



## FRIDAY SERMON

HADHRAT MUHYI-UD-DIN AL-KHALIFATULLAH

MUNIR AHMAD AZIM

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After greeting all his disciples (and all Muslims) worldwide with the greeting of peace Hadhrat Khalifatullah (atba) read the Tashahhud, Ta'uz, Surah Al Fatiha, and then he delivered his sermon on:

## THE VALUE OF THE SEA/ OCEAN IN THIS WORLD

The sea/ ocean is a creation of Allah (swt) that contributes to the well-being of humanity. It is full of signs of Allah for one who has the ability and intelligence to reflect on its wonders.

The ocean is an extraordinary means of transport, a means of subsistence also thanks to its fish, its salt, its purity, and its tides. It is a universe in itself, and it is a world of opportunities also through the exploitation of pearls, algae, minerals and so on. The sea is also a great sign of Allah and we must reflect on this extraordinary sign that Allah has granted us. The sea is huge and it has very important roles to play. One must appreciate its role of regulator with respect to the atmosphere, the formation of clouds and the terrestrial climate.

## THE SEA AS A MEANS OF TRANSPORT

Allah (swt) says in the Quran - *It is a long verse of which I will mention only the part where Allah speaks about the sea: "Indeed, in...the [great] ships which sail through the sea with that which benefits people... are signs for a people who use reason."* (Al-Baqara 2: 165).

**“And of His signs are the ships in the sea, like mountains.”** (Ash-Shuraa 42: 33).

Previously we relied on the sea for transportation, to travel from one country or place to another. There was no plane and so at the time of the Holy Prophet (pbuh), he (pbuh) predicted that just after him, there would be the development of stable ships at sea.

It is reported by Bukhari that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) said, *“Some of my followers were displayed before me as warriors fighting for Allah's Cause and sailing over this sea like kings on thrones.”* (Bukhari).

Today's ships can carry hundreds of tons of goods without hindering navigation. The Quran has described them even before their appearance in history.

**“And to Him belong the ships elevated in the sea like mountains.”** (Ar-Rahman 55: 25).

It is because Allah wants to facilitate and honour man on earth as well as on the sea: **“And We have certainly honoured the children of Adam and carried them on the land and sea and provided for them of the good things and preferred them over much of what We have created, with [definite] preference.”** (Bani Israel 17: 71).

So the sea is useful for man to transport his goods and his even heavier raw materials. Open your eyes and look for the signs of Allah wherever you are. Look how the power of Allah is such that, by His permission, tons of iron on ships do not sink into the water. This is a great favour of Allah.

## **THE SEA AS A MEANS OF SUBSISTENCE**

Allah (swt) puts all kinds of fish in the sea. Fish are healthy foods for humans. Allah (swt) says in the Quran: **“And it is He who subjected the sea for you to eat from it tender meat and to extract from it ornaments which you wear. And you see the ships plowing through it, and [He subjected it] that you may seek of His bounty; and perhaps you will be grateful.”** (An-Nahl 16: 15).

In fact we can even fish in the state of *Ihram* [for the pilgrimage]. Allah (swt) has created fish as food for travellers who make long journeys on the sea. (Al-Maida 5: 97).

Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) said that even dead sea creatures like the whale is *Halal* (licit) for consumption. Hazrat Abu Hurayrah (ra) reports that the Holy Prophet (pbuh) said of the sea: *"Its [i.e. the sea] water is pure, and every sea animal found dead is lawful to consume."* (Abu Dawud).

There was an incident during an expedition where the *Sahaba* [Companions of the Holy Prophet (pbuh)] were very hungry. On the way, they saw a huge dead whale that had failed on the beach / coast. So they ate it for a fortnight, and the whole group had received a good share of the whale to eat. When they returned to Medina, they informed the Holy Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) about it and the latter approved this food, and he even asked that a share of it be brought for him if there was one left, and indeed the companions brought some for him and he ate of it. (Bukhari, Muslim).

## THE PURITY OF THE SEA

A Muslim needs to pray five *Namaz/ Salat* daily and at different times. So a situation happened where the *Sahaba* (Companions) asked this question to the Holy Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh): *"We sail on the ocean and we carry only a little water. If we use it for ablution, we will have to go thirsty. May we use sea water for ablution?"*. The Holy Prophet (pbuh) replied, *"Yes, its water [sea water] is pure."* (Tirmidhi).

The peculiarity of the sea is that Allah (swt) made it vast and put it in constant motion. There are currents on the surface of the sea and below; there are waves, evaporation, tides - high tide, low tide - and rain. It keeps its purity by its movements.

Thus, although the sea absorbs the impurities of men, the waste water of the inhabitants, the dead fish, the debris, etc., it is always pure. Therein is one lesson for us. But that does not mean that we consciously pollute the sea with all kinds of poisonous substances. When Hazrat Muhammad (pbuh) said this saying, there were no chemical and toxic developments as we see today. The sea itself is pure

and vast, but if man abuses its purity and dirties it in an excruciating way where it can affect the lives of people and creatures of the sea, then that water will not be pure. We must keep this in mind. Allah has given us everything in a pure state. It is man who makes it impure by his actions.

## TIDES

Allah (swt) uses the moon to influence the tides. Thus the sea rises to a certain level to come down after approximately 6 hours and 50 minutes. A high tide brings the fish into the lagoon or brings them closer to the land. Thus the fishermen are active for fishing according to the tides. And a low tide keeps the octopus and oysters on the coast. So, baits like oysters or octopus are used to fish at high tide. The fish follow the tides for their activities. Fishermen set their nets/pots at high tide. When do we see the splendour and beauty of the underwater sea? It is during high tide, where we can dive and admire the underwater wonders created by Allah. On the water we can see the green become blue and likewise the colours of life change. Also the tides make it possible to use the pressure of the waves and the water to produce electricity, etc. In short, *Insha-Allah*, we could use wave energy for further advances in the future.

