

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

March 6, 2009

THE SPLENDID MORALITY OF OUR PROPHET S.A.W.

Dear Mumins!

No religion or thought places such importance on morality as the teaching of Islam. The Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) has said, "*Islam is splendid morality*" thus showing the importance of this matter.

The hadiths about our Prophet (s.a.w.) that recommend good morals and reprove bad deeds are numerous enough to make a book. The Prophet (s.a.w.) said, "*The best among you are the best in having good manners.*" Not only did He say these words but he also has embodied these virtues, as examples to the believers. The Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.) was radiant, polite, and elegant, and had a delicate sensibility. He was not harsh and never hurt others. He never said a hard or rough word. He did not criticize others, nor did he reproach anyone to his face. Anas (r.a.), who worked as the Prophet's servant for ten years in Madina, said "*I served the Prophet (s.a.w.) for ten years, but He had never criticized me by emotion, and I've never heard Him say 'Why did you do this' or 'Why didn't you do that.'*" When He saw a wrong or unpleasant behavior, He simply said, "*Some among you do so and so.*" Thus, He was correcting the wrongs and faults without revealing who had committed these behaviors and without offending anybody.

He never interrupted conversations; on the contrary, He listened until the speaker was finished. He did not like to quarrel and he was no more wordy than necessary. He also did not try to search for hidden situations in others. Other than disrespect for Allah, He has forgiven every wrong done to him no matter how awful it might have been, and He never sought revenge even when he had the opportunity.

He was extremely noble and he had substantial humility. He dealt with all people equally and never distinguished rich from poor, slave from master, or adult from child. He was trustworthy about everything and carried out every promise on time. It was never seen that He lied, which explains why

He was called "**Mohammad al-Amin**" before becoming The Prophet. Consequently, when he was informed of his prophethood, even people who had not believed him could not say about him, "He is a liar," or "He told a lie." When Allah's Messenger gathered his nearest relatives on the hill of Safa to invite them to Islam, He said "*Do you believe if I say that you have the enemy's cavalymen behind this mountain?*" They answered, "*We all trust you, since no one has ever heard you tell a lie.*" He requested that everyone be as honest as He was.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Allah's Messenger was the most generous of people. Everything that he obtained was given to the people who needed it. No one turned around with an empty hand.

He was exceedingly humble and modest. When He came gathering, He never wanted anyone to stand in his presence; instead, He found a vacant place and sat. He never stretched his legs while sitting with His friends. Although His friends were always very willing and honored to do work on his behalf, He always preferred to accomplish

these tasks on His own. At home, in fact, he helped the women with housework. He never consented to being praised or being shown respect in excess. He took pleasure in being with poor people and doing work for the poor, widows, and those who had no one else to rely on. He ate what he found and wore what he found. When nothing was to be found, he went to bed without eating. He did His work in perfect balance and complete order. The time for prayer and worship, the time for sleep and rest, and the time for guests were all neatly organized. He never wasted time, but assumed all moments to be significant. He said: "*Many people are at a loss in two respects, good health and spare time.*"

I congratulate your Mawlid an-Nabi that we will attain on Sunday night, hoping that this ideal way of splendid morality, which was practiced by our Prophet Muhammad (s.a.w.), is indeed the example for today's Muslims to follow.

