



[18/06/1435 – A – Khayyāt]

١٨-٦-١٤٣٥-أ-خياط

Gravity of Doing Mischief on Earth

Khutbah Topic

His Eminence Sheikh Usamah Ibn Abdullah Khayyāt –may Allah protect him– delivered last Friday’s Khutbah titled “**The Gravity of Doing Mischief on Earth**” in which he warned against the consequences of this behaviour.

Part One

Praise be to Allah Who forbade mischief on earth, and denounced the work of the mischievous. I thank Him –may He be glorified– as a true thankful person should do, and I bear witness that there is no deity worth worshipping except Him with no associate. He is the Lord of the pious; I bear witness that our Master and Prophet Muhammad is the Servant and Messenger of Allah. He is the Imam of messengers, the Seal of prophets, and the leader of the pious and the righteous. O Lord, send Your *Salat* (Graces, Honours and Mercy), Peace and Blessing on your Servant and Messenger, Muhammad, his family, Companions, the *tabi’in* (the contemporaries of the Companions of the Prophet [May Allah’s *Salat* and Peace be upon him] after his death) and on all those who follow them in righteousness until the Day of Judgement.

Now then,

Servants of Allah! I exhort you to observe *taqwa* (fear of disobeying Allah), to observe the commandments of Allah Almighty, and to remember that you will definitely meet Him.

﴿Verily, We have warned you of a near torment, the Day when man will see that (the deeds) which his hands have sent forth, and the disbeliever will say: "Woe to me! I wish I were dust!"﴾ [Al-Naba’: 40]

﴿The Day whereon neither wealth nor sons will avail, Except him who brings to Allâh a clean heart [clean from *Shirk* (polytheism) and *Nifâq* (hypocrisy)].﴾ [Al-Shu’arâ’: 88-89]

Servants of Allah!



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When Allah created the earth, He set it in perfect order by sending His messengers to mankind. With them, He sent down His books offering clear signs and foolproof evidence. He therefore delivered from error and saved from destruction whomever He granted the grace of faith, Islam and the bliss of *tawheed* (monotheism) and *Sunnah*.

Thus the grace of perfecting the creation of the earth by Allah is so enormous, and the gift so colossal that it is now incumbent upon His servants to maintain it and take good care of it by not doing mischief on it after Allah has set it in perfect order, as mischief constitutes irrevocable damage, leads to incorrigible consequences and forms sinister ingratitude. Hence the unequivocal prohibition:

﴿And do not do mischief on the earth, after it has been set in order, and invoke Him with fear and hope; Surely, Allâh's Mercy is (ever) near unto the good doers.﴾ [Al-A'râf:56]

Thus Allah –may He be extolled– warned the people of Prophet Shu'aib –may Allah's peace be upon him:

﴿... and do not mischief on the earth after it has been set in order, that will be better for you, if you are believers.﴾ [Al-A'râf: 85]

Since doing mischief on earth after it has been set in order is one of the most serious forms of disobedience to Allah and His Prophet [May Allah's *Salat* and Peace be upon him] and because it entails retention of benefits and runs contrary to the common good, and because the perpetrator introduces an innovation to be emulated as an example, such a hideous act is abominable to Allah Almighty Who says:

﴿and they (ever) strive to make mischief on earth. And Allâh does not like the *Mufsidûn* (mischiefmakers).﴾ [Al-Mâ'idah: 64]

Multi-faceted as these forms of mischief are, they are topped by *shirk* (polytheism, associating partners with Allah Almighty). Verily, this is the greatest *zulm* (injustice) as Luqman said in his exhortation to his son,

﴿O my son! Join not in worship others with Allâh. Verily! Joining others in worship with Allâh is a great *Zûlm* (wrong) indeed.﴾ [Luqman: 13]

Man does himself a great injustice when he equates the Creator, the Omnipotent, the Provider, the Life-giver, the Death-causer, and the Single Possessor of Lordship, Deity, Names and Attributes with a helpless creature unable to do himself good or harm, or give himself life, death, or resurrection. Is there a more detrimental and malicious mischief with a worse-ending than this?



The parable of he who associates partners with Allah Almighty is the one who falls from a lofty summit to the lowest deck.

