

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا نُودِيَ لِلصَّلَاةِ مِنْ يَوْمِ الْجُمُعَةِ فَاسْعَوْا إِلَى ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ وَذَرُوا

النَّبِيَّ ذَلِكُمْ خَيْرٌ لَكُمْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٩٦﴾

أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ ﷺ قَالَ: مَنْ تَوَضَّأَ فَأَحْسَنَ الوُضُوءَ، ثُمَّ أَتَى الْجُمُعَةَ، فَاسْتَمَعَ وَأَنْصَتَ،

عُفِّرَ لَهُ مَا بَيْنَهُ وَبَيْنَ الْجُمُعَةِ، وَزِيَادَةُ ثَلَاثَةِ أَيَّامٍ، وَمَنْ مَسَّ الْحَصَى فَقَدْ لَعَا

### Honourable believers!

The topic of today's khutbah is the Friday prayer and the adab of the khutbah.

Friday is a blessed day when believers gather in the houses of Allah, brotherhood is strengthened, and knowledge, wisdom, and spirituality are revived. The Friday prayer is one of the greatest symbols of Islam. This blessed day is a weekly Eid for the believers.

Our Almighty Lord ﷻ says in the Qur'an: ***"O believers! When the call to prayer is made on Friday, hasten to the remembrance of Allah and leave off trade. That is better for you, if only you knew. Then, when the prayer is finished, disperse through the land and seek Allah's bounty. Remember Allah much so that you may succeed."*** (Al-Jumu'ah, 9–10)

Our Prophet ﷺ said: ***"Whoever takes a bath on Friday, purifies himself as much as he can, then uses his (hair) oil or perfumes himself with the scent of his house, then proceeds (for the Jumua prayer) and does not separate two persons sitting together (in the mosque), then prays as much as (Allah has) written for him and then remains silent while the Imam is delivering the Khutba, his sins in-between the present and the last Friday would be forgiven."*** (Sahih al-Bukhari 883)

For this reason, before going to the mosque, attending the Friday prayer, and mixing with the community, it is Sunnah to perform ghusl, clean the mouth and teeth with miswak, pay attention to bodily cleanliness, wear clean and pleasant clothes, and apply a good fragrance. We should avoid bad smells that disturb the congregation, such as sweat, cigarettes, onions, and garlic. We should enter the mosque with dignity and adab, sit in a suitable place without causing harm to our Muslim brothers, and not disturb people by pushing our way to the front rows.

Our religion teaches us not to speak worldly words in the mosques, and to avoid behaviour that disturbs the peace of dhikr, religious gatherings, and lessons. It also teaches us to sit respectfully in the mosque and to avoid stretching our feet toward the qiblah, the Qur'an, religious books, and our elders.

### Honourable brothers!

Abandoning the Friday prayer without a valid excuse is a major sin. Our Prophet ﷺ said: ***"Whoever abandons the Friday prayer three times out of negligence, Allah Most High will seal his heart."*** (Ibn Majah)

So let us not neglect the Friday prayer for the sake of worldly work. Let us arrange our trade, jobs, and responsibilities around the Friday prayer.

### Dear believers!

One of the most important matters we must pay attention to on this blessed day is the Friday khutbah. I especially want to remind us of certain mistakes that have become common recently while the khutbah is being delivered.

We must not forget that listening to the khutbah is wajib. The khutbah is advice, reminder, and warning. It is also one of the conditions of the Friday prayer. For this reason, while the khutbah is being delivered, we must listen carefully without speaking to anyone or occupying ourselves with anything else. The khutbah has the ruling of prayer. The things that are forbidden in prayer are also forbidden during the khutbah. Just as one does not speak, give or return salam, or look around during prayer, the same adab must be observed during the khutbah.

As clearly stated in our fiqh books, speaking while the khutbah is being delivered, giving or returning salam, occupying oneself with dhikr, and sending salawat are all makruh tahrimi. During the khutbah, one should not pray voluntary prayers, use a phone, or busy oneself with anything else. Even warning someone beside you by saying "Be quiet, do not speak," or signalling with the hand, has not been regarded as appropriate. For hanafis when the imam makes a loud dua in the khutbah, hands should not be raised and amin should not be said out loud. Until the khutbah ends, one should sit and listen with adab and khushu.

Unfortunately, these kinds of behaviours, which go against the spirit of Friday and the khutbah, are becoming more widespread today. So when the khutbah is being delivered, let us give our full attention to it and listen respectfully throughout.

I end my khutbah with this warning of our Prophet ﷺ: ***"If you say to your companion, 'Be quiet,' while the imam is delivering the khutbah on Friday, you have engaged in idle conduct."*** (Muslim)