

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent the most merciful

Peace and blessing be up the most pious messenger who was sent ONLY to be the mercy for the whole creations.

Dear brothers and sisters ASAWW

The right of a Muslim over a Muslim or his brother in Islam

Allah SWT tells us in surah Al Hujurat verse 10

“The believers are brothers, so make settlement between your brothers. And fear Allah that you may receive mercy.”

Dear brothers and sisters, Allah SWT has granted a lot of His bounties up on us. So many that if we were to count them, it would become impossible for us to do so! As He SWT stated in surat an Nahl verse 18

“If you should count the bounties of Allah, you could not number them. Indeed, Allah is forgiving and merciful.”

One of the bounties of Allah SWT is having each other and treating one another as brothers. Yet when was the last time we gave thanks to Allah SWT for this abundance. It is such an important blessing, but we sometimes fail to realise this blessing.

Sometimes we fail to give it enough value. The beloved messenger ﷺ emphasized its value by making it his first task when he arrived in Madina. It's one of the reasons for success. One of the reasons for happiness in this life and the Hereafter. Establishing the brotherhood is to love one another unconditionally and for the sake of Allah SWT. Do-so with honesty because otherwise you have little hope of being able to believe. It is a means to take you to Paradise too. So those who love one another for the sake of their almighty Lord -Allah SWT, will be amongst the winners on the Day of Judgment.

To establish this with honesty, how can this brotherhood be something we just say verbally and that is it? When our brother is present, you will say the nicest thing about him. And when he leaves, you start backbiting and slandering him? Of course, not. It should be the exact opposite!

One of the most beautiful things inside this religion is that the rights of everything has been determined and explained explicitly. In sha Allah, we will be talking about some of the manners over a Muslim to establish such a brotherhood with your fellow Muslim today. We shall take a look at ourselves to reflect up whether we are respectful towards each other, do we love the person beside us for the sake of Allah SWT and do we not backbite them when they are absent. This is the bounty that we should thank Allah for. We will also be rewarded by Allah SWT. In contrast, If we were to be nice to our

brothers and be kind to them when they are with us. Only as soon as they leave, we start slandering them, backbiting and devalue them. We must repent to Allah SWT otherwise, we will face the harshest torments hereafter!

Abu Hurairah narrates from the beloved prophet ﷺ said, **the right of a Muslim of a Muslim is five, (1) respond to their greetings when they say Salam, (2) visit them when they are ill, (3) accompany their body to be buried, (4) respond if they are invited and (5) answer them when they sneeze by saying Alhamdulillah.** Sahih Bukhari.

Abu Hurairah also narrates another similar Hadith that the prophet ﷺ said, **the right of a Muslim over a Muslim is six,** they asked, **what are they Oh messenger of Allah?** He said, **(1) if you see them say Salam or greet them nicely, (2) if they invite you, you accept it, (3) if he advises you- you advise him too, (4) if he sneezes and said Alhamdulillah-you answer him and say Yarhamuka Allah (mercy of Allah be up on you), (5) if he is ill, you visit him and (6) if he died- you accompany him to his burial place.** sahih Muslim

Imam Shawkani also said, the meaning of the prophetic saying is that each of these manners is a right of a Muslim so is obligatory for his Muslim brother/s.

Ibn Hajar stated the same in his book, Fathul Bari, that it is obligatory.

Dear believers, the right of Muslim over Muslims is a lot but we will talk about six of them here which are as follow:

- 1) greet or say Salam to one another. And why is it so important that the prophet ﷺ started with this? Abu Hurairah relates that he heard the prophet ﷺ warning us, **He will not enter paradise unless he believes, he will not believe until he loves, shall I tell you something if you do, it will help you to love one another? That is Saying Salam and greet one another.** [sahih Muslim]
- 2) you should accept their invitation so long as it is for something lawful.
- 3) if he asks you to advise him then you are obliged to do so out of care.
- 4) if he sneezes and thanks Allah by saying Alhamdulillah then you have to answer back with reminding him that Allah is showering his mercy upon you -Yarhamuka Allah- for remembering to thank Allah ... Abu Hurairah relates that the messenger ﷺ said, **Allah SWT loves passion but dislikes forgetfulness. If someone sneezes and remembers to say Alhamdulillah (Thank the almighty) it is very important for the person to hear it say Yarhamuka Allah (Allah be merciful to you).**
- 5) if they become sick, you ought to visit them and pray for their speedy recovery
- 6) if he dies, pray on his body and accompany your brother's body to the graveyard. If you have seen someone past away and you prayed on his body, you will get a

reward as big as of a mountain -QIRAT. And, if you have a companion his body then you will have multiple rewards of two mountains QIRATAN. They asked **what does Qiratan mean?** , he said, **a reward as big as those two big mountains.**

In the second speech, Imam continued his focus on brotherhood in Islam.

Allah SWT tells us in the Qur'an

Hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided. And remember the favour of Allah upon you -when you were enemies and he brought your hearts together and you become brothers by his command and favour. You were on the edge of a pit of the fire, and he saved you from it. Thus, Allah makes it clear to you his verses that you may be guided.

surah Ali Imran verse 103

The benefits of establishing brotherhood are

- 1) filling your scales with reward and a higher rank on the day of judgement
- 2) strengthening your brotherhoods and relationship with each another
- 3) closing the door of Fitna (evil) backbiting, accusation and slandering
- 4) a covering for you
- 5) increasing the love and passion between you
- 6) showing the greatness of this religion to non Muslims in a beautiful way
- 7) bringing calmness and tranquility
- 8) saving you from passing on your good deeds to others. That is the case of those who slanders others and backbites them.

And one final practical issue for all of us who attend this Mosque about risking our prayers being questioned or degraded! And why? Because, short clothing results in their private parts becoming exposed and this cancels the prayer! And please try to dress nicely as Allah SWT tells us in Quran, **Dress appropriately every time visiting Mosque!**

May Allah help us all to be accepting of one another and help us believe and enter Paradise by having honesty in our manners with one another so that we realise Allah's bounty from establishing this brotherhood between us. Ameen