﴿...and whoever assigns partners to Allâh, it is as if he had fallen from the sky, and the birds had snatched him, or the wind had thrown him to a far off place.﴾ [Al-Hajj: 31]

No wonder then that mischief is one of the seven deadly sins which the Prophet [May Allah's *Salat* and Peace be on him] ordered us to avoid on account of the great detriment, danger and mischief they entail. He said, "**Beware of the seven deadly sins!**" "*What are they, O Prophet of Allah?*" they asked. "**Associating partners with Allah, witchcraft, taking the life that Allah has proscribed except for a right cause, dealing in usury, taking the orphan's property unlawfully, running away from (or turning tail to) the enemy in the battlefield, and accusing of fornication virtuous, heedless, married women,**" he answered." [Narrated by the two Sheikhs in their two *Sahihs*]

The same punishment applies to all the sins whose perpetrators are promised curse, torture and deprivation of paradise. Such faith-decreasing, soul-tarnishing sins will make the perpetrator a Satan's mount; thus, he may lead him to temptation, embellish his deeds, and make him go too far in his sins that he may see what is bad good, evil virtue, and wrong righteous.

The perpetrator, thus, considers his mischief to be good. This is the state of the hypocrites that Allah –Glorified be He– has told us about in *Surat Al-Baqarah*:

﴿And when it is said to them: "Make not mischief on the earth," they say: "We are only peacemakers." Verily! They are the ones who make mischief, but they perceive not.﴾ [Al-Baqarah: 11-12]

These are described by Imam Ibn Jareer –may Allah bless his soul– as “Those who do mischief on earth by disobeying their Lord, committing what has been proscribed, neglecting their religious duties, suspecting His religion and its veracity without which no good deed is accepted from anyone, lying to the believers by concealing their suspicion and scepticism, supporting those who reject Allah's existence, His Books and Messengers whenever they find the opportunity to do so. This is the mischief the hypocrites do on earth, though they believe that doing so is doing reform.”

Mischief and corruption, O servants of Allah, is disbelief in Allah coupled with committing sins. Whoever disobeys Allah or orders others to disobey Him will be spreading mischief and corruption on earth; for the good functioning of heavenly and worldly life affairs is a consequence of obedience (to Allah), as Qatadah and other exegetes of the *Salaf*



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(scholars adhering to the prophet's Sunnah and the Companions' approach), may Allah have mercy on them, said.

Fear Allah, O servants of Allah, and obey Allah and the Messenger in order to earn the mercy of Allah. Moreover, take what Allah narrated to us about the advice that people gave to Qārūn (Korah), a moral lesson to learn from, a path to follow, and a signpost to be guided with, as Allah (**May He be glorified**) said:

﴿But seek, with that (wealth) which Allâh has bestowed on you, the home of the Hereafter, and forget not your portion of legal enjoyment in this world, and do good as Allâh has been good to you, and seek not mischief in the land. Verily, Allâh likes not the *Mufsidûn* (those who commit great crimes and sins, oppressors, tyrants, mischief-makers, corrupts).﴾ [Al-Qasas: 77]

May Allah benefit you and me with His Book's guidance and the *Sunnah* of His Prophet (May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him)! I say this, and I ask Allah, the Almighty, the Glorious, to forgive my sins, yours and those of all Muslims; He is truly Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful!



Part Two

Praise be to Allah! We thank Him, seek His assistance, and repent to Him. We also have recourse to Him against the evil in ourselves and the wickedness of our deeds. Whoever Allah chooses to guide to the right path may never be misguided and whoever He causes to go astray shall find no guide to help him. I bear witness that there is no deity but Allah Who has no partner and that Muhammad (May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him) is Allah's Servant and Messenger. O Allah! Send Your *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Mercy) and Peace on Your Servant and Messenger, Muhammad!

Now then, O servants of Allah!

