

THE BOUNDARIES OF SOCIALISATION GUARDING

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ
وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ،
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ
وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and and leaving all that He prohibits. May we be blessed by Allah the Almighty in this life and the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Islamic teachings is very concerned about the boundaries of human relationships i.e. firstly, relationship between men, between women and secondly, between men and women. Relationships between men and women without limitation/boundaries is seen as a tremendous impact on the moral

collapse of the ummah. We often hear the terms friends, sisters, brothers, adoptive brothers who claim to be virtual chat partners or a social relationship that is partly responsible for leading to wrongdoings. Islamic law does not forbid relationships between men and women as long as they are in accordance with Islamic principles. In fact, Islam encourages relationships that are beneficial. In Islam, a healthy relationship takes into account the limits of *mahram* (an unmarriageable kin with whom marriage or sexual intercourse would be considered haram, illegal in Islam) and the nature of the activities carried out. Islam requires that every encounter or association between men and women should be due to its necessity and permissible according to Islamic laws, and in the company of mahram. This is to guard the limits of awrah (intimate parts of the body) and the conversation. The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam Ahmad;

لَا يَخْلُونَ رَجُلٌ بِامْرَأَةٍ إِلَّا كَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ ثَالِثَهُمَا

Which means: “No man is alone with a woman but the Shaytaan will be the third one present.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

In order to keep the boundaries of relationship, men and women are required to lower their gazes when they meet. This is mentioned by Allah the Almighty in chapter 24 (surah al-Nur) verses 30 and 31:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

قُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَغُضُّوا مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِمْ وَيَحْفَظُوا فُرُوجَهُمْ ذَلِكَ أَزْكَى لَهُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ
 خَيْرٌ بِمَا يَصْنَعُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾ وَقُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَغْضُضْنَ مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِنَّ وَيَحْفَظْنَ فُرُوجَهُنَّ
 وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا

Which means: “Tell the believing men to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts. That is purer for them. Indeed, Allah is Acquainted with what they do. And tell the believing women to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts and not expose their adornment except that which [necessarily] appears thereof ...”

Dear brothers and sisters,

It is indeed sad when children are allowed to not cover their awrah by some parents whereas covering the awrah is commanded by Allah the Almighty and thus it is compulsory.

Integrated efforts need to be made in order for our society to appreciate and practice noble morals in our daily lives. Indeed, it is obligatory for us to help one another on the basis of goodness and faith. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 5 (surah al-Maidah) verse 2:

...وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ...

Which means: “*And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression.*”

Dear brothers and sisters,

Let us always abide by the law and boundaries of socialization based on the Qur'an and al-Sunnah. We must avoid the influences of liberalism and pluralism disseminated by non-Muslims such as generalizing the position of Islam with other religions until there are Muslims who do not dare to declare the truth of Islam in order not to offend the hearts of non-Muslims. The prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al_Bukhari:

الإِسْلَامُ يَعْظُو وَلَا يُعْلَى

Which means: “*Islam is noble and there is nothing more noble than it.*”

Reflect upon what Allah the Almighty says in chapter 3 (Surah Ali-Imran) verse 85:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾

Which means: *And whoever desires other than Islam as religion - never will it be accepted from him, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.*

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،
وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.