

"INTEGRITY AT WORK"

6 JANUARY 2023 | 13 JAMADILAKHIR 1444 H

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ مُحَمَّدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ
سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ.
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،
فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

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

Dear brothers and sisters

The sermon today is to provide an understanding of the meaning of integrity. Integrity means honesty and transparency; this is part of the important values (noble morals) that play a role in building noble human behavior and character. An example of integrity that needs to be followed is the sunnah of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). The Prophet (pbuh) has displayed way of life (sunnah) as a servant of God with high integrity (honest nature), so much so that he is known as 'al-Amin', which means 'the most trusted' among people in his community.

The four personality values and praiseworthy qualities of the Prophet (pbuh) that support the meaning and core value of integrity are As-Siddiq (truthful), Amanah (trustworthy), Tabliq (conveying), and Fatanah (wise). As mentioned in the Quran:

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 33 (surah al-ahzab) verse 21:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا ﴿٢١﴾

Which means: *“Indeed, in the Messenger of Allah you have an excellent example for whoever has hope in Allah and the Last Day, and remembers Allah often”.*

The character of a person with integrity is the character of a person with noble character who forms a happy and harmonious family based on Islamic values centered on the belief of monotheism to solve personal, family, organizational and national crises.

Allah the Almighty conveys about honesty and transparency of Prophet Moses A.S. as mentioned in chapter 28 (surah Al-Qasas) verse 26:

قَالَتْ إِحَدُهُمَا يَا أَبَتِ اسْتَجِرْهُ إِنَّ خَيْرَ مَنِ اسْتَجَرْتَ الْقَوِيُّ الْأَمِينُ

Which means: *“One of the women said, "O my father, hire him. Indeed, the best one you can hire is the strong and the trustworthy."*

This verse shows that the leadership of Prophet Musa Alaihis Salam has integrity because he carried out his duties with full trust, perfection and a very high level of honesty.

Dear brothers and sisters

The nature of a Muslim with integrity is one of trust and piety to Allah the Almighty as mentioned in the Al-Quran in chapter 8 (surah Al-Anfal) verse 27:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تَخُونُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ وَتَخُونُوا أَمْنَتِكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٢٧﴾

Which means: “*O you who have believed, do not betray Allah and the Messenger or betray your trusts while you know [the consequence]*”.

Dear brothers and sisters

Humans who do not uphold the value of integrity i.e those who are dishonest and untrustworthy, will fall into the trap of disobedience such as practicing corruption thus resulting in dysfunctional families and life.

Allah the Almighty emphasizes in chapter 2 (surah al-baqarah) verse 188:

وَلَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبَاطِلِ وَتُدْلُوا بِهَا إِلَى الْحُكَّامِ لِتَأْكُلُوا فَرِيقًا مِّنْ أَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ بِالْإِثْمِ وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٨٨﴾

Which means: “*Do not consume one another’s wealth unjustly, nor deliberately bribe authorities in order to devour a portion of others’ property, knowing that it is a sin.*”

It is clear that the meaning of integrity is the noble qualities found in the Qur'an and also the sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh); especially the qualities of honesty and trust that should be cultivated and ingrained in us.

Dear brothers and sisters

Let us enhance our integrity by being honest, transparent and trustworthy which means always enjoy doing good deeds to achieve the pleasure of Allah the Almighty and the Prophet (pbuh).

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 2 (surah al-Baqarah) verse 195:

وَأَنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تُلْقُوا بِأَيْدِيكُمْ إِلَى التَّهْلُكَةِ وَأَحْسِنُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٩٥﴾

Which means: “Spend in the cause of Allah and do not let your own hands throw you into destruction ‘by withholding’. And do good, for Allah certainly loves the good-doers”.

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ
لِي وَلَكُمْ، السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ
وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ،
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.