

أَفَرَأَيْتُمُ الْمَاءَ الَّذِي تَشْرَبُونَ؟ إِنَّمَا أَنْتُمْ تَنْسُمُوهُ مِنَ الْمُنْزَنِ أَمْ
تَحْنُ الْمُنْزَلُونَ. لَوْ نَشَاءُ جَعَلْنَاهُ أَجَاجًا فَلَوْلَا تَشْكُرُونَ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَطْعَمَنَا وَسَقَانَا وَكَفَانَا وَآوَانَا...

LET US NOT WASTE OUR WATER

Honorable Muslims!

One of the greatest blessings whose value is not appreciated until its absence is “water.” Water is a source of mercy and blessing, sent down in pure form from the heavens by the Almighty Allah, and made a means of purification. In the verse I recited at the beginning of my khutbah, we are reminded of water as one of Allah’s great blessings: **“Have you considered the water you drink? Is it you who bring it down from the clouds, or is it We Who do so? If We willed, We could make it salty. Will you not then give thanks?”¹**

Dear Believers!

Water is not merely a personal necessity; it is also a collective right. Every human being, and indeed all living creatures, has the right to access clean and sufficient water. For it is through water that humans sustain their lives, animals find life, and plants flourish.

Water is not an unlimited resource to be consumed at one’s whim. It is a divine trust; it belongs not only to us but also to future generations. For this reason, using water wisely, preserving it, and sharing it justly is a religious, moral, and human responsibility upon us all. To waste water without measure is to violate the right of every living being that has been created; it is extravagance, and it is haram. Our Almighty Lord states, **“وَكُلُوا وَاشْرُبُوا وَلَا تُشْرِفُوا إِلَهٌ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ”** ...Eat and drink, but do not waste. Surely He does not like the wasteful.”²

Esteemed Muslims!

Using more water than necessary while washing hands, brushing teeth, shaving, taking a shower, or cleaning fruits and vegetables is considered wastefulness. Our Prophet (saw) cautioned a companion who used excessive water while performing ablution, saying, **“EVEN IF YOU WERE TO PERFORM ABLUTION WITH RUNNING WATER FROM A FLOWING RIVER, IT WOULD BE WASTEFUL TO USE MORE THAN NECESSARY.”³**

Whether at home, in the park, garden, field, workplace, school, or on the street, wherever and for whatever purpose, wasting water is an act of extravagance.

Ignoring proper timing in irrigation, taking more than one’s share and seizing another’s water, or using water illegally for personal gain infringes upon the rights of others and is sin. Preventing water from reaching our neighbors due to excessive use is a violation of their rights and a serious sin.

Polluting clean water sources with toxic industrial waste, chemical fertilizers, pharmaceuticals, or garbage; discharging wastewater into rivers, lakes, and seas without proper treatment is to endanger the lives of humans and living beings, and it is haram.

Dear Believers!

No one has the right to say, “I have the means; I will use as much water as I wish and dig as many wells as I please.” For water is not a blessing gained through power, wealth, or technology, but a manifestation of Allah’s mercy. If our Lord does not will it, what technology could possibly bring water down from the sky? If He does not decree it, what power can prevent water from vanishing deep within the earth? Indeed, the warning from Allah the Almighty

is

clear

فُلْ أَرَأَيْتُمْ إِنْ أَضْبَحَ مَاؤُكُمْ غَورًا فَمَنْ يَأْتِيكُمْ بِمَاءٍ مَعِينٍ “Say, ‘Consider this: if your water were to sink ‘into the earth’, then who ‘else’ could bring you flowing water?”⁴

Dear Muslims!

Due to drought, environmental pollution, and careless consumption, our clean water sources are diminishing day by day. In such times, it is our duty to take necessary measures before our soil turns to desert, our trees wither, and our waters disappear. Our duty is to use our water with moderation and balance. It is to not waste even a single drop of our water. It is to protect our water sources and their surroundings from pollution. It is to plant trees that help protect our water sources and to create new forests. It is to provide water sources and containers for animals during hot days.

May our Almighty Lord grant abundant and blessed rains to our mountains, valleys, plains, parched lands, and all our regions. May He never withhold His mercy from the heavens nor His bounty from the earth.

I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with our Prophet’s (saw) following supplication, which I recited at the beginning of the khutbah: **“Praise be to Allah who feeds us, quenches our thirst, fulfils our needs, and provides shelter for us.”⁵**

¹ Waqi‘ah, 56/68-70.

² A’raf, 7/31.

³ Ibn Majah, Taharat, 48.

⁴ Mulk, 67/30.

⁵ Muslim, Dhikr, 64.

