

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

May 21th, 2010

THE HOSPITALITY

Dear, Mumins!

As you know, our religion has ordered us to help and support each other. Allah (s.w.t.) has commended to make goodness and kindness widespread among mumins, decreeing as follows: 'Help you one another in kindness and piety...'¹. As a result of this, Muslims fulfill all kind of goodness and kindness within the worship sensibilities. Kindness shown about the hospitality is a consequence of this belief and understanding. To open our door and heart for a guest is one of the best models for the value given to human in our religion, and for the brotherhood, the solidarity, the sharing and the unity.

Dear Mumins!

The core of treating very hospitably to the guest lies in this model of the Prophet (s.a.w.), where He advises us like this: "...Anybody who believes in Allah and the Last Day should entertain his guest generously..."² The Messenger of Allah (s.a.w.), advising this was pleased to entertain guests in person. Usually a guest or a needy person used to be present at His meal. Our Prophet (s.a.w.) has expressed that the prayer of a guest is among the prayers accepted³ and emphasized that good and abundance would surely reach to the people of the house in which guests were entertained.⁴ He has warned those who do not like to entertain guests, although they have possibility by this remark: 'There is no khayr (good) in someone who does not like to entertain guest'⁵



Another model for us on entertaining guest is Ibrahim (a.s.). Quran has pointed out that we should take him as a model on this matter by explaining his hospitality for guests whom

He was unacquainted with. 'Has the story reached you, of the honoured guests of Ibrahim? When they came in to him and said: 'Salâm!' He answered: 'Salâm!' and said: 'You are a people unknown to me. Then he withdrew to his family, and brought out a roasted calf. And placed it before them, (saying): 'Will you not eat?''⁶ In this example, it has been emphasized that guest should be treated with warm interest, love, respect and pleasure. So, only giving material things like food or drink can not be a pleasing treat. It is a matter which would be taken as

model that Ibrahim (a.s.) invited the guests into his home, replying their Salam in the best way and withdrew silently from their presence and also presented the best meal in the house.

So Dear Brothers and Sisters!

If we can entertain somebody, whom we know or do not know, who came to our house, our city or our country whatever his or her religion, national origin or cultural background is, with warm face, showing the best interest and can have him left being glad about us, it will be a behavior that Allah (s.w.t.) may like.

I would like to finish my khutba with a hadith:

"Three supplications are surely answered: the supplication of the wronged, the traveler's supplication, and the prayer of the parent against his or her child."⁷

¹ Al-Mâidah, 5/2.

² Bukharî, Adab, 85.

³ Abu Dâvûd, Witr, 29; Tirmizî, Daawât, 47.

⁴ Ibn Mâjah, At'imah, 55.

⁵ Ibn Hanbal, IV, 155.

⁶ Adh-Dhâriyât, 51/24-27.

⁷ Abû Dâvûd, Witr, 29.