

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

November 6, 2009

THE PROPHETS (A.S.)

Dear Mumins!

Allah (s.w.t.) ordained His decrees to humans through the Prophets by using a special channel, which is called wahy (revelation). Humans may obtain higher degrees in this world, may become rich, and may gain senior positions by working. Yet they can never become a prophet by working, because Allah chooses whomever He wishes as His prophet. 1

According to what the Qur'ân has stated, a prophet was sent to each nation. So, a warning prophet surely existed within every nation. 2 The most important thing is to believe in all prophets without discrimination. Therefore, it has been deemed that believing some of them while disbelieving others is an abjuration of the religion. 3



Dear Mumins!

The Prophets (a.s.) are good, straightforward, trustworthy, far removed from sins, and clever and intelligent people since they must convey thoroughly to humans the orders and prohibitions they have received from Allah (s.w.t.). On the other hand, they used to eat, drink, walk around, sit and stand up, get tired, get married, have children, get sick, and die just like the rest of us. 4 None of the prophets who were honored with the revelation and had outstanding characteristics bore features of the godhead. Unless Allah wished, they could not provide benefits for or eliminate harm from anyone. As well, they could not know gâib, (unseen, future etc.) except as Allah informed them.

My Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Nuh (a.s.), Ibrahim (a.s.), Musa (a.s.), Isa (a.s.), and Muhammad (s.a.w.), among all of the prophets, are the superior prophets (ulu'l-

'azm) from the perspective of their grade in the presence of Allah. Ulu'l-'azm means the one who performs his responsibilities even under the harshest conditions. Indeed, these prophets were able to overcome very severe obstacles, torments, and oppression with patience while performing their mission.

The prophets sometimes demonstrated some miracles while they were conveying the message of Allah to the people. These miracles are the extraordinary occurrences

that Allah (s.w.t.) bestowed upon the prophets in order to convince the disbelievers. The Qur'ân has exemplified the miracles granted unto some the prophets. For example, Nimrod, the sovereign of Bâbil, threw Ibrahim (a.s.) into the fire, but it did not burn him. Musa (a.s.) threw His stick on the ground and it

turned into a large snake. Then, it swallowed up the ropes of the magicians that curled like the snake in the presence of Pharaoh. Afterwards, he drew out his hand and it was white with radiance for the beholders. He struck the sea with his stick and it parted. Using clay, Isa (a.s.) made a figure like that of a bird and breathed into it until it became animated and flew. He also brought forth the dead and healed those born blind. Upon the desires of hawariyyûn (the disciples) a table spread with food was sent from the heaven. All of these are examples of the miracles that came true with Allah's permission.

Let's read, study and think about the lives of the prophets, particularly those whose stories were told in the Qur'ân. Let's pass along the lessons from their stories and those of their tribes to those to whom they were sent.

¹ Al-Jumu'ah, 4.

² Al-Fâtir, 24; An-Nahl, 36.

³ Refer to: An-Nisâ, 150-151.

⁴ Refer to: Âl 'Imrân, 144; Ar-Ra'd, 38; Al-Kahf, 10; Al-Furqân, 20.