

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH MOST GRACIOUS MOST COMPASSIONATE

BLESSED FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD COMPANIONSHIP

Praise be to God, the great knower of the Unseen, in the bounty of Him and in His mercy therein let the hearts rejoin. I bear witness that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah, who , thanks to blessed companionship, has led to righteousness, nice sayings, disclaiming of misdeeds and abandonment of faults. I also bear witness that Muhammad (Pbuh) , His Prophet and Messenger , the descendant of the noblest ancestry and the most honest creatures to fellow. He was spontaneously awed by whoever saw him and loved by whoever contacted and knew him. May Allah grant peace and honor on him, his family, companions and whoever followed him in truth to the Day of Judgment.

O servants of Allah

Undoubtedly, Islam guides people to the most virtuous morals and the most beautiful qualities. The prophet (Pbuh) has summarized his mission in these words ((I was sent to perfect good manners)).Islam is the source of good morals, and among the morals for which Islam advocates and exhorts people to embrace are the qualities of socializing and communicating with others. Including the nice things that are subjected by Allah is that He created people in need and disposed them by nature of helplessness. Therefore, the human being can not be independent from others. Thus, Allah has attributed weakness to his people. He said [And Allah wants to lighten for you [your difficulties]; and mankind was created weak]¹.Actually the human being is weak because he is inherently in need for others. So Man is indispensable for his fellow Man , for Man alone is worth nothing but when with his fellows is worth too much (Two heads are better than one). The Prophet (Pbuh) said (A believer who mixes with people and stands for their evil, is better than he who does not mix with people or stand for their evil).

O brothers in faith

¹ Surat An-Nisā'-28

Since Islam calls upon us to communicate with people, it rather commands us to be committed to whatever makes these relationships we establish with them permanent and forbids whatever makes them ephemeral. Including the main things which help to make these relations perpetual is honesty in sayings and deeds, for sincerity instills love and intimacy between people. However, the fruit of lying turns out to be bitter and ugly. The prophet (Pbuh) used to hate lies and liars. Al Sayeda Aicha (May Allah be pleased with her), reported (There was no behavior more hateful to the Messenger of Allah than lying. A man would lie when narrating something in the presence of the Prophet and he would not be satisfied until he knew that he had repented). In effect, honesty deepens affection however, lying ruins and destroy it. From the most important types of honesty is honesty in making promises, for the person who does not respect his word will not be respected by anyone. It was reported in the Hadith (Muslims stand on their terms). It is considered an act of dishonesty when someone utters words inadvertently; without having a definite intention to achieve what he says and to fulfill his promises. So, before giving any promise, Man should examine it carefully and commits himself to it. The true believer is the one who makes true whatever he says and makes his best not to break his promises. Almighty God says: [O you who have believed, why you say what you do not do? Great is hatred in the sight of Allah that you say what you do not do]². People should fulfill the promises they make and covenants which are agreed upon. Let us observe together, Servants of God, the verses of Quran that insist on the necessity to fulfill the promises and vows that we make and prohibit deceit. Our Exalted and Glorified God says [And fulfill [every] commitment. Indeed, the commitment is ever [that about which one will be] questioned]³. Almighty God says as well [And fulfill the covenant of Allah when you have taken it, [O believers], and do not break oaths after their confirmation while you have made Allah, over you, a witness. Indeed, Allah knows what you do.]⁴. In effect, discrimination in making virtues is not allowed, which means that a person should not be faithful with some persons and untruthful with some others. Moreover, Islam has made from fulfillment of covenants and the commitment to promises a basic condition for everybody regardless of his creed and tongue. Almighty God says [O you who have believed, be persistently standing firm for Allah, witnesses in justice, and do not let the hatred of a people prevent you from being just. Be just; that is nearer to righteousness. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is Acquainted with what you do]⁵. The prophet peace and blessings be upon him, is reported to have said while referring to Hilf al-Fudul, an alliance that was

² Surat Aş-Şaf-2-3

³ Surat Al-'Isrā'-34

⁴ Surat An-Naĥl-91

⁵ Surat Al-Mā'idah-8

created in Jahiliyyah (The time of ignorance before Islam) (“If I am invited to join a similar (alliance) after the spread of Islam, I will, surely, join it).

O believers

Among the aspects of blessed friendship is that a person should love for his brother what he loves for himself, and opt for whatever good for all human beings. For instance, if a person gains an excessive material profit, he should let others avail it. Actually Islam appreciates the exchange of gifts between people for the various advantages it has. In effect it improves relationships, deepens friendships, removes the evil spirits which spread hatred and disloyalty in the breasts of mankind and destroys the feelings of love and serenity. The prophet (Pbuh) says (exchange gifts, love one another and Shake hands, for this will dispel rancor and dispel hatred). Among the ethics of keeping close contact with people is to cooperate with them. It is in reality a moral and cultural demeanor that Islam has commanded us to adhere to and urged us to be committed to. The blessed and exalted Allah says [And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression]⁶. The prophet (Pbuh) said (Allah helps His servant as long as he helps his brother). How it is great when somebody is in an urgent need of money and finds people who can help him with a goodly loan. Many thanks to Glorified and Almighty Allah who provided the lender with enough savings, which allow him to help his brothers in need.

