

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

## Friday Sermon

HADHRAT AMIR'UL MUMINEEN MUHYI-UD-DIN

Munir Ahmad Azim

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### (Summary of Friday Sermon)

**After having greeted all his followers (and all Muslims) round the world with the Salutations of Peace, Hazrat Muhyi-ud-Din (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz and Surah Al Fatiha, then he said:**

All in all I must say that I did not intend to do another Friday sermon on the subject of 'Pork', but after last Friday's sermon on this subject, and on what that Mullah Basharat Naveed said, so I received several questions on the topic of 'Pork', from people in Mauritius, and those of the neighbouring islands also such as Reunion Island, Madagascar, the Seychelles and even Rodrigues. So through this Friday sermon, I will answer those questions. *Insha-Allah*, may Allah help me and give me the best answer to their question and that they are satisfied; and may Allah (swt) illuminates their hearts to Islam, *Ameen*.

**1<sup>st</sup> Question:** Being Christian, I have no difficulty to eat pork and I ask you then why are Muslims not allowed to enjoy this so delicious food, like the Christians do?

I reply that this question is somewhat surprising, because according to the scriptures, even Christians are not allowed to eat pork. Well! Let's see what the Bible says about pork, "*You must not eat their meat or touch their carcasses; they are unclean for you.*" (Leviticus 11: 7-8). The same command is repeated in Deuteronomy (14: 8).

So, to make a commentary on these verses: the laws were inculcated and obeyed because they embodied the divine will. Pork, though one of the most common foods is one of the worst. God had forbidden Jews to eat pork, not merely to assert His authority, but because it was not a healthy food for humans.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Question:** We, Christians want to know, what was the teaching of Jesus Christ on this subject?

The teaching of Jesus Christ was the same. He clearly said that the laws of the Old Testament were to be obeyed without change. So the answer I give you not only concerns our Christian brothers and sisters, but is also for all our Jewish brothers and sisters.

**So in response I say:** Jesus Christ (pbuh) said: *“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven...”* (Matthew 5: 17-19)

There was another question, where it is implied that the transmission of diseases is not due solely to pork. Even beef and mutton contain some pathogens.

So what I can answer in reply to that question, why limit your argument to beef and mutton? We know that even vegetables contain infectious germs. But the fact is that pork is the one meat that contains the most germs from all kinds of meat known to mankind. The more we learn about it and the more we dread it!

Many of the germs or parasites found in pork contagious, and others are fatal. This proves once again that the more science progresses, the more it proves the accuracy of Islam (its truthfulness/statements/commandments) in many respects. The current science of parasitology cites a ciliated protozoan, pork tapeworm and trichina, such a parasite worm, known to cause major diseases that pork transmit to humans.

For example, the ciliated protozoan is called by doctors as *‘Balantidium Coli’*. It is a parasite living in the large intestine, and is the largest protozoan affecting man. In addition to the bacteria, pork is the main carrier of the following germs and parasites:

1. Tapeworm.
2. Round Worm.
3. Hook Worm.
4. Fasciolopsis Buski.
5. Paragonimus.
6. Glonorchis Sinensis.
7. Erisipelothrix Rhusiopathia.

1. **Tapeworm:** Pork is a major source of this infection. The incidence of infection of humans by pork tapeworm varies across the world.

2. **Round worm:** This is a parasite about 23 to 26cm long, which is also called ‘traveller’ because it moves in different organs of the human body and causes a lot of damage.

3. **Hook worms:** They enter the skin of man by piercing it or through injury. Pigs eat human excreta containing eggs of these parasites which are developing in their bodies, giving birth to young worms. When they come out they infect humans. This contagion is very serious in various tropical countries.

4. **Faciolopsis Buski:** These parasites remain latent for a long period of time in the small intestine of the pig. Upon leaving the swine/pigs/pork, parasites infect snails which in turn contaminate humans and this is common in China.

5. **Paragonimus:** it is a parasite that lives in the lungs of pigs. This is a common parasite that causes pneumonia in pigs.

Due to time constraints, I stop here. May Allah (swt) give me the Tawfiq to continue on the same subject next week. *Insha-Allah. Ameen.*