

Lecture No. 6: Holy Qur'an and its sciences – IV

(Module 1(26): Textual study of the Holy Qur'an [Surah Al-Hujurat, Verses#: 12])

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوا كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ وَلَا تَجَسَّسُوا وَلَا يَغْتَبِ بَعْضُكُم بَعْضًا أَيُحِبُّ أَحَدُكُمْ أَن يَأْكُلَ لَحْمَ أَخِيهِ مَيْتًا فَكَرِهْتُمُوهُ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَوَّابٌ رَّحِيمٌ- (الحجرات:12)

“O believers! Avoid most conjectures. Indeed, some conjectures are sins (liable to punishment in the Hereafter). And spy not (on someone's unknown matters or secrets), nor backbite one another. Would any of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother? You would hate it. And fear Allah (in all such matters). Indeed, Allah is Ever-Returning, Ever-Merciful.”.

- Avoid snooping: peeping into someone's house, overhearing, seeing someone's letters or snooping on a telephone conversation, etc. Hidden evils should not be treated by spying but by education, preaching, collective training of the people, and creating a pure social environment.

- Backbiting should be avoided, but it is permissible in the following cases:

1. An oppressed when he explains his case to a ruler or authority or to a scholar to seek religious advice.
2. To save someone from the harm of someone.
3. In the science of Hadith when the narrators are cross-examined to ensure the authenticity of a hadith

(Module 2(27): Textual study of the Holy Qur'an [Surah Al-Hujurat, Verses#: 13])

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِّن ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِندَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ- (الحجرات:13)

“O, people! We created you from a male and a female, and (divided) you into (large) peoples and tribes so that you might recognize one another. Surely, the most honorable amongst you in the sight of Allah is he who fears Allah the most. Certainly, Allah is All-Knowing, All-Aware.”

- In Islam, piety is the sole standard of excellence.
- Priority and supremacy in the time of ignorance were based on racial distinctions. The Holy Qur'an established Islamic society on the principle of human compassion and abolished racial prejudice.

(Module 3(28): Textual study of the Holy Qur'an [Surah Al-Hujurat, Verses#: 14-18])

قَالَتِ الْأَعْرَابُ آمَنَّا قُلْ لَمْ تُؤْمِنُوا وَلَكِنْ قُولُوا أَسْلَمْنَا وَلَمَّا يَدْخُلِ الْإِيمَانُ فِي قُلُوبِكُمْ وَإِنْ تُطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ لَا يَلَذَّكُمْ مِنْ أَعْمَالِكُمْ شَيْئًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَفُوٌّ رَحِيمٌ-(الحجرات:14)

The bedouins say, "We have believed." Say, "You have not [yet] believed; but say [instead], 'We have submitted,' for faith has not yet entered your hearts. And if you obey Allah and His Messenger, He will not deprive you from your deeds of anything. Indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Merciful."

- The well-known commentator Imam Mujahid says that this verse was revealed about Banu Asad bin Khuzimah (بنو اسد بن خزيمه).
- Interrelationship of Faith and Islam: Sometimes both the words are used as synonymous as it is in the following verse:

إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ لَمْ يَرْتَابُوا وَجَاهَدُوا بِأَمْوَالِهِمْ وَأَنْفُسِهِمْ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الصَّادِقُونَ-(الحجرات:15)

The believers are only the ones who have believed in Allah and His Messenger and then doubt not but strive with their properties and their lives in the cause of Allah. It is those who are the truthful.

And sometimes they are used in different meanings. In that case, faith means belief and Islam means outward obedience as it is in the following verse:

قُلْ أَتَعْلَمُونَ اللَّهَ بِدِينِكُمْ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَاللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ(الحجرات:16) يَمْشُونَ عَلَيْكَ أَنْ أَسْلَمُوا قُلْ لَا تَتَّبِعُوا عَلَيَّ إِسْلَامَكُمْ بَلِ اللَّهُ يَمَسُّ عَلَيْكُمْ أَنْ هُنَاكَ لِلْإِيمَانِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ-(الحجرات:17)

Say, "Would you acquaint Allah with your religion while Allah knows whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth, and Allah is knowing of all things?" They consider it a favor to you that they have accepted Islam. Say, "Do not consider your Islam a favor to me. Rather, Allah has conferred favor upon you that He has guided you to the faith if you should be truthful."

In their opinion, it was their favor to the Prophet (PBUH) that he ﷺ should have taken care of and in return, he should have fulfilled their demands and requests like Chaudhary and Sardar joining a political party to seek favor and interests from the party chief.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ غَيْبَ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاللَّهُ بَصِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ-(الحجرات:18)

Indeed, Allah knows the unseen [aspects] of the heavens and the earth. And Allah is Seeing of what you do.

Allah further emphasizes not to think that He only knows the objects of heaven and earth which are visible, but He also knows those objects which are invisible to the eyes, whether they have passed before or are present or will be in the future and whatever you are doing or will do in the future, Allah will see it well.