

Deterrents of Crime

Friday Sermon Presented by
Dr Mahmud Abul-Huda Al Husaini
The Great Ommiad Mosque
Aleppo, 19/2/2010

Details

We are the Ummah referred to by the Exalted Allah when He said: "**You are the best community that has been raised up for mankind. You enjoin right conduct and forbid indecency**" (Al Imran, 110).

This is the Ummah that has qualities and attributes praised and commended by the Exalted Allah, but when we consider our reality today, we find that a new phenomenon has become rampant in this Ummah, namely, the phenomenon of crime...

This phenomenon was far from our identity, and far from our reality. Moreover, our cultural attributes do not admit the existence of such phenomenon in our societies.

From time to time, we often hear about a small child raped and killed, or a girl kidnapped and killed or not killed, and we hear about phenomena that are incompatible with our Islamic cultural identity ... This is a matter that we have to take into consideration and look into for a while so that we deal with it in details in our behavior and our lives.

I would like to remind myself and my brothers that when injustice exists in the nation, it will be the cause of their destruction, and the cause of inflicting punishment on them, except when there are righteous people among them. Thus, when reformers exist and a method of

reformation exists too, this will be the cause for delaying punishment or removing it.

Read the following statement of the Exalted Allah: "In truth, Your Lord destroyed not the townships tyrannously while their folk were doing right" (Hud, 117).

Consequently, when we neglect and forget (or pretend to have forgotten) these phenomena, torment will be cast upon us, but when we take care of what is going on in our reality, punishment will be removed away from our Ummah..

Telling about the story of the two sons of Adam, the Exalted Allah said: "Even if you stretch out your hand against me to kill me, I shall not stretch out my hand against you to kill you, I fear Allah, the Lord of the Worlds" (Al Ma'idah, 28).

Prevention of crime is realized when fear and awe of the Exalted Allah, as well as His glorification, exist in the hearts...

In the sound Hadith transmitted by Imam Bukhari (MBUH), Al Mustafa (PBUH) said: "The believer will remain in the sphere of belief unless he violates the sanctity of blood".

Consequently, you are considered a believer as long as you do not commit a crime. Once you do this sin, you will be deprived of the quality of belief. If you want to know more about the detailed causes, out of which we can extrapolate the prevention of crime and its elimination, read the following statement of the Exalted Allah: **"Every soul will be {held} in pledge for its deeds. Except the Companions of the Right Hand. {They will be} in Gardens {of Delight}: they will question each other, And {ask} of the Sinners: What led you into Hell Fire?..."**

Thus, the sinners indicated the four actions that they refrained from doing, and that caused them to be

described as criminals: **"They will say: We were not of those who prayed; Nor were we of those who fed the indigent; But we used to talk vanities with vain talkers; And we used to deny the Day of Judgment"** (Al Muddather, 38-46).

These four actions should be studied thoroughly by scholars, because they detail the causes by whose absence, crime takes place, but when they are present, crime becomes non-existent:

Communication with Allah, as is indicated in the following statement of the Exalted Allah: "We were not of those who prayed", for when real prayer exists, it enjoins righteousness and prohibit evil. The Exalted Allah said: "for Prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds" (Al Ankabut, 45).

But if prayer is performed nominally, i.e., bodies move in bowing and prostrating while the purpose of these movements is absent from the heart, it will not be considered real, nor will it be communication with Allah. Communication with Allah is a state in which the slave is related to Allah.

It is a state in which the slave tastes love, and enjoys cordiality with his Lord. It is a state in which the slave tastes fidgetiness and prostration on the thresholds of Allah. ..

When man falls prostrate on the thresholds of Allah, and cries before Him announcing his slavehood; indicating that the Exalted Allah is the One, the Great, the Sublime, the Beauty, the Sovereign, the Most Holy, the One who there is no god but He ..., at this stage, fear of Allah will exist in the hearts.

When communion with Allah exists, crime will be eliminated. But when communication with Allah is absent, man will be heedless of his Lord, and he will be drowned in materialism. Consequently, he will be changed into a predatory monster.

2 - **Absence of realizing the others' rights:** This is indicated in the Exalted Allah's statement: "**Nor were we of those who fed the indigent**". When the wealthy do not sympathize with the poor, the strong do not sympathize with the weak, the owner of wealth does sympathize with the needy, and the materialists become heedless of social needs that generate explosion, in this stage, crime appears.

But if sympathy with the others exists, social integration that produces love and brotherhood among people will be the result. But when man turns to the "ego" and individualism, and he closes the door of his house to seclude himself from his society, forgetting about the needs of the others, in this case, crime appears.

3- Absurdity and wading in vain dispute with those who are indulgent in vain talking: "But we used to talk vanities with vain talkers".

Frankly speaking, I believe that however important sports is, it should not be prior to caring for education, science and literature. But in reality, we find that the youth are more interested in watching a football match than attending an assembly on science, literature or ethics. The reason of all that is absence of purpose.

We need to restore youth to the intended purpose so that it be present in their hearts.

Absurdity and indulging in vanities with vain talkers appear only when the purpose is absent. Once the purpose is present in the hearts, absurdity will be eliminated, but when the purpose is absent, crime appears, and this is a natural result when absurdity is present.

4- "**And we used to deny the Day of Judgment**", i.e., man becomes heedless of the Hereafter and that there is paying of one's account; there is a balance that weighs man's deeds on the Day of Judgment. People are

heedless and forgetful of a Day when they stand before the King of kings, Exalted He is, to be judged...

Man has to remember that one day he will be raised from his grave, resurrected and gathered on the Day of Gathering that is equal to fifty thousand years, and that he will be called to stand before the Wisest of judges. He has to remember that on that Day, sheets will be distributed to the slaves, some will take their sheets with their right hands, others with their left hands and some others from behind their back...

When man attends that scene and remembers the Exalted Allah's statement: "**And whoso does good an atom's weight will see it then, And whoso does ill an atom's weight will see it then**" (Az Zalzalah, 7-8), he will then realize that this life has been a pathway, and not an everlasting dwelling place. Accordingly, he should call himself to account now before he is called to pay the account on that Day, and he should weigh his deeds in this life before they are weighed in the Hereafter". These are the four main reasons that we should take care of in our families, in our schools, in our societies, and in our markets If these four reasons exist, there will be no crime, and if they are absent, we shall hear every day about a horrible piece of news.

Live as much as you like, but one day you will die; love whoever you like, but one day you will depart from him; and do whatever you want, but one day you will be requited for it.

Allahum..., guide us to You favorably, and make us from those who listen to wisdom and follow the best of it.

I say my words and ask Allah's forgiveness.