

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَلَمْ يَلْبِسُوا إِيمَانَهُمْ بِظُلْمٍ أُولَئِكَ لَهُمُ الْأَمْنُ وَهُمْ مُهْتَدُونَ

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

لَا إِيمَانَ لِمَنْ لَا أَمَانَةَ لَهُ، وَلَا دِينَ لِمَنْ لَا عَهْدَ لَهُ

THE BELIEVER TRUSTS OTHERS AND IS TRUSTED

A Blessed Friday to You, Brothers and Sisters!

In the verse I have recited at the beginning of my khutbah, the Almighty enjoins: **“They who believe and do not mix their belief with injustice - those will have security, and they are [rightly] guided.”**¹

In the hadith I have recited, the Prophet (pbuh) says: **“He who breaches one’s trust will never have his faith reach perfection. He who does not honor his word can never be pious in a perfect sense.”**²

Brothers and Sisters!

Our Lord created the universe from nothing and trusted the human beings with the realm of existence for them to build a safe and peaceful life. The verse I have recited declares two conditions for building a safe world. The first one is faith. One cannot reach the right path without believing their Allah and His Messenger and without being a believer. And one cannot attain the truth in faith without protecting what’s been entrusted to them and being a reliable person. There is no faith without security, practicing Islam would not be possible.

The second condition for building a secure world is to never foul our faith with injustice and shirk in any way. Embracing justice means not condoning injustice. It means always keeping in mind that the Earth, life, Allah’s blessings, and every person around us are entrusted to us.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Safety is fed by faith, belief, and sincerity and it gets engraved in the heart. We cannot secure our houses, bazaars, and schools without creating safety in our hearts no matter how much external security measure we take. We cannot protect the safety of our neighborhood, city, and country without ensuring the security of our home in the heart.

The believer firstly trusts his Lord and whenever he looks for a source of unwavering security seeks shelter with his Creator who “gives well-being and grants security.” Then, thanks to that faith his own confidence improves and he becomes an honest and merciful person who instills confidence in those around him. Faith is trust. The believer is the one who trusts others and is trusted. How can a person who does not trust his Lord, book, and Prophet trust himself? If one does not trust himself, who trusts him?

Brothers and Sisters!

All the prophets called the humankind to faith. They endured many hardships and tough tests to make the world a safe home. Every prophet experienced safety first in his own heart then in life.

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا أَنْتَ سُبْحَانَكَ إِنِّي كُنْتُ مِنَ الظَّالِمِينَ

“There is no deity except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of the wrongdoers,”³ cried Prophet Jonah (as) as he was safe in the stomach of a fish in dark seas.

Abraham the Friend of Allah attained peace and safety under Allah’s protection when he was thrown into the fire for tawhid. As he raised the foundations of Kaaba with his son Ishmael, he first prayed for security from his

Lord saying, رَبِّ اجْعَلْ هَذَا بَلَدًا آمِنًا “O Lord! Make this a secure city!”⁴

When Prophet Joseph (as) was thrown into a well by his brothers and his dignity was defamed, he always had trust in his Lord. When his father Jacob (as) and his mother came to visit him, he embraced them saying,

أَدْخَلُوا بَصْرًا إِنَّ هَٰذَا اللَّهُ آمِنٌ “Allah willing,

enter Egypt safe and secure!”⁵ And Prophet Moses grew up in safety next to the Pharaoh with Allah’s assistance and protection.

Honorable Brothers and Sisters!

Our Beloved Prophet, who spent his life facing hardships in the cause of tawhid and spreading the word, sought Allah’s security in the Cave of the Bull during Hijrah. In the desolation of the cave, he instilled confidence in his loyal friend Abu Baqr saying,

لَا تَحْزَنَنَّ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا “Do not grieve! Indeed Allah is with us.”⁶

He was Muhammad the Trustworthy trusted by friend and foe, near and far. He was an honest, pure, modest person from whose hand, tongue, and heart nobody was hurt.

As believers, our duty is to take examples from the chain of prophets, equip ourselves with the morality of our Beloved Prophet, and become the trustworthy ummah of the trustworthy prophet. Remember that the key to being reliable is protecting faith and what the Almighty has given us. But when one breaches that trust, both peace and security go away. If you are trustworthy, homes become safe. If you are trustworthy, cities become safe. If you are trustworthy, countries become safe. The faith and trust in our hearts are a warrant for the universe, nature, and world to be safe and secure.

Brothers and Sisters!

Upon seeing the crescent which is an evidence of Allah’s existence and might, Allah’s Messenger (pbuh) prayed, **“O Allah! May this crescent bring abundance, faith, well-being, safety, and security upon us.”**⁷

As we enjoy the gracious atmosphere of holy birth these days, our Lord has granted us to reach another blessed night. We will observe Mi’raj next Sunday night. It is a blessed night that witnessed the journey of our Prophet that went from Masjid al-Haram to Masjid al-Aqsa and from there to the heavens.

On that note, I wish you a blessed Mi’raj Night. I wish that values associated with Mi’raj may bring good to the entire humankind and our ascent and rise may gradually surround every segment of society starting from our souls. I pray to the Almighty that Masjid al-Aqsa, Jerusalem and the surrounding region may once again be a place of safety and security and peace and well-being may take the place of terror, violence, war, and animosity which threaten the common peace of the humankind.

¹ Al-An’am, 6/82.

² Ibn Hanbal, III, 134.

³ Al-Anbiya, 21/87.

⁴ Al-Baqarah, 2/126.

⁵ Yusuf, 12/99.

⁶ At-Tawbah, 9/40.

⁷ Tirmidhi, Deavât, 50.