



The General Presidency for the Affairs of
the Grand Holy Mosque and the Prophet's Holy Mosque

Translation of the Two Holy Mosques Khutbahs
A Joint Project



Al-Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University
College of Languages and Translation

Sheikh Ali ibn Abdur-Rahman al-Huthifi

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The Virtue of Peace-Making

His Eminence Sheikh Ali ibn Abdur-Rahman al-Huthifi, may Allah preserve him, delivered the Friday *khutbah* entitled, “The Virtue of Peace-Making”, in which he talked about the virtue and benefits of making peace between Muslims. He urged that peacemakers should spread this noble message among Muslims everywhere to reduce and minimize the crimes that result from making mischief and doing evil.

Part One

Praise be to Allah, the King of everything, the Manifest Truth. He establishes the truth by His Words and brings falsehood to nothing, however much the criminals, disbelievers, polytheists, and sinners may hate it. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners, the God of those who preceded us and those who are yet to come. And I bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger and His chosen one from among His creation. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and pious Companions.

Now then,

Fear Allah by doing that which is pleasing to Him and abhorring that which He has forbidden, for those who fear Allah will receive all good, while those who follow their evil desires and lusts are the true losers.

O Muslims!

Know that righteousness and setting things right are the most beloved things to Allah. Righteousness is the fruit of guiding oneself to follow the Revelation, which Allah has made a source of cleanliness and purity. Setting things right involves correcting the course of the individuals and societies that have swerved from the right path. It also means restoring the relations that have soured between two individuals or two groups, as per the teachings of the upright religion of Islam. Setting things right thus involves making peace between hostile hearts, bringing closer divergent views, and giving each party its due rights. This is done through the endeavours of those good-doers who anticipate Allah’s reward for such deeds and through the wisdom of the sensible. Making peace between people is one of the roads that lead to Paradise. It provides protection against personal and public trials, brings personal and public benefits, and averts evils whose harm may spread



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far and wide. Making peace between people also serves to close all the doors through which Satan may have access to one's heart.

If we reflect upon the history of individuals and nations, we will find that some evils have spread widely in their midst as a result of the failure to reconcile people and put an end to their differences. We will also find that many evils have been averted and many trials have been repelled due to putting things right between people. As the saying goes, a little neglect may breed great mischief.

Putting things right between people is one of the great objectives and noble teachings of Islam. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿... So fear Allah and adjust all matters of difference among you, and obey Allah and His Messenger (Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him), if you are believers.﴾ (Al-Anfal: 1)

Regarding the virtue of making peace between people, the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Shall I not inform you of something more excellent in degree than fasting and performing the prayer?" The Companions replied, "Yes, O Messenger of Allah!" He said, "It is putting things right between people, for indeed bad relations among people shaves things off" (Reported by Abu Dawud and at-Tirmidhi from the hadith narrated by Abu ad-Darda', may Allah be pleased with him. At-Tirmidhi classified it as authenticated (*sahih*) and added in his version, "I do not mean it shaves off the hair, but it shaves off the religion."). Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿There is no good in most of their secret talks save (in) him who orders *Sadaqah* (charity in Allah's Cause), or *Ma'ruf* (Islamic Monotheism and all the good and righteous deeds which Allah has ordained), or conciliation between mankind; and he who does this, seeking the good Pleasure of Allah, We shall give him a great reward.﴾ (An-Nisa': 114)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿And as to those who hold fast to the Book (i.e. act on its teachings) and perform *As-Salat* (*Iqamat-as-Salat*), certainly We shall never waste the reward of those who do righteous deeds.﴾ (Al-A'raf: 170)

Allah, Glorified be He, also says,

﴿"... act in the Right Way (by ordering the people to obey Allah and to worship Him Alone) and follow not the way of the *Mufsidun* (mischief-makers).﴾ (Al-A'raf: 142)



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Allah, Might and Majesty be to Him, says:

﴿O Children of Adam! If there come to you Messengers from amongst you, reciting to you My Verses, then whosoever becomes pious and righteous, on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve.﴾ (Al-A'raf: 35)

Allah, Glorified be He, also says,

﴿And We send not the Messengers but as givers of glad tidings and as warners. So whosoever believes and does righteous good deeds, upon such shall come no fear, nor shall they grieve.﴾ (Al-An'am: 48)

