

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

February 26th, 2010

THE DEATH

Dear Mumins!

Holy Quran reminds us with the verse of **"Everyone shall taste death"**¹ that the death is an inevitable reality of the life. Probably, what this verse emphasizes is not to announce something already known, but to warn the human to be ready for the death. Our Prophet (s.a.w.) said as follows: *"Remember the destroyer of pleasures (meaning death) frequently."*² And in another hadith it was advised to think about what will be inside the tomb: *"Remember decaying of the bones and corpse in the tomb after dieing. The one who would prefer the hereafter leaves the ornament of the worldly life."*³



The person who regards the death as disappearing from this world and as a finish is far away from the meaning and purpose of the life. It is a game and combination of coincidences for him. And the tomb is a door to the darkness; ajal (time of death) is a separation from all beloved ones on condition that he will never return. He tries as much as possible to expel the death from his life. He also tries to be far away from all things that reminds the death. Just because of this, the soul of an unbeliever is in misery and pain. What can give comfort to such a person? While even a single electron of lifeless and unconscious materials does not disappear, is it fair to think that human, the master of the earth, will be a handful worthless soil after the death?

The human will definitely be asked for all the blessings and trusts that s/he has been given. Then he will be sent either to

the paradise or to the hell for reward or punishment.

Recently in modern cities, the cemeteries are being established in far places in order not to disturb (!) the people. Those who do not think to transform inside of their tomb to the garden of paradise, prefer to adorn it like a monument. It will be useful to remember that visiting the cemetery might have been lawful not for the **death** person but for the **living** visitor to take lesson.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

It should not be forgotten that we should avoid from the kufr words regarding the death like fearing hell. To insult Azra'îl (a.s.) because of it is the angel of death and to picture it like a man who got a scythe in his hand is never appropriate for a mumin. And expressions such "Azra'îl got his/her life in a wrong place" "S/he is fighting with Azra'îl" or "his death was not well-timed" are statements which should never come from a muslim's mouth.

Yes, we can not know where the death waits for us. Thus let's wait it in everywhere. Are you ready for this blessing journey dear brother? There is no use of the delicious food eaten yesterday or something pleasurable for today. And what it would remain for tomorrow is only good or evil deeds.

I pray Allah to give all of us this conscious and would like to finish my khutba with a verse of Quran: **"O you who believe! Fear Allah and keep your duty to Him. And let every person look to what he sent forth for the morrow..."**⁴

¹ Âl 'Imrân, 185.

² Tirmizî, Qiyamah, 26; Nasaî, Janâiz, 3. Ibn Mâjah, Zuhd, 31.

³ Tirmizî, Qiyamah, 26; Ahmad b. Hanbal, I/387.

⁴ Al-Hashr, 18.