

Changing bad habits - smoking

DISCLAIMER: This reminder was originally delivered in Arabic on Friday, 20 June 2008. Any meanings lost in translation are not to be attributed to the speaker as reminders are translated by volunteers. The mosque has no official translator and volunteers often have no formal qualifications to translate on the day. Please forgive any errors as they are from our human weakness and any right guidance is from God.

Oh Muslims, The Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him (pbuh), in his dawah started in the house of Alarqam with building proper and sound characters. He made the true meaning of Iman (faith) unshakeable in the hearts, made noble manners the foundations for building this life, purified minds from all sorts of corruption and stopped humans from being slaves to their desires to being a slave to his lord only. This is how the Prophet prepared the first Muslim community and set the foundations for success, change is the key to true success and therefore they became the best of people "He it is That has strengthened you with His aid and with (the company of) the Believers" [Al-Anfal 8:62]

Oh, Muslims, Our problem is our weak iman (faith) and corruption in our conduct. We are in urgent need to a ignite a new spirit in us, a spirit which make us apply our religion, consciously accept all good, be open to constructive criticism, not follow our desires and wishes and put the benefit of the community before individual benefit.

God almighty says "Indeed never will God change the condition of a people until they change it themselves (with their own souls)" [Ar-Rad 13:11]. Changing oneself is not an easy endeavor; it is a challenge which Muslims need to take on. Preaching and reminding are not enough to make that change and no foundation, country or rules can do that either. Only if one consciously takes it upon him/her self to change does change actually take place, through motivation, determination, purifying souls, correcting behaviors, focusing on one's aims and working towards set targets.

I ask God almighty to make among us a generation which does not suffer from egoism, chaos, laziness, deficiency and ill manners and we ask him to make us from those who fear God in secret and public, love God and his messenger and care about themselves, their community and the whole community (ummah).

2nd Khutbah\ reminder

What we have heard in this first reminder contains great meanings that every one of us should take care of in order to improve and change ourselves so our community changes to the better. Based on today's reminder my advice to cretin group among us is "improve yourself and change your situation"

We all know that many people are suffering from an addiction called smoking. There is no doubt that smoking harms ones health and leads to many diseases, the worst of which is cancer, that's why all tobacco companies are now obliged by law to declare that smoking is harmful to health and to write with clear letters (smoking kills) !! Some countries like the UK even banned smoking in public spaces to due to its side effects and disturbing smell.

Oh muslim,

Smoking is harmful to your health and it is the main reason for different types of cancers like Lung cancer, pharynx cancer and oesophagus cancer. God the most high says "Nor kill (or destroy) yourselves: for indeed God has been to you Most Merciful!" [An-Nisa 4:29] and prophet (pbuh) says "There shall be no infliction of harm on oneself or others". After knowing that how can you harm yourself or your wife and children?

I ask you brother/sister to take a serious stop with yourselves, to have a strong will and determination not to go back to that serious disease as it is not lawful for any muslim to bring harm to himself, his wealth or your family. Say to yourself: from today, am going to stop smoking that poison which is killing me slowly, Repeat that a lot of times until it changes from an idea to practical determination and seek every help provided freely by your doctor and medical centers. Always remember "Indeed never will God change the condition of a people until they change it themselves (with their own souls)" and "Then, when thou have taken a decision put your trust in God. For God loves those who put their trust (in Him). [Aal-e-Imran 3:159]