we must never insult, make fun of, and look down on anyone. Allah (swt) says that the person who is being insulted, made fun of or looked down on is more valuable on the sight of Allah (swt) than the person who insults, makes fun of, and looks down on others. Our beloved prophet (pbuh) stated that "to look down at your Muslim brother or sister is an act of sin." [2] He (pbuh) warns people to stay away from insulting, making fun of, and looking down on others. To make fun of something or someone, to take people for granted, to look down on people, to point out others' mistakes, and to back stab are all considered as bad acts. The reason people insult, make fun of, and look down on others is that they think very highly of themselves. These badly behaved people do not respect others, and show people as worthless. This act is very similar to how the devil had very high pride when he opposed to Allah (swt). If people are not careful, they can manifest arrogance and pride in the form of devil's disease. To make fun of others and to call them by nicknames that they don't want to be called by are acts with low moral values. The only things people never forget are the times they were insulted, made fun of, and looked down on. That is why Islam strongly recommends Muslims to stay away from these kinds of bad behaviors. These kinds of bad behaviors damage people's spiritual lives. People who insult, make fun of others, and look down on other human beings are considered as low class people with no moral values. Islam not only encourages us to be kind to people but our religion also encourages us to be kind to animals as well. We must never treat any animals badly. To look down at Muslims, to talk to them arrogantly,



and to treat them unkindly is considered to be a very bad attitude. Quran clearly states that the people who display bad actions such as hurting people spiritually, taking advantage of their finances, backing up after promising to help them, creating very uncomfortable atmosphere, making fun of their honor and dignity, creating gossip and back stabbing are all examples of sins. All these unpleasant acts are strictly prohibited in Islam. Color, race, family status, wealth, and position can not create dominance among people. If we hurt others with our irresponsible acts, if we act selfishly, if people feel sad and families are

separated in order to satisfy our own needs then simply we create a damaged society. Such a society cannot remain standing still for a long period. So let's love and help one another. I would like to finish my hutba with our beloved prophet's (pbuh) words "after your faith your biggest deed is to love your Muslim brothers and sisters. If you don't then your faith is not complete and perfected." [3]

1- Al-Hujurat/11

2- Riyazus-Salihin 3/156

3- (Bukhari)