

AVOID THINKING BAD ABOUT OTHERS
29 RABIUL AWAL 1443H/ 5 NOVEMBER 2021M

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ
كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ، وَأَشْهَدُ 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 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 avoiding all that He prohibits. May Allah the Almighty forgive us in this world and the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Indeed, the habit of having bad thoughts towards others is prohibited in islam. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 49 (surah al-Hujurat) verse 12:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوا كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ وَلَا تَجَسَّسُوا
 وَلَا يَغْتَبَ بَعْضُكُم بَعْضًا أَيُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَن يَأْكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخِيهِ مَيْتًا
 فَكَرِهْتُمُوهُ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَوَّابٌ رَّحِيمٌ ﴿١٢﴾

Which means: “O you who have believed, avoid much [negative] assumption. Indeed, some assumption is sin. And do not spy or backbite each other. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his brother when dead? You would detest it. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is Accepting of Repentance and Merciful.”

Therefore, the act of having bad thoughts about a person is a heinous act that is forbidden by Allah and His Messenger. This is because this act will bring a lot of damage and harm to the victim. Remember this prohibition of Allah the Almighty that indeed bad thoughts about other people is sinful because it will open space to find fault with others that can cause slander, jealousy and enmity among Muslims. The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam Muslim:

عَنْ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ إِيَّاكُمْ وَالظَّنَّ فَإِنَّ الظَّنَّ أَكْذَبُ الْحَدِيثِ وَلَا
 تَحَسَّسُوا وَلَا تَجَسَّسُوا وَلَا تَحَاسَدُوا وَلَا تَدَابَرُوا وَلَا تَبَاغَضُوا وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ إِخْوَانًا

Which means: “The Prophet (pbuh) said: “Avoid suspicion, for suspicion is the gravest lie in talk and do not be inquisitive about one another and do not spy upon one another and do not feel envy with the other, and nurse no malice, and nurse no aversion and hostility against one another. And be fellow-brothers and servants of Allah.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

Therefore, we must always think good of a person until he/she is obviously/proven to be bad. As long as a person is not known to be bad in both his deeds and intentions, then it is obligatory for us to think well of that person. In an incident, the Prophet (pbuh) rebuked the actions of Usamah bin Zaid's companion in killing an infidel who recited the syahadah during war because he thought that the person was pretending to be a Muslim. Based on this incident, the Prophet (pbuh) forbade hasty killings without evidence.

Thus, let us protect ourselves from acting recklessly without checking as what is happening in our social media today.

أَفَلَا شَقَّقْتَ عَنْ قَلْبِهِ حَتَّى تَعْلَمَ أَقَالَهَا أَمْ لَا

Dear brothers and sisters,

In order to maintain harmony and happiness in the household, we must not harbour bad thoughts towards our spouses. Let us not find fault with each other.

Therefore, let us unite and strengthen the unity among Muslims by keeping away from any bad thoughts against each other, especially towards our politicians; which can lead to division and harm to the country and Muslims.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 59 (surah al Hasyr) verse 10:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَالَّذِينَ جَاءُوا مِنْ بَعْدِهِمْ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لَنَا وَلِإِخْوَانِنَا
الَّذِينَ سَبَقُونَا بِالْإِيمَانِ وَلَا تَجْعَلْ فِي قُلُوبِنَا غِلًّا لِلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ
رَءُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ ﴿١٠﴾

Which means: “And [there is a share for] those who come after them, saying,
"Our Lord, forgive us and our brothers who preceded us in faith and put not in
our hearts [any] resentment toward those who have believed. Our Lord, indeed
You are Kind and Merciful.”

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ 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 اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،
وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