

FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII

MI 'RÂJ

June 24, 2011

Dear Mumins!

Tuesday night, on June 28, is Mi'râj Night, the 27th night of Rajab. Mi'râj is one of the most significant miracles of our beloved Prophet (s.a.w.). On this night, Rasulullah was taken from Masjid al-Haram to Masjid al-Aqsâ, and from there he ascended to more exalted realms. The Qur'an explains about this journey that was full of secrets and wisdom as follows: "**Glorified (and Exalted) be He (Allah) who took His slave for a journey by night from al-Masjid al-Harâm to al-Masjid al-Aqsâ, the neighborhood whereof We have blessed, in order that We might show him of our evidences. Verily, He is the All-Hearer, the All-Seer.**"¹

Dear Mumins!

As our holy book expresses, almost every prophet had encountered great oppression while proclaiming our Lord's summons. They were insulted, called as mad or wizards, stoned, forced to leave their homeland, and some had even been murdered. The process of our Prophet's call was no different from the previous summons. Upon receiving the decree, "**O you enveloped in garments! Arise and warn!**"² the oppression for this sacred mission began and continued to increase.

On the other hand, in the tenth year of His prophethood, the death of Khadîjah (r.anha), His wife, and Abû Tâlib, His uncle who had not begrudged his support at the grueling moments pulled at his heartstrings. Therefore, that year was called "sadness year." Allah (s.w.t.) invited His beloved Rasûl to *âlam*

al-malakût (highest realms) in order to console Him, to show His exalted omnipotence behind this sublime dawah, and to herald that this religion would reach perfection even though the unbelievers did not like it.

One night, while Rasulullah (s.a.w.) was in Ka'bah, Jabrâîl (a.s.) came and took Him to Quds by convincing Him to ride unto a mount called *Burâq*. Rasulullah performed a prayer of two *rak'ats*. Then Jabrâîl (a.s.) took Him up to the heavens. While passing seven heavens, He met some previous prophets. He was admitted to the divine presence in *sidratu'l-muntahâ*.

Allah (s.w.t.) revealed some verses to Him there. Among them was the obligation of the five-times prayer.

Dear My Brothers and Sisters!

Isrâ and Mi'râj were miracles. Those miracles could not be explained with reason; they are believed. We accept these miracles without any doubt just as Abû Bakr (r.a.) said, "if Muhammad (s.a.w.) had told this, it was right" and we do completely believe what He (s.a.w.) taught.

As an ummah (believer) of the Prophet upon whom Allah has bestowed so many divine blessings on Mi'râj Night, let us endeavor to benefit from the blessings and abundance and the forgiveness and pardon of this night. Let us pledge that we will never neglect the five-times prayer, which is the most valuable gift of Mi'râj for us, the pillar of the religion, mi'râj of mumin, the radiance of our eyes. Let us pray for salvation of Masjid al-Aqsâ, the first stop of Mi'râj, and the oppressed ones who live there.

I congratulate you on your Mi'râj Night in advance and invoke Allah (s.w.t.) that it will be a cause for goodness in the Islamic world.



¹ Al-Isrâ, 17/1.

² Al-Muddaththir, 74/12-2.