## SALT

Among the resources that the sea offers us is salt. Drying the waters of the ocean gives us salt ready to eat. Salt is an important food that man needs to feed himself on daily. Salt is used to preserve fish and meat, and this was a common practice among our parents / ancestors. Fish and meat were dried with plenty of salt and kept in the sun. Even today, we continue to keep the practice of “salted fish” as well. Travellers could fish for food and also keep extra fish with sea salt.

## AND IF THE SEA WAS INK ...

So, we must preserve nature, both the sea and the land, and we must be good and help others. We must accept the difficulties of people and offer them a sweet smile, our friendship and gifts and show them the way to Allah by showing the greatness of Allah through His various signs, and we pray for them.

As Allah says in the Quran: “Say, ‘If the sea were ink for [writing] the words of my Lord, the sea would be exhausted before the words of my Lord were exhausted, even if We brought the like of it as a supplement.’” (Al-Kahf 18 :110).

As I told you, the sea preserves its purity by its movements. Let us also be in constant movement in the path of Allah, on journeys of *Dawa* to keep the purity of the heart, to have good manners and a lively/ alert mind.

We can never count the favours of Allah on us, and especially today in the period of the Divine Manifestation, where Allah is speaking and has raised one of His servants as His chosen Messenger, as His representative (*Khalifatullah*) on earth for the whole universe. So it is a great grace that Allah bestows on this humble servant when He opens the way for me to accomplish His mission in the four corners of the world and He shows extraordinary signs and favours on this humble servant and the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam.

*Alhamdulillah, Summa Alhamdulillah*, we have returned from our visit to Mayotte and Comoros where there was important work and certainly this great work was accomplished - a successful job. Allah by His grace has facilitated all my work in an extraordinary way and He has opened several paths for the progress of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam.

In Mayotte, there was an extraordinary enthusiasm, a mobilization that we cannot even describe and they showed an extraordinary love for the Caliph of Allah and I can even say that there was a vibration of joy at each hour of prayer (*Salat / Namaz*) and our Mosque was filled, be it ladies, children and gentlemen. By the grace of Allah, the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam has grown in the other villages in Grande Terre as well.

As you know, our Jamaat in Mayotte is located in Petite Terre, with some members in Grande Terre, but by the grace of Allah with this recent visit of mine, the Jamaat received a very large number [of members ] in the south of Grande Terre, and during my visit there were several programs and meetings with several personalities. *Alhamdulillah, Summa Alhamdulillah*.

In the Comoros, as soon as I got off the plane itself, I was surprised [I did not expect that I would be greeted] by a very warm welcome from our members,

accompanied by new members. On their faces was reflected a joy, contentment and love, and this was evident by the welcome in itself. And they did all this despite a very harsh cyclone which had ravaged the Comoros. The country itself is in a very difficult situation and agriculture has been destroyed and many animals have died and thousands of homes have been destroyed.

I can say that by the grace of Allah in the region that the cyclone hit very strongly, despite the fact that several houses were destroyed, trees and electric poles fell, and in the situation where electricity was cut off, but the homes of many of our members have not been damaged; yet they are very poor, their houses are made of iron sheets and straws, and our mosque and school, which are made of sheet metal, have not been ravaged. All the people there witnessed this miracle of Allah.

Our members have already seen many miracles of Allah, but now I do not speak about them but many others who do not belong to the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam. They approached me to express how Allah protected the houses of the members of my Jamaat. They kept telling me about these miracles. And what surprised them most and that they saw as a miracle is that everywhere there was no electricity except in our Mosque, where they could hear the call of prayer (*Azaan*) in the speaker, and do the *Salat / Namaz* in congregation.

There was also the presence of the media on the day of my arrival who asked me questions and all this was broadcast in the whole Comoros [several islands of the Comoros] and so all these islands have got to know about the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam. Despite the presence of the mullahs who created a lot of disorder there, with the support of the Islamic court, but that did not stop others from coming forward and believing in the message of this humble servant [of Allah].

*Alhamdulillah*, We have opened a library and there are many new members who have joined the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam and we have opened three Madrassas for the education of our children and our new members can also use the Madrassa to do their *Salat-ul-Jummah* and the construction of our Mosque in the capital of Comoros, in Itsandra (Moroni) is being done. *Insha-Allah*, the largest mosque [of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam] in the capital of the Comoros is being realized by our contributions: their contributions [at the local level] and also the contributions of some of our members in India, as well as the contribution of two

sisters in Mauritius [who are not members of the Jamaat Ul Sahih Al Islam], as well as my family and myself.

The Great Mosque since Tuesday 18 June 2019 has seen a boom in its construction. The mosque will have a storey that is in the construction phase too. There will be a separation (*Pardah*) for men and women, as well as offices and *Insha-Allah*, there will be a library and classes that will be used for religious and academic education.

*Alhamdulillah*, this is only a summary of my visit and my work in Mayotte and Comoros. I cannot tell everything - all the favours of Allah - in my sermon today. Whenever I find the divine signs, I think of this revelation that Allah (swt) had granted me: **"If the world is with you, but Allah is not with you, nothing is with you; but if Allah is with you, even if no one is with you, everything is with you."** *Alhamdulillah, Summa Alhamdulillah*, by the immense grace of Allah, I am living these divine words, words that come from heaven. **Masha-Allah, Allahu Akbar!**