If the appearance of mischief and corruption on earth is caused by the sin and evil people commit and do, as Allah (May He be extolled) said: ﴿Evil (sins and disobedience of Allâh, etc.) has appeared on land and sea because of what the hands of men have earned (by oppression and evil deeds, etc.), that Allâh may make them taste a part of that which they have done, in order that they may return (by repenting to Allâh, and begging His Pardon).﴾ [Al-Rûm: 41], then there is no doubt that the treatment of this and the way to get rid of it also lies in what their hands earn. For Allah (May He be glorified) does not change the conditions of people until they change what is in themselves: this happens when they return to straight guidance, follow the orders of Allah, take refuge in Him, seek His contentment by truly worshipping Him, perform all kinds of worshipping Him alone (May He be extolled), resort to His *Sharia* when differences arise amongst them, and fully submit to Him without the slightest doubt, a submission that cannot be breached by embarrassment.

Fear Allah, O servants of Allah, and answer Allah and the Messenger when he calls you to what grants you life; and beware of following the path of those who seek to spread corruption on earth and never act righteously.

You are also enjoined to remember constantly that Allah (May He be glorified) has ordered you to send your *salat* and peace upon His Prophet thus:

﴿Allâh sends His Salât (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet (Muhammad), and also His angels (ask Allâh to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your Salât on (ask Allâh to bless) him (Muhammad), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islâmic way of greeting (salutation i.e. As-Salâmu `Alaikum).﴾
[Al-Aḥzâb: 56]

O Allah! Send your *Salat* (Graces, Honours, and Mercy) and Peace on your Servant and Messenger, Muhammad, and be pleased with his four caliphs: Abu Bakr, Omar, Othman,



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Ali, and all his family, Companions, the *tābi`īn* (the contemporaries of the Prophet's Companions), those who followed them righteously till the Day of Judgment, and with us, along with them, through your forgiveness, generosity, and benevolence, O You the Most Generous!

O Allah! Glorify (empower) Islam and Muslims! O Allah! Glorify Islam and Muslims! O Allah! Glorify Islam and Muslims, and protect your religion, destroy its enemies and all tyrants and corrupters! O Allah! Bring into harmony the hearts of Muslims, unite their forces, make righteous their leaders, and unite their word on the truth, O Lord of *Alamin!*

O Allah! Grant victory to your religion (Islam), your Book (The Qur'ān), and the *Sunnah* of your Prophet Muhammad (May Allah's Salat and Peace be upon him), and give victory to your servant believers and the truthful *Mujahideen* (those who fight in the path of Allah)!

O Allah! Make us safe and secure in our countries, make righteous our imams and leaders, support with the truth our imam and leader, and make available to him a righteous retinue, guide him to do what you love and accept, O you who the All-Hearing of our supplication! O Allah! Guide him, his Crown Prince, his Deputy Crown Prince and his brothers to do what is good for Islam and Muslims and to what will benefit the people and the country, O You, to Whom we shall return on the Day of Judgement!

O Allah, our Lord! Grant our selves their *taqwa* (fear of disobeying Allah) and purify them, for You are the best to do so; You are their Owner and Lord!

O Allah! Make good our end in all matters and protect us against humiliation in this worldly life and torture in the Hereafter!

O Allah! Make better our religion which is our bond, make better our *Dunya* (life in this world) which is the source of our living, make better our Hereafter to which we are returning, and make life an increase of everything that is good, and death a relief from every evil!

O Allah! Protect us against Your enemies and ours in any way that pleases You! O Allah! Protect us against Your enemies and ours in any way that pleases You! O Allah! Protect us against Your enemies and ours in any way that pleases You! O Allah! We leave Your enemies and ours to You (to deal with them) and seek refuge in You from their evils! O Allah! We leave Your enemies and ours to You (to deal with them) and seek refuge in You from their evils!

O Allah! Protect Muslims in all their homelands; O Allah! Stop their bloodshed! Help them settle their differences; protect them against afflictions both those that are manifest and those that are latent; O Allah! Protect Muslims in Palestine, Syria, Central Africa, Somalia, Burma, and everywhere in the world. O Lord of the Worlds!



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O Allah! Cure those of us who are sick, have mercy on our dead, help us fulfil our hopes in accordance with what you please, and make our last deeds good ones!

﴿Our Lord! We have wronged ourselves. If You forgive us not, and bestow not upon us Your Mercy, we shall certainly be of the losers.﴾ [Al-A'rāf: 23]. ﴿... Our Lord! Give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire!﴾ [Al-Baqarah: 201]

May Allah send His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Mercy) and Peace on our Prophet, Muhammad, on his family and all of his Companions, and all praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds!