

7th Thil-Qada 1429
7th November 2008

Truthfulness and Lying

In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most Merciful

Allah says: {This is a Day on which the truthful will profit from their truth; theirs are Gardens in Paradise under which rivers flow. They shall be therein forever. Allah is pleased with them and they are with Him. That is the great success.} 6:119.

The messenger (PPBU) said: {Be truthful, for truthfulness is with honesty and fidelity, and they are both in paradise. And be warned of lying, for it is with immorality, and both of them are in Hellfire. Ask Allah to grant you certainty, health and healing, for no one was ever granted anything which is better than certainty other than health. Do not be envious, and do not be hateful, and do not sever relationships, and do not plot or scheme or connive against one another. And be slaves to Allah brethren, just as commanded by Allah}.

Islam is more than any other religion; in being against lying and in being more adorning to truthfulness. Allah say: {You who believe, fear Allah and be with the those who are truthful} 9:119. In fact, truthfulness is considered to be the key to honesty, and lying is the key to sin and immorality. The messenger (PPBU) said: {Truthfulness leads to honesty and fidelity, and honesty and fidelity leads to paradise. And Lying

leads to sin, deceit and wrong deeds; and sin leads to Hellfire}. The messenger (PPBU) also said: {it is a great betrayal to talk to your brother and he is a believer of you, when you are a liar to him}.

In fact lying is one of the three signs of a hypocrite. And the three signs are: if he talks he lies; and if he promises he break his promise, and if he is entrusted he betrays. The messenger (PPBU) said: {There are many traits a Muslim can acclimatise or be accustomed to; except betrayal and lying.}

The messenger (PPBU) was asked: Could a Muslim be a coward? He said "yes". He was asked: "Could a Muslim be mean or tightfisted". He said "yes". He was asked: "Could a Muslim be a liar?" ". He said "No".

Dear brothers, lying is cowardness, ignobility and an assault against Allah; deserving being cursed and being expelled from the mercy of Allah. Indeed there may be excuses for those who may be overwhelmed with fear and cowardness or be over careful when asked for a sacrifice. But, there is no excuse to those who take lying as a way of life used to deceive and cheat on people. Allah says: {Allah will not guide this who is a regular liar.} 40:28.

You faithful make your morals, ethics and character is the same as that of your prophet. And be certain that truthfulness was one of his facets. And it was also a character of the prophets sent before him. Any nation that was sent a

messenger, that messenger was the most truthful individual in that nation. Prophet Muhammad (PPBU) was well known amongst his people of being the truthful and the trusted one. The messenger (PPBU) used to despise lying and liars. 3a-asha the wife of the messenger (PPBU) said: "No other character was more despised by the messenger as lying was. Whenever someone told him a lie; it stayed with him in his mind; until he heard that he made repentance".

The messenger said: {In a vision tonight I saw two men who came and said to me: This whom you saw his cheek being cut open, he was a liar. He used to tell the lie, which is carried into the horizons. That's what he gets done with him in the day of resurrection}.

Dear faithful, it is bad enough and shameful enough for this who lies is to be the target of Allah's anger, fury and torment. The messenger (PPBU) said: {There are three in the day of resurrection whom Allah shall not talk to, shall not look at and shall not say a good word on their behalf, they shall have sever torture: an old man who commits adultery, and king who lies. And one who supports and provides for others but does it with arrogance and superiority}.

Belal and his brother Sohaib went to some Arabs family wishing to ask for their daughters for marriage. They were asked: Who are you two? Bilal said: "I am Bilal and this is my brother Sohaib. We were on the wrong track and Allah guided us. And we were slaves and Allah set us free. And we were poor and

Allah made us rich. If you accept us for marriage, then all thanks be to Allah, and if your turn us back, then all praise be to Allah". The people said: "You shall be accepted for marriage, and all thanks be to Allah". When the two brothers left, Sohaib said to Bilal: Why didn't you mention our action in the battles with the messenger (PPBU)? Bilal said: "Be quite, we were truthful, and the truth got us married".

We ought to follow those who were taught by the messenger (PPBU), and use them as examples when we teach our children to adhere to honesty and truth, virtue, faithfulness and loyalty. And let parents be warned from lying to their children and getting used to it, even if it was to keep them quite when crying or to ease their anger. That will make the children loose their confidence and trust in what the parent say when they give advice.

Abdullah Ebn 3Amer said the messenger (PPBU) came to our house when I was a little boy, and I went out to play. But my mother wanted me to stay and she said to me: "Come here and I will give you something". The messenger (PPBU) said: "What did you want to give him?" she answered: "some dates." He said: "if you don't give him; then it would be counted for you as a lie".

One of the scholars, Sk. Abdul-Qadir Al-Kailani said that I have accustomed my self since I was young to the truth. And I left Mecca to Bagdad seeking education. My mother gave me 40 dinars to help with the costs. On the way we were faced with a gang rubbing the camel train and they took all animals and their

loads and left the people standing. One of the rubbers going past me asked me: what have you got with you? I said: 40 dinars. (the equivalent of 40,000 now). He thought I was trying to be smart and make fun of him and he left me. Another man in the gang saw me and asked me too: what have you got with you? I said: 40 dinars, who took me to their chief. Who asked me the same and I told him the truth. He said: "What is it that makes you tell the truth?" I said: "I made a promise to my mother to be truthful. And I fear to break my promise to her". The head of the gang became very fearful; and started screaming and tearing up his clothes, and said: "you fear betraying your mother's promise, and I am not fearful of betraying Allah's promise." He then ordered to give back all that was taken. And he said: "I have just repented to Allah because of you". The rest of the men in the gang with him said: "you were our chief in robberies, and today you are our chief in repentance." And they all repented because of the mercy of the truth.