

## FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010

### SUMMONS METHOD OF THE PROPHET (S.A.W.)

#### Dear Mumins!

Muhammad (s.a.w.) has been described in the Qur'ân "as one who invites to Allah."<sup>1</sup> Also, it has been emphasized that He was *mubashshir* (the bearer of glad tidings) and *nazîr* (warner), therefore His prophethood is characterized as universal.

Our Prophet carried out His summons (*dawah*) mission, which started from His closest relatives and friends and exceeded the Arabian Peninsula in a very successful way throughout His prophethood. The summons methods that He executed had the characteristics of being coherent, logical, systematic, realistic, and led to success.

#### Dear Mumins!

There are various factors that contributed to our Prophet's success in *dawah*. First of all, He devoted himself to the religion to which He called upon and put the principles of this religion into practice in His own life. In other words, He himself performed the obligations (*fards*) and complied with the prohibitions. He also explained those principles to His close relatives and friends and helped them to implement them into their own lives.

Another factor in His success in *dawah* activities was that He never fell into hopelessness or pessimism and continued, constantly, His works with patience, firm intention, faith, and stability. He sustained social relations continuously and utilized these relations to a great extent. For example, He insistently continued His relevance to people who had not converted to Islam yet, beyond His relations with His Muslim companions. Taking into consideration all effects on society, He showed special interest in the leaders of numerous tribes. Moreover, He arranged

gatherings to deliver His *dawah* and performed the activity of *tabligh* (notification) whenever there was an occasion in which people gather, such as bazaar, fair, festival, or house. He did not despise anybody or any profession.

#### Dear Mumins!

Rasulullah (s.a.w.) attached great importance to knowing His people. He addressed their emotions, desires, and personal characteristics. He respected and valued them and tried to come close to them. Furthermore, He preferred forgiveness, tolerance, respect, tenderness, kindness, and compassion to rancor, rage, toughness, and tyranny in His activities. It has been decreed in the Qur'ân that the Prophet dealt with the people gently by the mercy of Allah and that if He had been severe and harsh-hearted, they would have broken away from Him.

The Prophet of mercy never forced anybody to accept Islam. This was because His mission was not to implement the religion by force, but to notify Islam and warn. To force people to convert to Islam causes undesirable results and leads lies to spread that Islam opposes definitely and that it makes people two-faced. However, Islam urges followers to be sincere (*ikhlas*) and to believe in their heart. Furthermore, our beloved Prophet did never expect any personal benefit from His works. Likewise, the Qur'ân expresses that He did not demand any wage for the mission of warning and giving glad tidings. After He passed away, Muslims throughout history have accepted to serve for Islam as a compulsory mission.

How happy are those who have Rasulullah (s.a.w.) as a guide for themselves.

How happy are those who try to convey His message to all people.



<sup>1</sup> Al-Ahzâb, 46.