Making reconciliation between quarrelling spouses means solving their problems in such a way as to guarantee the rights of each party. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿If you fear a breach between them twain (the man and his wife), appoint (two) arbitrators, one from his family and the other from hers; if they both wish for peace, Allah will cause their reconciliation. Indeed Allah is Ever All-Knower, Well-Acquainted with all things.﴾ (An-Nisa': 35)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿And if a woman fears cruelty or desertion on her husband's part, there is no sin on them both if they make terms of peace between themselves; and making peace is better. ...﴾ (An-Nisa': 128)

Reconciliation between the husband and the wife protects the family from the danger of collapse and loss. It maintains the presence of family care, strengthens the bond between the spouses, and perpetuates the good relations between the family members. Under the union of the husband and the wife, the children feel a sense of security and stability, have a safe haven from deviation and corruption, find parental love and compassion, and receive righteous upbringing.

Conversely, if the differences between spouses increase and reconciliation is neglected, the family will break down and the children will be lost and will become subject to corruption and failure in their life after their parents' divorce. Ties of kinship will then be severed and the two spouses will suffer a lot of harm. The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said,

"Iblis (Satan) says to his soldiers, 'If any of you misguides a Muslim today, I will bring him nearer to me and place the crown upon his head.'" Then, one of the devils comes and says, 'I kept tempting so-and-so until he disobeyed his parents.' Iblis says, 'He will soon reconcile with them.'



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Another one comes and says, 'I kept tempting so-and-so until he committed such and such sins.' Iblis says, 'He will soon repent.' Another one comes and says, 'I kept tempting so-and-so until he divorced his wife.' Iblis then says, 'That's it!' Then he brings him nearer to him and places the crown upon his head." (Reported by Muslim)

Reconciliation should also be made between disputing relatives so as to maintain the ties of kinship and prevent severing the bond among relatives. Maintaining the ties of kinship brings about blessings, goodness, and virtues and is one of the reasons for going to Paradise. It is also a reason for setting aright all religious and worldly affairs and for blessing one's life. A'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "The tie of kinship is attached to the Throne. It says, 'If anyone maintains me, Allah will maintain ties with him; and if anyone cuts me off, Allah will cut off ties with him'" (Reported by al-Bukhari and Muslim).

Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "He who likes to have his provision expanded and his term of life lengthened should maintain the ties of kinship" (Reported by al-Bukhari). This means that whoever maintains the ties of kinship will be granted a long life. Amr ibn Sahl, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Maintaining the ties with one's relatives increases one's wealth, brings about love in one's family, and lengthens one's lifespan" (An authenticated *hadith*, reported by at-Tabarani).

Conversely, severing the ties of kinship is a great evil and a bad omen in this life and in the hereafter. Jubair ibn Mut'im, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "One who severs the ties of kinship will not be admitted to Paradise" (Reported by al-Bukhari and Muslim). Abu Bakrah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "There is no sin more deserving of bringing its perpetrator Allah's punishment in advance in this world in addition to what Allah stores up for him in the hereafter than oppression and severing the ties of kinship" (Reported by Abu Dawud, and by At-Tirmidhi, who classified it as authenticated). Putting things right between relatives is, then, one of the best deeds in Islam.

We should also put things right with our neighbours, by observing their rights and discharging our duties towards them as prescribed by Allah. A'ishah, may Allah be pleased with her, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Jibril (Angel Gabriel) continued to advise me to treat neighbours kindly until I thought he would order me to make them heirs" (Reported by al-Bukhari and Muslim).

We are also ordered to reconcile our fellow Muslims if they are in dispute. Allah, Exalted be He, says:



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﴿The believers are nothing else than brothers (in Islamic religion). So make reconciliation between your brothers, and fear Allah, that you may receive mercy.﴾ (Al-Hujurat: 10)

O Muslims!

Do not abandon making peace among people – do not turn away from this great righteous deed, for Allah's Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, used to make peace among his Companions. This was also the practice followed by the Companions of Allah's Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, and their contemporaries who followed them after his death. The narratives attributed to them regarding making peace between people are too numerous to state here. It is narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "O People! Make peace among Muslims, for Allah makes peace among Muslims."

