

BUSINESS ETHICS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَأَنْ لَيْسَ لِلإِنْسَانِ إِلَّا مَا سَعَىٰ. وَأَنَّ سَعْيَهُ
سَوْفَ يُرَىٰ. ثُمَّ يُجْزَىٰ الْجَزَاءَ الْاَوْفَىٰ.
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
أَعْطُوا الْاَجِيرَ اَجْرَهُ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَجِفَّ عَرَقُهُ.

Honorable Muslims!

Our sublime religion Islam commands that we earn our income through halal and legitimate ways. It considers sacred any effort, work, or sweat expended in this manner. It forbids any affair or business in which Allah's pleasure is not sought, the border between halal and haram is not adhered to, and falsehoods, deceptions, and injustices are committed.

Dear Believers!

As in every sphere of life, there is a code of ethics in the business life as well. At the heart of Islamic commerce and business ethics are righteousness and integrity, awareness of halal-haram, and respect to hard work and labor. It requires protection of human dignity and public rights, and not endangering life safety.

ⁱ Ibn Majah, Ruhun, 4.

What falls upon superiors and employers is to provide a peaceful workplace. They should pay in full the wage for the work done, in line with the commandment of the Messenger of Allah (saw),

“Give the worker his wages before his sweat dries.”ⁱ

Dear Muslims!

Let us fully embrace perspicuous religion of Islam's life-giving principles in our work life. Let us do our jobs and trades with integrity, and put hard work in pursuit of halal earning. Let us add barakah and peace to our life through our labor and halal gains. Let us not forget that those who observe the pleasure of Allah (swt) and adhere to the commerce and business ethics will both ensure halal earning and be able to obtain the approval of our Lord (swt).

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the meaning of the verse I have recited at the beginning: **“And that there is not for man except that [good] for which he strives. And that his effort is going to be seen. Then he will be recompensed for it with the fullest recompense.”**ⁱⁱ

ⁱⁱ Najm, 53/39-41.