

ISLAMIC BROTHERHOOD (Ukhuwah Islamiah)

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

وَأَشْهَدُ 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 أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ أُوصِيكُمْ 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 forgiven by Him in this life and the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters

Islamic brotherhood celebrates the diversity of human life situations including in the employment sector. A job will be made more excellent if it is supported by the strength of Islamic Brotherhood. A large portion of our time is used for work; thus, we should use it to earn a living to provide for our families. Working is also an act of worship if the work done is

permissible (*halal*) and it is carried out with the intention of doing it for the sake of Allah the Almighty.

The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari:

مَنْ طَلَبَ الدُّنْيَا حَالًا لَا اسْتِعْفَافًا عَنِ الْمَسْأَلَةِ ، وَسَعِيَ عَلَى أَهْلِهِ ،

وَتَعَطَّفًا عَلَى جَارِهِ ، جَاءَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَوَجْهُهُ كَالْقَمَرِ لَيْلَةَ الْبَدْرِ

Which means: “Whoever seeks *halal* sustenance to protect himself from begging, and with the aim of providing for his family, as well as being able to help his neighbors, he will surely come on the Day of Resurrection with his face shining like the moon on a full moon night.”

This hadith also depicts that Islam is concerned with brotherhood and the welfare of neighbors. This is one of the proofs that Islam is a religion of brotherhood and love. Allah the Almighty commands us to strengthen the brotherhood among believers and avoid any pointless disputes. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 49 (surah al-Hujurat) verse 10:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَ أَخَوَيْكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ

Which means: *“The believers are but one brotherhood, so make peace between your brothers. And be mindful of Allah so you may be shown mercy”.*

Maintaining brotherhood and friendship among family members, neighbors, colleagues and brothers of the same faith is compulsory. Unity among Muslims and brotherhood that is intact makes us strong. The condition is that unity must be built on the basis of obedience to Allah and the Messenger. On the contrary, divisions, fights and conflicts make us weak. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 8 (surah al-Anfal) verse 46:

وَأَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَا تَنَازَعُوا فَتَفْشَلُوا وَتَذْهَبَ رِيحُكُمْ

وَأَصْبِرُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ

Which means: *“Obey Allah and His Messenger and do not dispute with one another, or you would be discouraged and weakened. Persevere! Surely Allah is with those who persevere.”*

Dear brothers and sisters

Among the things that can damage and destroy the Islamic brotherhood are acts of envy, hatred, and slandering each other. Sometimes disputes can also occur between neighbors due to a small misunderstanding. Relationships among colleagues turn sour because there people who like to incite other people against each other. There are also siblings who have arguments over inheritance. Similarly, there are those who live in the same

village but hate each other and have not spoken to each other for years due to different political beliefs.

The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari which means: *“Do not desert (stop talking) to one another, do not nurse hatred towards one another, do not be jealous of one another, and become as fellow brothers and slaves of Allah. It is not lawful for a muslim to stop talking to his brother (muslim) for more than three days.”*

In addition to trying to preserve the unity of fellow believers, we should not neglect unity with other races of different religions, especially in the context of plural society in our country. Muslims are taught to inculcate commendable morals and mannerism. Thus, we need to observe these values in our relationships with non-Muslims. We must set good examples. Use nice words when interacting with them. Do not insult them. Be wary of the manner of communication and do not let the religion of Islam be viewed negatively because of the uncivilized attitude of its people. It is not impossible that non-Muslims will be attracted to Islam when they see the beauty of morals exhibited by muslims.

Dear brothers and sisters

Brotherhood can be fostered by initiating the practice of compulsory prayer in congregation at a mosque or in a surau. This is a practice that can foster the relationship between us. Enliven the practice of greeting each other, asking about each other and visiting each other. Let us all remain steadfast in following the path that Allah the Almighty and His Messenger

have determined. Choosing a path other than the straight path is the cause of all disunity.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 6 (surah al-An'am) verse 153:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَأَنَّ هَذَا صِرَاطِي مُسْتَقِيمًا فَلَتَّبِعُوهُ وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا السُّبُلَ فَتَفَرَّقَ بِكُمْ

عَنْ سَبِيلِهِ ذَٰلِكُمْ وَصَدَّكُمْ بِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ



Which means: *Indeed, that is My Path—perfectly straight. So follow it and do not follow other ways, for they will lead you away from His Way. This is what He has commanded you, so perhaps you will be conscious of Allah.*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنْ

الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ

الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ

المُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا فَوْزَ

المُسْتَعْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.