It grieves every Muslim nowadays that many of us have given up the task of peace-making and that only very few are still keen on putting things right between the members of the Muslim community. Each Muslim is required to act in good faith, anticipate reward from Allah, and make use of the right means to make reconciliation among Muslims without worrying about the results, but leaving them to Allah, Who has guaranteed to give us the reward for doing good. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿Whosoever does a good deed, it is for his ownself, and whosoever does evil, it is against (his ownself). Then to your Lord you will be made to return.﴾ (Al-Jathiyah: 15)

May Allah bless you and me with the Great Qur'an and make us benefit from its verses and wise words and benefit from the guidance and right sayings of the Imam of all Messengers. I have said what you have heard and I ask forgiveness of Allah for myself, for you, and for all Muslims for any sin we have committed. Ask Allah for forgiveness. He is the Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.



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Part Two

Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the earth and the heavens. To Him belongs all praise. He has commanded all virtues and righteous deeds and has forbidden injustice, oppression, vices, and reprehensible acts. I praise my Lord for the manifest and hidden blessings that He has lavished upon us and upon all creatures. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners. He is the God of those who preceded us and those who are yet to come. No words, deeds, or intentions are hidden from Him. And I bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger, whom Allah sent with clear signs. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and Companions, who were foremost in all good deeds.

O Muslims!

Fear Allah, Might and Majesty be to Him, and obey Him. Always be fearful and wary of acts of disobedience to Him, for Allah's punishment is indeed severe and painful.

Servants of Allah!

Allah has established decisive evidence against people by explaining everything to them, granting the good-doers their rewards in this life and in the hereafter, and punishing the mischief-makers in this life in addition to the disgrace that awaits them in the hereafter. Just as Allah loves righteousness and reform and rewards for them with bounties that are beyond any description in this world and in the hereafter, he also hates evil, corruption, and those who make mischief in the land. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿... and seek not mischief in the land. Verily, Allah likes not the *Mufsidun* (those who commit great crimes and sins, oppressors, tyrants, mischief-makers, corrupters).﴾ (Al-Qasas: 77)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

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

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿... and Allah likes not mischief.﴾ (Al-Baqarah: 205)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿"... and follow not the way of the *Mufsidun* (mischief-makers).﴾ (Al-A'raf: 142)



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Apart from associating partners with Allah, which is the greatest of all sins, no mischief is greater than taking human life that Allah has forbidden to be killed. The recent incident that took place in Peshawar, Pakistan, in which 120 people were killed, many of whom were children, is a crime that no conscientious person could ever tolerate. This horrible act was perpetrated by a gang of criminals, murderers, mischief-makers, terrorists, losers, and evil enemies of humanity.

Many societies, particularly in the Muslim world, have been afflicted with such tragic, terrorist acts. Indeed, what happened in Peshawar is a tragic incident and a criminal, terrorist act which combined a large number of major sins and evils. This tragedy has been vehemently denounced and condemned by the rulers of this country, as well as by its scholars and citizens, who have all demanded that such crimes be stopped and uprooted; for even Satan would fail to commit such heinous crimes.

Muslim scholars are required to warn Muslims against such atrocious acts which have tarnished the image of Islam, while in actual fact Islam disavows of them; for it is the religion of mercy, justice, peace, and goodness, as evidenced by its texts and testified to by history. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿Because of that We ordained for the Children of Israel that if anyone killed a person not in retaliation of murder, or to spread mischief in the land – it would be as if he killed all mankind, and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the life of all mankind. ...﴾ (Al-Ma'idah: 32)

Anas ibn Malik, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "... Blessed are those in whose hands Allah places the keys to good, and woe to those in whose hands Allah places the keys to evil" (An authenticated *hadith* reported by Ibn Majah).

Servants of Allah!

﴿Allah sends His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)) and also His angels (ask Allah to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your *Salat* on (ask Allah to bless) him (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islamic way of greeting (salutation, i.e. *As-Salamu 'Alaikum*).﴾ (Al-Ahzab: 56)

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "If a person asks Allah to send blessings upon me once, Allah will send blessings upon him ten times over." Therefore, ask Allah to bestow His peace and blessings on the master of those who preceded us and those who are yet to come, and the Imam of Messengers.



