

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

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THE CONSULTATION OF OUR PROPHET (S.A.W.) WITH HIS WIVES

Dear Mumins!

There is no doubt that the human is a social being. Since it is a social being, it is naturally a being with emotions, thoughts and opinions in relation to specific matters. Consequently, the human desires that he or she should be taken into consideration. As for the mates who live together and stand up against troubles and sadness together, this state is of a greater importance. Therefore, it is an inevitable fact that the mates should ask for each other's opinion and consult with each other. Another meaning of consultation (istishara or mushawara) is to pick the honey up from assorted flowers and beehives.

Dear Mumins!

Our Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.), the model man, the perfect personality, consulted with his wives on various matters from time to time, and attached great importance to their thoughts and opinions. Thus, the correctness of claimed narration of the Prophet (s.a.w.) which says, "*consult with your wives but to act conversely to what they said*" can certainly be doubted. Since this narration is not reliable and sound from the aspect of hadith methodology, it also does not exist in the accurate (sahih) hadith sources.

Dear Mumins!

We know that the Prophet (s.a.w.) consulted with our mother, Hadijah (r.anha) about the troubled situation when He was addressed with the first revelation. She tried to console and calm Him, then took Him to Waraka bin Nawfal, her uncle, whom she had thought might propose a decisive solution.¹

Again, the following narration is also an example that attracts attention about

this matter: Rasulullah (s.a.w.) ordered his companions to slaughter their sacrifices and to shave their heads just after The Treaty of Hudaibiya. But they acted reluctantly in executing the order because they had deemed the conditions of that treaty as being against Muslims. Though He repeated the order, nothing changed. Our beloved Prophet (s.a.w.), who was very upset by this state, went to the tent of Umm Salamah, His wife, and told her about the circumstance. Umm Salamah suggested the following: "O the Prophet of Allah! Go out and slaughter your sacrifice and shave your head, all of them shall comply with you." He fulfilled this suggestion. Whereupon the companions gave up acting with their emotions, which had perpetuated until that moment, and they complied with the order.²



Beside the consultations with the companions, Our Prophet (s.a.w.) also consulted with Zainab binti Jahsh, his other wife, while deciding how to act towards the slander made upon our mother, Aisha (r.anha.).³

Those and other similar behaviors of Rasulullah (s.a.w.) remind us, once again, how much our Prophet (s.a.w.) valued His wives. He (s.a.w.), in fact, was not in need of their opinion or of anyone's thoughts at all because He (s.a.w.) was supported with the revelation from Allah (s.w.t). However, He (s.a.w.) wanted to teach believers and all people about this ethical principle.

We need to know our Prophet (s.a.w.) and incorporate His life principles into our lives. Salat and salam be upon You, O Rasulullah!

¹ Ibn Hisham, as-Siratu'n-Nabawiyah.

² Waqidî, Kitabu'l-Maghâzî.

³ Muslim, Taubah, 6673.