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***“VISITATION WITH DECORUM,
BROTHERHOOD STRENGTHENED”***

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"VISITATION WITH DECORUM, BROTHERHOOD STRENGTHENED"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ : فَإِذَا دَخَلْتُمْ بُيُوتًا فَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِكُمْ تَحِيَّةٌ
مِّنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ مُبْرَكَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ كَذَلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ الْآيَاتِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ ¹.
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى
آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى
اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى : يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا
تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ. ²

Dear blessed Muslims,

I humbly call upon all of us to altogether increase our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by fulfilling all of His Commands and abstaining from all matters that He forbade. May we all be bestowed with blissfulness and success in this world and the Hereafter.

¹ an-Noor 24:61.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.

On this noble day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah* titled “**VISITATION WITH DECORUM, BROTHERHOOD STRENGTHENED.**”

Dear blessed Friday audience,

Even though we are currently in the middle of the month of Shawwaal, the practice of visiting one another remains healthy within the Muslim society in this nation. There is always room for mutual forgiveness and strengthen family ties and camaraderie. However, do not just make *ziyaarah* (visitation) as a customary practice. It is not merely the exchange of greetings or uploading statuses on the social media, but it necessitates *ikhlaas* (sincerity) within the heart and genuine internalization of *adab* (etiquette).

Today, we cannot deny that there are broken or dysfunctional families, parents living by themselves, or siblings that are no longer in contact for many years due to worldly affairs. Hence, the practice of visiting is not only a custom, moreover it can serve as the medium to restore and strengthen *silaat ar-rahm* (ties of kinship) that may have gone cold over the years.

At the same time, Islam teaches its adherents to observe *adab* when visiting and greeting each other. This is as Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala* has mentioned in verse 61 of Soorah an-Noor that was recited at the beginning of the sermon:

“But when you enter houses, give greetings of peace upon each other - a greeting from Allah, blessed and good. Thus does Allah make clear to you the verses [of ordinance] that you may understand.”

Dear beloved Friday congregants,

For those that intend on visiting others, it must be understood that every visit must be accompanied with *adab* that reflects upon the true *akhlaaq* (character) of the Muslim. During the visit, we are recommended to wear clothing that is clean, covers the 'awrah, and in accordance with the *Sharee'ah*. Islam does not prohibit us from subscribing to contemporary fashion, but all forms of appearance must be preserved so that it will not cause fitnah.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 59 of Soorah al-Ahzaab:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ قُلْ لِّأَزْوَاجِكَ وَبَنَاتِكَ وَنِسَاءِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ يُدْنِينَ عَلَيْهِنَّ مِنْ جَلْبِيبِهِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَدْنَى أَنْ يُعْرَفْنَ فَلَا يُؤْذَيْنَ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا.

“O Prophet, tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the believers to bring down over themselves [part] of their outer garments. That is more suitable that they will be known and not be abused. And ever is Allah Forgiving and Merciful.”

Aside from that, *ziyaarah* must be made with full respect, including seeking permission and selecting a suitable time in honoring the privacy of the host. Avoid visiting during resting period such as before Subh (dawn), at noon, or after 'Ishaa', except with the consent of the host. This way, the practice of *ziyaarah* not only fulfills the Islamic *adab*, but it ensures that interactions will take place in peace and harmony.

Respected audience,

The main objective for *ziyaarah* is strengthening the *silaat ar-rahm* and empowers *ukhuwwah Islaamiyyah* (Islamic brotherhood). However, many

have forgotten upon this very objective when they get carried away with their cellular phones or tending to their children, that the atmosphere of such visit becomes bland. Therefore, every *ziyaarah* must be made with the *niyyah* (intention) purely for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, so that family relations are strengthened and affection among relatives are preserved.

Let us ponder upon the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, where Rasulullah ﷺ said:

مَنْ عَادَ مَرِيضًا أَوْ زَارَ أَخًا لَهُ فِي اللَّهِ نَادَاهُ مُنَادٍ أَنْ طُبْتَ
وَطَابَ مَمْشَاكَ وَتَبَوَّاتَ مِنَ الْجَنَّةِ مَنَزَلًا

"Whoever visits the sick, or visits his brother in Allah (faith), a caller calls out: 'May you have goodness, may your walking be blessed, and may you be awarded a dignified position in Jannah.'"

(at-Tirmidhi)

In our pursuit to chase after the reward mentioned in this *hadeeth*, do not tarnish the *adab* of *ziyaarah* with inappropriate behavior. We must safeguard our eyes and behavior while present in the house of others. Lower our gaze from scrutinizing at the activities in someone else's home, for every dwelling is a private sphere that must be respected. Let us ponder at how 'Abdullah ibn Mas'ood *radiyAllaahu 'anh* reprimanded a Companion who was busy looking around:

وَاللَّهِ لَوْ تَفَقَّاتُ عَيْنَاكَ كَانَ خَيْرًا لَكَ

"By Allah! It would have been better for you if your eyes had been gouged out."

