

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH MOST GRACIOUS MOST COMPASSIONATE

THE MAKING UP OF THE MINDS AND RESPECT OF IDEAS

Praise be to Allah, to him belongs the creation, the command and the planning , who bestowed his servants with the grace of thought, and I bear witness that there is no God but Allah who has created each and every thing and determined it with [precise] determination, He is always capable of doing everything He wills, and I bear witness that our prophet and Messenger Muhammed (Pbuh), who was entrusted by his God to deliver a religion which encompasses time and space and spreads throughout the earth peace and safety .May Allah grant peace and honor on him, his family , companions and whoever trusted his guidance and follows his Sunnah to the day of judgment.

O servants of Allah !

Fear the majesty of the Lord , and be aware that Islam is a religion that advocates unity and brotherhood, as well as safety, trustworthiness and honesty. It is a religion that appreciates every wise thinking and good opinion, as it respects the life and the living, and its teachings upright with the nature of things. From this perspective, Islam dedicated the mind with thought because thinking is a divine blessing. Thus, whoever is infected by intellectual laziness and slackening of the mind and who turns a blind eye on the greatest gift from our Lord is very far from the right (normal) instinct. This is why God told us about the people of Hell saying [If only we had been listening or reasoning, we would not be among the companions of the Blaze].¹ Each idea from which the pleasure of Almighty God is sought is revered and praised because the Glorified and Sublime God rewards people for their good willingness and their noble intentions. Therefore, if they intend for what is good, they will be recompensated as such and if they plan for what for beneficence, God will reward them for it. Hence, Islam did not deprive whoever willed but

¹ Surat Al-Mulk/10

gets it wrong from reward as “If the issuer of religious edict excels in reaching his edict, yet he gets it wrong, he will be given one reward and if he gets it right, he will be given two rewards” and Allah knows all thoughts is in the breasts (all the secrets). Thus, whoever mistakes is not deprived from reward since he endeavored and he was worth it.

O Muslims!

Disagreement ruins not amicability. The prophet (Pbuh) used sometimes to listen to two different opinions on the same subject and praised the makers of those opinions because he was aware of their good willingness and good intention. One day the Prophet of God (Pbuh) said to his companions ((Whosoever believes in Allah and the Day of Judgment, should offer the ‘Asr prayer but at Banî Quraizah (’s place)). So when the sun was about to go down, some of his companions said “ we will not pray it until we reach Bani Quraizah, even if its allotted time expires” thereby taking the literal words of the Messenger of Allah (Pbuh), however some others said “ we will pray it in the road since time for prayer has come” , thereby taking the general meaning of the prophet (Pbuh) ’s saying. They said that “the Prophet (Pbuh) meant that we should hasten to leave, he didn’t mean that we should delay the prayer.” Therefore, each group of them prayed according to his opinion in understanding the hadith of the Prophet. Then, when this reached the prophet (Pbuh), he didn’t scold any of them, or berate anyone for his understanding either,

It is the case also for Dawood (David) and Sulaymaan (Solomon) ,Peace be upon them, when they gave different judgements in the case of the field in which the sheep of certain people had pastured at night; Qur'an did not fault any of them, it rather commended Sulaymaan and praised Dawood [And (remember) David and Solomon when they gave judgment concerning the field, when the sheep of the people pastured in it by night, and We were witnesses to their judgment. So We made Solomon to understand it, and unto each (of them) We gave wisdom and knowledge. And with David We subdued the mountains to give glory, and the birds, and We were the doers (thereof)]².

The difference in opinions shall not overcome the limits and exceed the restrictions. It should rather remain within the limits of the virtuous saying “Let us unite upon that which we agree and excuse each other in that which we disagree”. Some scholars say “This is an opinion that we do not impose on any one and we do not coerce anyone to accept it, and if anyone has

² Surat Al-’Anbiya’ /78-79

better opinion let us know about it”. There is no place in the Muslim community for reprehensible tribalism as it ruins rather than builds and separates rather than unites. This is why the prophet (Pbuh) disowned himself from whomever tribalistic or calls to tribalism.

Jubair ibn Mut’im, May God be pleased with him, reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “He is not one of us who calls to tribalism. He is not one of us who fights for the sake of tribalism. He is not one of us who dies following the way of tribalism.”

Whenever the prophet (Pbuh) saw the signs of tribalism , he always hastened to eradicate it from the beginning .He used to get angry whenever he felt it, so he addresses people saying ((Is it with the calls of Jahiliyah (Days of ignorance) that you cry out, while I am still amongst you?! Allah blessed you by Islam and thereby saved you from the state Jahiliyah (ignorance days) and united you?!)).

Bias in a particular opinion by refusing to consider the other perspectives is absolutely denied and has always been relentlessly combatted by Islam, since it is an inclination that narrows what Allah has expanded, hardens what Allah has made easy, and puts people in a great embarrassment and whoever does as such, would be deviating from the right path of Islam and violates the orders of the Prophet (Pbuh) who said (The best of your religion, is the easiest). Hence, whoever follows this disgraceful conduct would shorten the mercy of God which encompasses everything so he is like that man who said (God have mercy on me and Muhammad and unforgiving for us to anyone) So the prophet (Pbuh) replied ((you have narrowed the board, brother of the Arabs)). Whoever biased considers alternative points of view false and wrong against his views which he considers right.

O believers! Fear Allah and keep union and intimacy in your sayings and beware of abhorred intolerance which strips reason and wisdom and which leads only to grudge and hatred in the hearts.

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 God , who created Man in the best of moulds and guided him with His Holy revelation and bestowed him a mind and thinking which led him to the straight Path, and I bear witness that there is no God but Allah who devoted from religion what advocates independent reasoning and the making up of the mind , and that and that Muhammad (Pbuh) , Master of all Messengers, his servant and messenger , forbade blind dependence .May Allah grant peace and honor on him, his family , companions and whoever trusted his guidance and follows his Sunnah to the day of judgment.

O servants of God!

Muslims in their early ages used to give their opinions and at the same time respect the opinions of others, they used to say: "My opinion is correct, but could be wrong. Equally I believe the opposing view is wrong, but could be correct." Any one of them rather used to say his opinion but afterwards finds out that it was wrong so he turns immediately to the alternative opinions without feeling ashamed or being embarrassed. He rather felt happy and satisfied because he won the virtue of turning back to righteousness. Islam rejects dogmatism and stagnation .It rather calls upon the minds to think and work out with every ounce of its capacities, as Islam is a religion that encompasses time, place and all the human beings. It is wide enough for ideas no matter how many they are, and interpretations no matter how different. By the availability of many opinions on the one subject, prospects get wider and the perspective becomes mature, truth turns out clear and goals are achieved.[As for the foam, it vanishes, [being] cast off; but as for that which benefits the people, it remains on the earth. Thus does Allah present examples]³.

O servants of God! Fear Allah and be aware that a blessed community is the one which involves great number of opinions to build it, and the minds do the best of their abilities to raise its flag , with its members being tolerant when being involved in dialogues and discussions.

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.

³ Surat Ar-Ra`d/17

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]⁴.

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.

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."

⁴ Surate Al-Ahazab 56

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.]