O servants of Allah

Fear Allah and be aware that establishing good ties with people is one sign of faith because it helps in breaking away with troubles and ensuring the sense of peace and reassurance.

I say this saying of mine, and I seek forgiveness from Allah for me and for you, and to the rest of the Muslims, so ask Him for forgiveness, He is the forgiver, the Merciful and call upon Him, He will respond to you, as Allah is the most generous.

Praise be to The Victorious and Almighty God who ordered his servants to stick to good sayings and nice deeds and promised to grant them His pardon, forgiveness, love and satisfaction. I bear witness that there is no God worthy of worship except Allah, Glorified and Exalted Be He who always loves good words and deeds. I also bear witness that Muhammad (Pbuh) , is His Prophet and Messenger ,He made beauty and loveliness inherent in him and granted him as well with venerability and wisdom. Therefore, he grew up with a big love of virtues and abstention from

⁶ Surat Al-Mā'idah

wickedness. May Allah grant peace and honor on him, his family, companions and whoever followed him in truth to the Day of Judgment.

O servants of God

Good companionship for which Islam has constantly advocated its believers is the companionship which encompasses those who are close to us and even those we do not know, our enemies and also those we love. The true believer should keep good relationships with others, have good morals, and be honest with every human being. The prophet (Pbuh) used to be a good friend to his companions and to his enemies who caused him harm and were hostile to him as well. When the chief of hypocrites wanted to cause harm to the Messenger of Allah, May Allah grant him peace and honor, along with his companions, they said as it has been reported in Quran ["If we return to al-Madinah, the more honored [for power] will surely expel there from the more humble.]"⁷ and here he meant the Prophet (Pbuh) and his immigrant companions. When this incident took place, the prophet of Allah (Pbuh) did not seize to be a good fellow and companion to that hypocrite. He rather asked his companions (let us be friendly to him as long as he lives with us)).

O Muslims

The true Muslim should be good companion to others at all times, whether in residence or travel, or in places of work as well. Those who are brought together by an institution or company or ministry, or locality or street or district shall strengthen their brotherhood and deepen their relationships. This makes souls rest in relief and peace and people can fulfill their duties properly, as they are shielded under the roof of good friendship safely and peacefully, while they know very well that if they ever fall in mistakes, they will find the right person to pull them back from it and help them to overcome troubles. Whereas, the consequences of bad relationships are bitter as because of them, troubles multiply, mistakes become bigger, and accusations against innocent people become easy to fabricate out of hatred, envy and resentment. This also may lead to the spread of lies, and tongues become accustomed to malicious rumors and suspicious stories. Therefore, people will lose sight of the work required from them and will find salvation from these disadvantages and defects only with good friendship and loving hearts.

⁷ Surat Al-Munāfiqūn

O servants of Allah

Fear Allah and be conscious that close relationships, good communications and truthful companionship with others are a fence that save affection and protects brotherhood .they are the feature of the most righteous people and the character of the chosen and beloved Prophet , May Allah grant him peace and honor.

So, send your blessings upon the leader of Messengers, as Allah has ordered you in the Holy book by saying: [Indeed, Allah and His Angels send blessings upon the Prophet. O you who believe! Send blessings on him and greet him (with) greetings]⁸.

O Allah! Send your mercy on Muhammad and on the family of Muhammad, as You sent Your mercy on Abraham and on the family of Abraham. And send Your blessings on Muhammad and the family of Muhammad, as You sent your Blessings on Abraham and on the family of Abraham. Verily You are the Most Praise-worthy, the Most Glorious.

O Allah! Be content with his Righteous Caliphs, his wives mothers of believers, his companions all together and the believers, men and women to the Day of Judgment, and be content with us too by Your Mercy, O Most Merciful.

O Allah! Bless our gathering here today and make us disperse in peace and in protection from sin and not to make us deficient in our religion.

O Allah! We ask you guidance, piety, chastity and wealth.

O Allah! We ask you to grant each of us honest tongue, humbled penitent heart, righteous deeds, useful knowledge, firmly belief, pure faith and lawful and blesses sustenance. O Allah you are the most glorious and honourable.

O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims! And grant support and unity to Islam and Muslims, O Allah! Let down tyrants and infidels. O Allah! Grant peace and security to all your servants.

O Allah! Grant us security in our homelands! Grant us long-lasting safety and stability in our homeland! Grant glory to our Sultan and support him with the truth and make him a guide to truth.

O Allah! Send upon us rain from the sky in showers and make us among those who remember you during day and night and who seek your forgiveness during evening and dawn.

⁸ Surate Al-Ahazab- 56

O Allah! Bestow us the blessings of the sky and the bounties of the earth and bless our fruits and crops and our entire livelihood. O Allah you are the most glorious and honourable.

O Allah! Give us in this world good and in the Hereafter good and protect us from the punishment of the Fire."

O Allah! Let not our hearts deviate after You have guided us and grant us from Yourself mercy. Indeed, You are the Bestower.

O Allah! We have wronged ourselves, and if You do not forgive us and have mercy upon us, we will surely be among the losers."

O Allah! Forgive all the believing men and women, those of them who were living and those of them who were dead, you are the most hearing and respondent.

Slaves of Allah! [Allah commands justice, the doing of good, and liberality to kith and kin, and He forbids all shameful deeds, and injustice and rebellion: He instructs you, that you may remember.]