

Unification

One of the reasons why Islam was successful was because Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, through the Mercy and Grace of Allah ﷻ, was able to bring mankind together. This was the hallmark of true success because when we look back at pre-Islamic history we see how divided and segmented nations were. For example the 12 tribes of Israel were so divided that Allah ﷻ had to sustain them separately.

On the other hand look at the wisdom of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. When the Arabs were renovating the Kaba and the time came to place the black stone they were all divided in terms of which tribe should have that honour. What did our beloved Prophet ﷺ do? Have the Hajar-ul-Aswad place at the center of a sheet and have each tribal representative hold on to piece of the sheet. He was able to establish an expression of coming together for a common purpose. In this connection Allah ﷻ says he was sent to all of mankind;

قُلْ يٰٓأَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا الَّذِي لَهُ مُلْكُ السَّمٰوٰتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَا إِلٰهَ إِلَّا هُوَ يُحْيِي ۚ وَيُمِيتُ ۚ فَآمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ الَّذِي يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَكَلِمَاتِهِ ۚ وَاتَّبِعُوهُ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٥٨﴾

Qul Yā 'Ayyuhā An-Nāsu 'Innī Rasūlu Al-Lahi 'Ilaykum Jamī`āan Al-Ladhī Lahu Mulku As-Samāwāti Wa Al-'Arđi □ Lā 'Ilāha 'Illā Huwa Yuhyī Wa Yumītu □ Fa'āminū Bil-Lahi Wa Rasūlihi An-Nabīyi Al-'Ummīyi Al-Ladhī Yu'uminu Bil-Lahi Wa Kalimātihi Wa Attabi`ūhu La'allakum Tahtadūna

Day: "O men! I am sent unto you all, As the Messenger of Allah, to Whom belongeth the dominion of the heavens and the earth: there is no god but He: it is He that giveth both life and death. so believe In Allah and His Messenger, the unlettered Prophet, who believeth In Allah and His words: follow Him that (so) ye may be guided." (Chapter 7, verse 158)

This is something that didn't happen before from the time of Hazrat Adam (as). He was able to bring man together by working out issues and treaties.

Allah ﷻ speaks of the unification of man in Surah Imran;

إِخْوَانًا وَكُنْتُمْ عَلَىٰ شَفَا حُفْرَةٍ مِّنَ النَّارِ فَأَنْقَذَكُمْ مِنْهَا كَذَٰلِكَ يُبَيِّنُ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ ءَايَاتِهِ ۚ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَهْتَدُونَ ﴿١٣﴾

'Ikhwānāan Wa Kuntum `Alā Shafā Hufратin Mina An-Nāri Fa'anqadhakum Minhā □ Kadhālika Yubayyinu Al-Lahu Lakum 'Āyātihi La'allakum Tahtadūna

"for ye were enemies and He joined your hearts In love, so that by His Grace, ye became brethren; and ye were on the brink of the pit of fire, and He saved you from it. Thus doth Allah make His Signs Clear to you: that ye may be guided." (Chapter 3, verse 103)

The unification of a people is a universal principle and when applied the end result is success. This is one of the lessons of hajj that is learnt. Regardless of ethnicity and class structure all *hujjaj* are present there for one purpose only.

Even when doing good deeds we need to be cautious. For example when the Muslims were constructing Masjid Nabawi each companion was carrying one block by one block. One companion took two blocks to set on the wall and Prophet ﷺ stopped him and said “do you wish to create disunity?”

Today we look at the sad state of some of our jamaats. Remember ulterior motives will inevitably bring about non-productively and destruction. Concerning the separation of man and in particular jamaats Prophet Muhammad ﷺ is reported to have said; “*The devil continually pursues human as a wolf pursues sheep. The wolf only dare to attack those sheep **which have separated from the rest of the flock and are standing alone.** And so, my followers and my devotees! Save yourselves from being caught in the traps of misguidance and firmly remain with the largest and most well known group of Muslims!*”

When Satan saw that the Arab tribes were uniting he tried to divide them by reminding them of the reasons why they ‘broke away’ in the first place. Apply patience and wisdom in all aspects of your lives especially when you come across things and actions you may dislike. In times like that remember what Allah ﷻ says;

وَأَعْتَصِمُوا بِحَبْلِ اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا وَلَا تَفَرَّقُوا

Wa A`taşimū Biḥabli Al-Lahi Jamī`āan Wa Lā Tafarraqu

“and hold fast, all together, by the rope which Allah (stretches out for you), and **be not divided among yourselves**” (Chapter 3, verse 103)

Unification brings strength and force. We beg Allah ﷻ to increase us in patience and wisdom, may He keep our hearts strong in times of difficulties and conflicts, and may He cause us to exemplify the flawless personality of our beloved leader, Muhammad Mustapha ﷺ.

Written by Dr. Waffie Muhammad