

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

June 4th, 2010

COMPASSION

Dear Mu'mins!

Quran, our holy book, refers to Allah's (s.w.t.) attributes in various verses. For example: He is Alîm (the All-knower), Azîz (the Mighty), Hakîm (the Wise), Ghafûr (Forgiving). Yet, why did Allah (s.w.t.) mention about such kind of attributes in Quran? We can think of two reasons. First, in order that people know about the Exalted Lord, and second, in order that they try to gain these attributes for themselves...

Quran starts with the surah Fatiha. The first verse of the Fatiha is BISMILLAHIR-RAHMANIRRAHIM and the first two attributes of Allah (S.w.T.) that are taught are Rahman (Most beneficent) and Rahîm (Most merciful). He is firstly Rahman. He (s.w.t.) has created the earth for the people by the manifestation of His beneficence and has presented all beings to their service. Then He has bestowed His favors upon all the people on the earth without separating them as Muslims and non-Muslims. He has compassion for them because they are **human beings** and He never discriminates them against the mumins.

During the history He has sent many prophets (peace be upon them) because their communities were solely **human beings** and without considering they did or did not know anything about Him.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Allah, the Exalted sent His apostle, Muhammad (s.a.w.) to the mankind as the Prophet of Mercy, not with an ordinary

attribute¹. Thus when the people of Tâif threw stones to the Prophet (s.a.w.) and Jabrâîl (a.s.) proposed to destroy them by hitting two mountains each other, He (s.a.w.) did not give permission to Jabrâîl (a.s.). In another case, when it was said to Muhammad (s.a.w.) " O Messenger of Allah! Curse the infidels", He replied "I am not sent for this but as mercy to mankind."



Why did the Prophet (s.a.w.) forbid injuring the innocent children, women and old ones even in the wars? Is it not a war? Are they not enemies? Yet, first of all they are human. Whatever it is happening, they deserve compassion, respect, and kindness

much more than every thing.

Perhaps most of you heard the hadith telling about a man who rewarded with going to paradise because He watered a dog, which was about to die from thirst, by taking water out of a well with his shoe.² If this kind of compassion could be a cause to go to the paradise, does not the compassion and kindness shown to the human help achieve bigger rewards.

Briefly, to be human solely means to deserve compassion and respect. Thus a Muslim should try to have a character similar to the merciful and beneficent attributes of Allah (S.w.T.). He should conduct his social relations with the principle of "Human First", and he should be very merciful and respectful to the others.

¹ Al-Anbiyâ, 107: *We have not sent you but as a mercy to the worlds.*

² Riyâdu's-Salihîn, Hadith no: 1608.