

**FRIDAY KHUTBA OF TOKYO CAMII**  
**WISDOMS OF THE PRAYER (SALAT)**

August 19, 2011

**Dear Mumins,**

According to our religion, the most significant duty towards Allah (s.w.t.) after the belief is the prayer (salat). The prayer is a worship that we perform within our heart, and with our tongue and body in order to present our gratitude to Allah (s.w.t.) and to exalt Him, as well as to ask that He forgives our faults.

First of all, prayer is an obligation. It is performed, since it has been ordered by Allah (s.w.t.). At the same time, as in all other forms of worship, there are many religious, worldly, spiritual, ethical, social, and even bodily wisdoms and benefits in prayer. Prayer, Salat, which is a pillar of the religion according to the statement<sup>1</sup> of Rasulallah (s.a.w.), is a shelter<sup>2</sup> at grueling moments and a position of gratitude at cheerful times.

As it has been pointed out in the Qur'an, prayer, when properly conducted, is medicine for the disease of stinginess<sup>3</sup>, and propulsive power for social solidarity and helping each other. While performing salat five times in a day, we express our submission and reliance (tawakkul) on Allah (s.w.t.), saying, "**You (alone) we worship and You (alone) we ask for help**"<sup>4</sup> forty times. Salat dignifies the soul, rescues the one from the torment of hell, leads to paradise, extends the life, and eradicates fatigue. By underlining its relaxing features, our Prophet (s.a.w.) used to say: "*O Bilâl! Call iqamah for prayer: give us comfort by it.*"<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> At-Tirmidhî, Eiman, 8.

<sup>2</sup> Al-Baqarah, 153.

<sup>3</sup> Al-Ma 'ârij, 21-22.

<sup>4</sup> Al-Fatihah, 5.

<sup>5</sup> Abû Dâwûd, Adab, 78.

**Dear Brothers and Sisters!**

As the psychologists declare, the life of the one who performs salat with humility and sincerity is refreshed, his/her energy increases, and surely, s/he becomes more successful and more productive. Salat soothes anger, scatters discomfort and removes sorrow. Aisha (r.anha), our mother, narrated that "*Rasulullah (s.a.w.) used to perform salat whenever He*

*encountered any upsetting or gloomy occurrence.*"<sup>6</sup> Salat is a symbol of equality; it combines mumins with each other and binds their hearts to Allah (s.w.t.). In the house or workplace in which the prayer is performed,

there is movement, action, liveliness and order.

**Dear Brothers and Sisters!**

Let us not neglect our salats that put our physical and spiritual life in order, equipping us with countless wisdom. Between two prayers, the soul is cleaned and purified through performing salat. "***In the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest.***"<sup>7</sup>

Let us finish our khutbah with a hadith of the Prophet (s.a.w.): "*Allah, the Exalted, has made five prayers obligatory. If anyone performs ablution for them well, offers them at their (right) time, and observes perfectly their bowing and submissiveness in them, it is the guarantee of Allah that He will pardon him; if anyone does not do so, there is no guarantee for him on the part of Allah; He may pardon him if He wills, and punish him if He wills.*"<sup>8</sup>

<sup>6</sup> Hanbal, I, 206.

<sup>7</sup> Ar-Ra'd, 28.

<sup>8</sup> Abu Dâwûd, Salat, 9.

