

There is Blessing in Unity, and Mercy in Brotherhood

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
وَاطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَلَا تَنَازَعُوا فَتَفْشَلُوا وَتَذْهَبَ رِيحُكُمْ
وَاصْبِرُوا إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
لَا تَقَاطَعُوا وَلَا تَدَابِرُوا وَلَا تَبَاغَضُوا وَلَا تَحَاسَدُوا وَكُونُوا عِبَادَ
اللَّهِ إِخْوَانًا.

Honorable Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, our Almighty Lord (swt) states: **“Obey Allah and His Messenger and do not dispute with one another, or you would be discouraged and weakened. Persevere! Surely Allah is with those who persevere.”ⁱ**

In the hadith recited, our Prophet (saw) said: **“Do not cut off relations with one another, do not turn your backs on one another, do not bear grudges against one another, and do not envy one another. O servants of Allah! Be brothers.”ⁱⁱ**

Dear Believers!

One of the values taught to us by our Prophet (saw), who was sent as a mercy to the worlds, is brotherhood. This is the brotherhood of faith, which unites people of different languages and colors around the same belief and ideals. At the heart of this brotherhood lies the awareness of being servants of Almighty Allah and members of the Ummah of Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw). In this brotherhood lies the endeavor to be united, to act as one, and to stand strong; there is

no pursuit of self-interest or competition for superiority. In this brotherhood, there is unity and collective harmony—never division or discord. In this brotherhood dwell such noble virtues as love, compassion, sharing, and mutual support; there is no place for hatred, enmity, violence, or hostility.

Dear Believers!

Allah the Almighty (swt) states in the Holy Qur'an: **“O believers! If you stand up for Allah, He will help you and make your steps firm.”ⁱⁱⁱ** Inspired by this verse, the people of the Ottoman Empire carried the banner of Islam for centuries and served humanity. They always stood by the oppressed and strived to uphold the truth and spread justice and goodness throughout the world. So long as we continue this noble effort, Allah the Almighty (swt) will never leave us helpless or forsaken. Our forefathers, who held firmly to the verse, **إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةٌ** **“The believers are but one brotherhood.”^{iv}**, overcame every hardship together, shoulder to shoulder.

Dear Muslims!

Let us avoid every word and deed that may harm the spirit of brotherhood we learned from our Prophet (saw) and inherited from our ancestors. Let us strive to raise generations firmly devoted to their heritage and values, equipped with both morality and knowledge for the sake of our future. Let us safeguard the spiritual values that define who we are.

ⁱ Anfal, 8/46.

ⁱⁱ Tirmidhi, Birr wa Sila, 24.

ⁱⁱⁱ Muhammad, 47/7.

^{iv} Hujurat, 49/10.