

SURAH HUJARAT- CODE OF CONDUCT FOR A MUSLIM



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SESSION 4

Code of Conduct – Surah Al-Hujarat

- In the previous session, Mufti Abdul Rahman went over how we should react when we hear news or a rumor about someone. It is important to recognize that we are responsible for carrying on the legacy of the Prophet SAW in our dealings with people and knowing that we are representing something bigger than ourselves. We pray that the day we meet the Prophet SAW is a great moment.
- There are eight commands within Surah Al-Hujurat as it relates to conduct with others, and in last week's class we learned that one should "verify, before you amplify" meaning that you verify the source when you hear a rumor and do not become a mouthpiece for rumors and gossip.

Verse # 8

فَضْلًا مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَنِعْمَةً وَاللَّهُ عَلِيمٌ حَكِيمٌ (٨)

- If Allah SWT has given us the ability to do good deeds, it is within His Grace and Bounty. A believer should be quick to pass credit to others, and when there are problems, the believer looks to themselves. Do not be proud of the good qualities you possess as they are gifts from Allah SWT.

Verse # 9

وَإِنْ طَارَ فِتَانٍ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَقْتَلُوا فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَهُمَا فَإِنْ بَغَتْ إِحْدَاهُمَا عَلَى الْأُخْرَى فَقْتِلُوا الَّتِي تَبْغِي حَتَّى تَفِيءَ إِلَى أَمْرِ اللَّهِ فَإِنْ فَاءَتْ فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَهُمَا بِالْعَدْلِ وَأَقْسِطُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُقْسِطِينَ (٩)

- People generally do not reconcile between each other because of ego. It is a common problem within our community that we suffer from being stubborn, which leads to fights. We should be open-minded to other people's ideas and opinions, otherwise it is hard to coexist with people.

Reconcile Between Your Brothers/Sisters

- The second command is to reconcile between your brothers and sisters. If you see someone that does not verify before they amplify, it generally leads to fights between the accuser and accused. Your role within this conflict is to be a third person that is a mediator. If there is one person overstepping, you try to bring that person to the command of Allah SWT, while staying neutral. Help the oppressor by stopping this oppression.

- At least one of those people may not like the fact that you are mediating. They may talk negatively towards you. Even in that case, you need to stay neutral and not let your ego get in the way, as naturally if someone talks negatively towards you, you are inclined to go against them. Follow the guidelines that Allah SWT has set, be sincere and make dua. You can be the means of the reconciliation. Settle the differences in this world, as it is better for everyone.
- If they fight again, Allah SWT tells us to still reconcile between them. If they have any khair or imaan in their heart, Allah SWT can make it happen. Do it with 'adl and have qist.-
 1. 'adl – justice that is public (through a court)
 2. Qist – justice that is private (with family members)
- Many times we do not have public justice, rather privately. Allah SWT loves those that are fair, and that they acknowledge their faults and mistakes. Learn to apologize.

Verse # 10

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ فَأَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَ أَخَوَيْكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ (١٠)

- Verily, the believers are like true brothers, and Mufti Abdul Rahman tells us that true brothers/sisters are those that have conflict; you can't avoid it. They fight, but there needs to be someone that brings them together. You have to be able to make peace within your family before you try to do so outside of the house.

- The sign of beautified imaan is that when we see a believer hurt, we also feel hurt. A believer to another believer is like a structure where it supports the other. The start of Surah Al-Hujurat started with the love of the Prophet SAW, so anyone that has love for the Prophet SAW, we should love them. An indication of my love of the Prophet SAW is my ability to love the people around me.

Verse # 11

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا يَسْخَرْ قَوْمٌ مِّنْ قَوْمٍ عَسَىٰ أَن يَكُونُوا خَيْرًا مِّنْهُمْ وَلَا نِسَاءٌ مِّنْ نِّسَاءٍ عَسَىٰ أَن يَكُنَّ خَيْرًا مِّنْهُنَّ وَلَا تَلْمِزُوا أَنفُسَكُمْ وَلَا تَنَابَزُوا بِالْأَلْقَابِ بِئْسَ الْأَسْمُ الْفُسُوقُ بَعْدَ الْإِيمَانِ وَمَن لَّمْ يَتُبْ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الظَّالِمُونَ (١١)

- We previously discussed two commands: verify before you amplify, and reconcile between your brothers/sisters. These two are communal. This verse has three commands where the focus is at an individual level.

Do Not Look Down on Others

- Those that have imaan should be weary of mocking others, as those they mock may end up becoming better than them. It is important not to look for faults in others and not call others out by evils. Allah SWT specifically talks to us about men and women.

- If you are wearing hijab and modest clothing, say alhumdullilah that you are able to do so. However, it does not give you merit to look down about someone that is not. You do not even necessarily have to say something, it happens through body language. What you have in your heart will show on your face. Instead of judging someone for how they are dressed if they attend a religious event, we should be happy they are there and want to meet them.
- One of the results of looking down on someone is that you become deprived of the remembrance of Allah SWT. Abdullah ibn Masood (RA) would be afraid that if he ever looked down upon even a dog, that Allah SWT will transform him into one.
- Just because wears a kufi or has a long beard, does not give one the right to look down upon someone who does not wear pious or revealing clothing. A day may come, where he is in your place and you are in his.
- Allah SWT mentions women separately as they have their own way of putting down other women. Allah SWT advises us not to do so within women either. Whether it be men or women, make sure you do not look down upon another.

Do Not Insult Others

- Mufti Abdul Rahman tells us not to insult yourself, because the ummah is just like one body. One would never take a knife and stab a limb of theirs, so do not insult your brother/sister. Do not even do it nonverbally, as we mentioned earlier, than the face can show what is in the heart.

Do Not Call Each Other Bad Names

- This is really telling us to call each other by good names, as a good name can aspire one to have that quality. Saying a filthy word is a sign that someone has faulty imaan. One that speaks nasty word to people shows a lack of love towards the Prophet SAW.
- If we are able to work on these attributes, it will be a lot easier for us to coexist with other people inshallah. We ask Allah to bless and increase Mufti Abdul Rahman for teaching us this code of conduct for a believer.

FAQs

- What should you do before you “amplify”?
- Why is it dangerous to believe information without verifying it?
- What are the three commandments in the 11th verse of Surah Al-Hujurat?
- What do most fights between people come from?

- How does one react if one party acts negatively about you being a mediator?
- What is the difference between 'adl and qist?
- What is the sign of beautified imaan?
- What is given to us from the grace and bounty from Allah?
- Why is it dangerous to be stubborn?
- The person who is in the middle working to resolve conflict between two individuals should have what important characteristic?
- What does Allah mean when he says, "Do not insult yourself"?