

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَيُلْ لِكُلِّ هُمْزَةٍ لُمَزَةٍ ﴿١﴾ الَّذِي جَمَعَ مَالًا وَعَدَّدَهُ ﴿٢﴾

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ لَمَّا عُرِجَ بِي مَرَرْتُ بِقَوْمٍ لَهُمْ أَظْفَارٌ مِنْ نُحَاسٍ يَخْمُسُونَ  
وُجُوهُهُمْ وَصُدُورُهُمْ، فَقُلْتُ: مَنْ هَؤُلَاءِ يَا جِبْرِيلُ؟ قَالَ: هَؤُلَاءِ الَّذِينَ يَأْكُلُونَ  
لُحُومَ النَّاسِ، وَيَفْعَعُونَ فِي أَعْرَاصِهِمْ.

### Esteemed Muslims!

The topic of today's khutbah is backbiting (ghiybah), which is strictly forbidden in our religion.

### Dear Brothers,

Backbiting means speaking about a fault or shortcoming that a believer, a non-believer, a known community, or a nation would dislike if they heard it. If the remark refers to a deficiency in their body, character, family, work, speech, clothing, home, or possessions, and if saying it would upset them, then this is backbiting.

Our beloved Prophet ﷺ defined backbiting as follows: **"Backbiting is mentioning something about your brother that he would dislike."** When a companion asked, **"What if what I say is true about him?"** the Messenger ﷺ replied:

**"If it is true, you have backbitten about him. If it is not true, you have slandered him."** (Muslim)

Backbiting is not only done through words but also through insinuation, writing, hand gestures, or even imitation. Making statements like, **"Alhamdulillah, we are not like that,"** to belittle someone, or saying, **"He is a very good person, but if only he didn't have this flaw,"** is both backbiting and arrogance.

### Dear Brothers!

Our Lord says in the Holy Qur'an: **Woe to every scorner and backbiter who gathers wealth and counts it over and over.** (Al-Humazah 1-2)

The Prophet ﷺ said: During my Miraj (Ascension), I saw people with copper nails scratching their faces and chests. I asked, **"Who are these, O Jibril?"** He replied, **"These are the ones who consumed the flesh of people by backbiting and tarnishing their honor."** (Abu Dawud)

The Prophet ﷺ also said: **"If a person fails to help a believer who is being insulted when they have the ability to do so, Allah will disgrace them before all**

**people on the Day of Judgment."** (Jami' al-Saghir, Hadith No: 8489)

### Dear Believers!

Backbiting sows seeds of hatred and enmity among people, damages brotherhood, and nullifies good deeds. Those who backbite will have to transfer their own good deeds to the one they backbited.

So, let us strive to protect our tongues from this major sin. Instead of discussing the faults of others, let us focus on our own shortcomings. Let us not forget that every believer is obliged to protect the honor and dignity of their fellow believer.

I conclude today's khutbah with the following hadith of the Prophet ﷺ: **"If a person hears their Muslim brother being backbitten and does not help them when they have the ability to do so, Allah will disgrace them in this world and the hereafter."** (Ibn Abi ad-Dunya)