

## AVOIDING FORNICATION

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ  
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدَهُ وَرَسُولَهُ.  
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ

أما بعد،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ وَطَاعَتِهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ،

Let us all increase our obedience towards Allah the Almighty by doing everything that He prescribes and avoiding all that He prohibits. Hopefully, our lives will be blessed in this world and in the hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Indeed, lineage is one of the most important concepts in Islam because it ensures the purity and nobility of the family. Fornication is one of the worst acts that a human being can do as mentioned by Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 17 (Surah al-Isra), verse 32:

وَلَا تَقْرَبُوا الزَّيْنَةَ إِنَّهُ كَانَ فَحِشَةً وَسَاءَ سَبِيلًا ﴿٣٢﴾

Which means: *Nor come nigh to adultery: for it is a shameful (deed) and an evil, opening the road (to other evils).*

Fornication is a hideous act and is a great sin for it severs the lineage, tarnishes human dignity, spreads diseases, causes distress, etc.

Allah the Almighty stated that fornication is repulsiveness for three reasons: firstly, those who fornicate are treated with contempt; secondly, fornication is hated by Allah; and thirdly, fornication leads to misery.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

There is a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam Ahmad that mentioned an incident when the Prophet (peace be upon him) presented heartfelt advice to a youth who was seeking permission to fornicate. The Prophet (pbuh) wisely asked the young man, “Would you like to have someone commit fornication with your mother, your daughter or your sister?” The young man replied, “No.” So with full wisdom, the Prophet (pbuh) replied, “As do others. They do not like it if it happens to their family members.” Then the Prophet (pbuh) laid his hand on the young man’s chest and said, “O Allah, forgive his sins, clean his heart, and guard his chastity.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Statistics released by the National Registration Department registered 532,158 births of children out of wedlock from 2005 to 2015. These numbers are of great concern to us if they are not reduced because one problem will lead to others. Islam has made it clear that fornication is the second greatest sin after the sin of assigning partners with Allah the Almighty. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said in a *Hadith* that was narrated by Ibn Abi ad-Dunya:

مَا مِنْ ذَنْبٍ بَعْدَ الشِّرْكِ أَكْبَرُ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ مِنْ نُطْفَةٍ وَضَعَهَا رَجُلٌ فِي رَحِمِ لَا  
يَحِلُّ لَهُ

Which means: “*There is no greater sin in the sight of Allah after shirk, besides the sin of a man who puts semen into the uterus which is not lawful to him.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In ensuring the nobility of lineage in Islam, Allah the Almighty has established strict punishment towards those who fornicate as mentioned in the Quran in Chapter 24 (Surah an-Nur), verse 2:

الزَّانِيَةُ وَالزَّانِي فَاجْلِدُوا كُلَّ وَاحِدٍ مِّنْهُمَا مِائَةَ جَلْدَةٍ وَلَا تَأْخُذْكُم بِهِمَا رَأْفَةٌ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ

تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَلْيَشْهَدْ عَذَابَهُمَا طَائِفَةٌ مِّنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٢﴾

Which means: *The woman and the man guilty of adultery or fornication, flog each of them with a hundred stripes: Let not compassion move you in their case, in a matter prescribed by Allah, if ye believe in Allah and the Last Day: and let a party of the Believers witness their punishment.*

Islam teaches its followers to live in harmony, to keep away from lineage disputes, to abstain from killing due to the tarnishing of dignity within a family because of fornication, etc. Islam never encourages its followers to be trapped by fornication because its effects can lead to death and severe punishment. As Muslims we must support and defend the sanctity of the lineage by implementing the punishment according to Islamic law (*Sharia*). The time has come for us to support the empowerment of the Islamic court by implementing the RUU 355 Act even if the implementation of this sentence requires a long period of time to achieve perfection. When Muslims practice Islam, our country will be blessed with the peace and mercy of Allah the Almighty.

To end today's sermon (*khutbah*), let us educate our young generation so that they will not be led to fornication through outrageous entertainment and skimpy outfits.

Misuse of mass media, whether it be electronic media or print media, including smartphones, can lead to negligence and corruption among our children. Let us follow the virtue of Prophet Yusuf (Joseph) who strived to avoid fornication as mentioned by Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 12 (Surah Yusuf), verse 23:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَرَوَدَتْهُ الَّتِي هُوَ فِي بَيْتِهَا عَنْ نَفْسِهِ، وَعَلَقَتْ الْأَبْوَابَ وَقَالَتْ هَيْتَ لَكَ قَالَ

مَعَاذَ اللَّهِ إِنَّهُ رَبِّي أَحْسَنَ مَثْوَايَ إِنَّهُ لَا يُفْلِحُ الظَّالِمُونَ ﴿٢٣﴾

Which means: *But she in whose house he was, sought to seduce him from his (true) self: she fastened the doors, and said: "Now come, thou (dear one)!" He said: "Allah forbid! Truly (thy husband) is my lord! He made my sojourn agreeable! Truly to no good come those who do wrong!"*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ  
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّيْ وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا  
وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ  
وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.