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O Allah! Bestow Your peace upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your peace upon Ibrahim and his family; You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious. O Allah! Bestow Your blessings upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your blessings upon Ibrahim and his family; You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious. O Allah! Bestow Your bountiful prayers, peace, and blessings upon Muhammad and his family.

O Allah! Be pleased with all the Companions. O Allah! Be pleased with the Rightly-Guided Caliphs and Imams, Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, along with all the Prophet's Companions, and with those who follow them in righteousness until the Day of Judgment. O Allah! Be pleased with us together with them, by Your benevolence, munificence, and mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

﴿... Our Lord! Forgive us and our brethren who have preceded us in Faith, and put not in our hearts any hatred against those who have believed. Our Lord! You are indeed full of kindness, Most Merciful.﴾ (Al-Hashr: 10)

O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and Muslims. O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and Muslims, subdue disbelief and the disbelievers, and destroy Your enemies, the enemies of the religion, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Grant victory to Your Book and to the *Sunnah* of Your Prophet, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Grant victory to Your Book and the *Sunnah* of Your Prophet, O All-Mighty! O Most Strong! O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Protect us and protect our offspring from deluding trials. O Allah! Protect us and protect all Muslims from deluding trials, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

O Allah! Help us perform acts of obedience to You, and help us avoid acts of disobedience to You, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Protect us and our offspring from Satan, his devils, and his soldiers, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Protect all Muslims from Satan, his offspring, his devils, and his soldiers, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

O Allah! Show us the truth as it really is and help us follow it, and show falsehood as it really is and help us avoid it. O Allah! Do not make it confusing to us for fear we might go astray.

O Allah! Save us from rise in prices, plagues, usury, adultery, fornication, earthquakes, trials, and evil tribulations, apparent and hidden, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!



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O Allah! Help the debtors among Muslims pay off their debts. O Allah! Release the prisoners of Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Cure the sick among us and the sick among all Muslims. O Allah! Cure the sick among us and the sick among all Muslims. O Allah! Cure the sick among us and among all Muslims.

O Allah! Take revenge upon the sorcerers who have transgressed and caused mischief in the land, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Take revenge upon them. O Allah! Protect us, our offspring, and all Muslims from their evil, You are Powerful over all things. O Allah! Foil their plots and thwart their scheme. Let their intrigues turn back against them, by Your mercy, might, and pride, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Protect our homelands from every evil and harm, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Guide the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to what You love and accept. O Allah! Lead him to Your guidance, make all his deeds pleasing to You, and support Your religion through him, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Help him in doing all that is good; You are Powerful over all things! O Allah! Guide his two Deputies to what You love and accept and to that which is good for Islam and Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Do not leave us to ourselves for the blink of an eye or even for less than that. O Allah! Make good all our affairs, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! O 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 Hellfire.

O Allah! Protect us from the evil within ourselves and from our wrong deeds and protect us from the evil of all evil-doers, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

Servants of Allah!

﴿Verily, Allah enjoins *Al-'Adl* (i.e. justice and worshipping none but Allah Alone - Islamic Monotheism) and *Al-Ihsan* [i.e. to be patient in performing your duties to Allah, totally for Allah's sake and in accordance with the *Sunnah* (legal ways) of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) in a perfect manner], and giving (help) to kith and kin (i.e. all that Allah has ordered you to give them, e.g., wealth, visiting, looking after them, or any other kind of help): and forbids *Al-Fahsha'* (i.e. all evil deeds, e.g. illegal sexual acts, disobedience of parents, polytheism, to tell lies, to give false witness, to kill a life without right), and *Al-Munkar* (i.e. all that is prohibited by Islamic law: polytheism of every kind, disbelief and every kind of evil deeds), and *Al-Baghy* (i.e. all kinds of oppression), He admonishes you, that you may take heed.)



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And fulfil the Covenant of Allah (*Bai'ah*: pledge for Islam) when you have covenanted, and break not the oaths after you have confirmed them - and indeed you have appointed Allah your surety. Verily! Allah knows what you do. ﴿An-Nahl: 90-91﴾

Remember Allah, the Most Great, the Sublime, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His favours and He will give you more. Verily, remembrance of Allah is greater than all, and Allah knows what you do.