

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوا كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ وَلَا تَجَسَّسُوا وَلَا يَغْتَبَ بَعْضُكُم بَعْضًا أَيُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَن يَأْكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخِيهِ مَيْتًا فَكَرِهْتُمُوهُ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَوَّابٌ رَّحِيمٌ

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: لَا تُكْثِرُوا الْكَلَامَ بِغَيْرِ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ، فَإِنَّ كَثْرَةَ الْكَلَامِ بِغَيْرِ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى فَسَوْهُ لِلْقَلْبِ، وَإِنْ أَبْعَدَ النَّاسُ مِنَ اللَّهِ الْقَلْبَ الْقَاسِي

Dear Muslims!

The topic of our khutbah today will be about the afflictions of the tongue, which is the key to the heart and the mirror of faith.

Unfortunately, in the era we live in, afflictions of the tongue such as lying, swearing oaths unnecessarily, bearing false witness, backbiting (ghibah), slander, carrying tales, insulting, mocking, making harsh jokes, boasting with arrogance, breaking promises, engaging in idle talk, and using insincere expressions have become widespread. Yet, each of these is among the major sins.

Our Almighty Lord states in the Holy Qur'an: **"O you who have believed, avoid much [negative] assumption. Indeed, some assumption is sin. And do not spy or backbite each other. Would one of you like to eat the flesh of his brother when dead? You would detest it. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is Accepting of repentance and Merciful."** (Surah Al-Hujurat, 12)

Honorable Brothers,

Although the tongue is a small organ, it can either lead a person to Paradise or drag them to Hell. For this reason, the organ that must be most protected is the tongue. Our Prophet ﷺ said: **"A servant's faith will not be sound until his heart is sound, and his heart will not be sound until his tongue is sound."** (Ahmad ibn Hanbal)

In another hadith, our Prophet ﷺ says: **"Do not talk excessively without remembering Allah. For indeed, excessive talk without the remembrance of Allah hardens the heart. And the people furthest from Allah are those with hard hearts."** (Sunan Ibn Majah, Kitab al-Zuhd)

How beautifully our scholars have put it: **"To say everything that comes to mind and everything that comes to the tongue is a sign of ignorance and folly. This state causes the heart to harden like a stone."**

Dear Believers!

A person who wishes to guard their tongue should act on the principle, "If speech is silver, silence is golden," and should speak little and with wisdom.

Therefore, let us heed the commands and advice of our Prophet ﷺ, who is our most perfect example in every matter. Let us occupy ourselves not with the faults of others, but with the deficiencies of our own selves. Let us take command of our tongues first, and then all our limbs.

I conclude my khutbah with a hadith of our Prophet ﷺ, which teaches how influential and dangerous the tongue can be: **"When the son of Adam wakes up in the morning, all of his limbs plead with the tongue, saying: 'Fear Allah for our sake, for we are dependent on you. If you are upright, we will be upright; and if you are crooked, we will be crooked.'"** (Tirmidhi, Zuhd 61)