Besides that, the duration of the visit must be well observed. Do not stay for too long at the house of others to the point of causing discomfort upon the host. Every guest must know the limitations and respect others' precious time, for perhaps the host has other affairs that must be tended to.

In addition to that, avoid all matters that can cause difficulty or offend the host. Do not request for something that is beyond their capabilities, what more with criticizing food that they have prepared. Such attitude can destroy relationships and defeats the original purpose of *ziyaarah*. On the contrary, let us decorate our visit with *du'aa* (supplication) and righteousness. Let us pray for the host to be blessed with *rizq* (sustenance) and *barakah* (blessings), as in the invocation taught by Rasulullah ﷺ, mentioned in the *hadeeth* of al-Miqdaad *radiyAllaahu 'anh*:

اللَّهُمَّ أَطْعِمْ مَنْ أَطْعَمَنِي وَأَسْقِ مَنْ أَسْقَانِ

"O Allah, feed the one who has fed me, and give drink to the one who has given me drink."

(Muslim)

Blessed audience,

Seize the very opportunity in Shawwaal to truly strengthen our brotherhood. Lower a bit of ego that we may have been carrying all the while. Extend our hands, shake the hands of others, and hug our brethren with love

and affection. Fostering relations are far more meaningful than merely visiting a beautiful abode on 'Eid, while hearts are still far apart.

At the same time, let us observe our *adab* during our *ziyaarah*. Make our visit a joyful occasion, not a burden upon others. Do not turn open house invitations into a domain for backbiting, hurling fitnah or spreading unverified information. Do not make the gathering of families as an avenue for making comparisons that unknowingly cause hearts to be hurt. Let us appreciate and cherish every moment with family members and friends. May Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* bless all our visits and meetings.

Dear noble guests of Allah,

To end the *khutbah* today, let us derive several lessons as guidance in our daily life:

1. We must make visit with a sincere heart, observing *adab*, and respecting the privacy of the host. Our visitation is not merely customary, but *'ibaadah* (worship) that must be performed with full sincerity and humility.
2. We must safeguard our gaze, speech, and behavior while visiting others. Do not stay for too long to the point of burdening or disturbing the affairs of the host.
3. We must ensure that every *ziyaarah* is an opportunity to shake hands, meet face to face, and supplicate for the host. May the relationship that was established upon *adab* and *ikhlaas* attains *barakah* from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ فَأَصْلَحُوا بَيْنَ أَخَوِيكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ.

"The believers are but brothers, so make settlement between your brothers. And fear Allah that you may receive mercy."

(Soorah al-Hujuraat 49:10)

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 فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ الشَّرِيعَةَ، هَدَى لِلنَّاسِ وَرَحْمَةً،
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ 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 أَوْصِيَكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ
فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ
وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.³

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.
اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزَّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَذِلَّ الشِّرْكَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ،
وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ، وَاجْعَلْ هَذَا الْبَلَدَ آمِنًا مُطْمَئِنًّا وَسَائِرَ
بِلَادِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ وَفِّقْ أُمَّةَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَوُلاةَ أُمُورِهِمْ وَجَمِيعَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ
لِمَا فِيهِ صَلَاحُ الْبِلَادِ وَالْعِبَادِ.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ
بِأَسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعِينَ

³ al-Ahzaab 33:56.

عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا
الْمُعَظَّمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطُونِ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ ابْنِ الْمَرْحُومِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيزِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيَّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُونِ، تَغْكُو اَمِيرِ شَاهِ ابْنِ
السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِي اَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ
عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحَيْنِ لِلْمُؤَظَّفَيْنِ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ
مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.

O Allah! Strengthen the 'aqeedah of the Muslims upon the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*, which is upon the path of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his Companions *radiyAllaahu 'anhum*, as formulated by Imaam Abu Hasan al-Ash'ari and Imaam Abu Mansoor al-Maatureedi, practicing upon the *Shaafi'i Madhhab* (juristic school of thought) while accepting the other three *madhaahib*, practicing *tasawwuf* upon the way of Imaam Junayd al-Baghdaadi and Imaam al-Ghazaali. Spare us from all forms of bribery and abuse of power, as well as misguidance and extremism, and protect us from *fitan* that can harm the union and unity of the Muslim *ummah*.

O Allah! Bestow peace and prosperity upon our state and nation. Protect us from all forms of disaster, fitnah and calamity. Bestow upon us leaders that have utmost integrity, firmness, and courage in upholding the Truth according to Your *Sharee'ah*.

O Allah! Protect the Muslim *ummah* and Masjid al-Aqsa in Palestine. Preserve them from oppression and evil, and bestow upon them steadfastness, strength, and victory.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا.⁴
رَبَّنَا ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.⁵
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ.⁶
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ،
وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا
تَصْنَعُونَ.

⁴ al-Furqaan 25:74.

⁵ al-Baqarah 2:201.

⁶ an-Nahl 16:90.