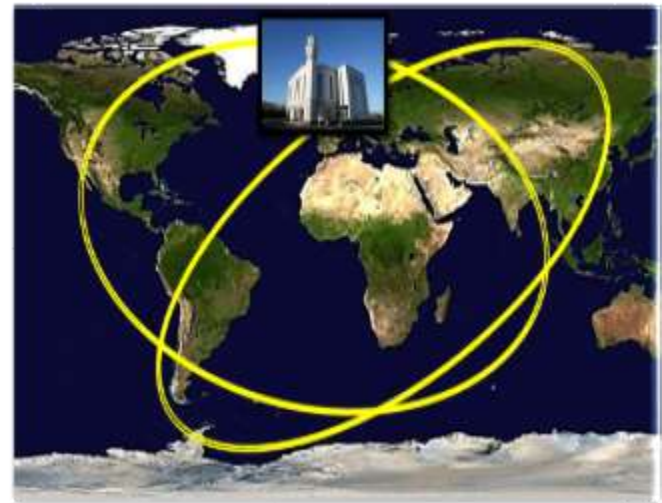


Essence of Forgiveness



**Sermon Delivered by Hadhrat
Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba);
Head of the Ahmadiyya
Muslim Community**



**relayed live all across the
globe**

January 22nd 2016

Essence of Forgiveness

The essence of the teaching of Islam is aimed towards reformation of the one committing any wrongdoing.

The concept of forgiveness and punishment is at the foundation of fairness in individual, communal and indeed international matters.

The most excellent examples of this are found in the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

Islam endorses to retaliate or punish, if this is in the best interest of the individual and the society.

The core of the commandment in Islam is reformation and not seeking revenge.

Pardon is allowed where it leads to reformation.

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

‘And the recompense of an injury is an injury the like thereof; but whoso forgives and *his act* brings about reformation, his reward is with Allah. Surely, He loves not the wrongdoers.’
(42:41)

The essence of the teaching of Islam is aimed towards reformation of the one committing any wrongdoing.



The Concept of punishment is practiced in conjunction with commandment of forgiveness and pardon

If reformation is deemed to result from pardon then that should be the option.



Any punishment should be in accordance with the crime and if meted out disproportionately, it incurs God’s displeasure.



The concept of forgiveness and punishment is at the foundation of fairness in individual, communal and indeed international matters.

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

January 22nd
2016

The most excellent examples of this are found in the blessed model of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him).

He forgave the person who brutally attacked his daughter, leading to her death, when he confessed his crime and sought forgiveness.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) told the person that it was a favour of God on him that he has accepted Islam and repent sincerely.

The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) pardoned some people and they showed clear reformation.

Once reformed, enemies of Islam who committed wrongdoings became pious and served the religion of Islam.

Islam endorses to take that action which is in the best interest of the perpetrator.

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) states in 'Philosophy of The Teachings of Islam':
'The recompense of an injury is a penalty in proportion thereto; but whoso forgives and effects thereby a reform in the offender, and no harm is apprehended, that is to say, exercises forgiveness on its appropriate occasion, will have his reward with Allah.

This verse shows that the Quran does not teach non-resistance to evil on all occasions, or that mischief makers and wrongdoers should never be punished. Its teaching is that one must consider whether the occasion calls for forgiveness or punishment, and to adopt the course which would be best in the interests both of the offender and the public.

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

Sometimes an offender turns away from wrongdoing in consequence of being forgiven, and sometimes forgiveness incites him to further wrongdoing. Therefore, God Almighty directs that we should not develop the habit of forgiving blindly on all occasions, but should consider carefully whether forgiveness or punishment would be most appropriate, and, therefore, a virtue, in each particular case, and should adopt that course.

Some people are so vindictive that they keep in mind the wrongs done to their fathers through generations, and there are others who carry forbearance and forgiveness to the extreme, sometimes even to the limit of shamelessness. They exercise such weakness, forgiveness and forbearance as are utterly inconsistent with dignity, honour, and chastity. Their conduct is a stain on good character and the result of their forgiveness and forbearance is that people are disgusted with them. That is why the Holy Quran attaches the condition of appropriate time and place for the exercise of every moral quality, and does not approve the exercise of a moral quality out of its place.' (Philosophy of The Teachings of Islam, pp. 62-63)

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) wrote: It is written in the Gospels not to contend with evil. The teaching of the Gospels is inclined towards extreme leniency and cannot be put into practice with the exception of specific situations. On the other hand the teaching of Torah is inclined towards the other extreme. It only stresses on one aspect, that of an eye for an eye, an ear for an ear and a teeth for a teeth. It does not even mention pardon and forgiveness.

Whereas the Holy Qur'an has shown us a pure way which is free of the two extremes and is in exact accordance with human nature. For example the Holy Qur'an states: 'And the recompense of an injury is an injury the like thereof; but whoso forgives and *his act* brings about reformation, his reward is with Allah....' That is, recompense of an evil committed should be proportionate, but if there is to be pardon, reformation should be the underpinning aspect in that forgiveness. And the forgiveness should not be inconsistent as regards time and place and should be apposite. A person who forgives in this manner will be rewarded by God.

The core of the commandment in Islam is reformation and not seeking revenge.

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

January 22nd
2016

Such is the pure teaching, without any extremes! Recompense is permitted but the incentive to forgive is also in place with the condition of reformation...It is incumbent upon a fair-minded person to compare and assess which teaching is according to human nature and which teaching is such that one's sense of fairness and conscience repels it.

'Recompense of evil should be in proportion to evil committed. But if a person forgives and pardons sin and the pardon results in reformation and not in anything bad, it pleases God and He rewards this action. Thus, in light of the Holy Qur'an neither every situation calls for punishment nor is clemency commendable in every situation. Rather, appropriateness of time and place should be considered. Punishment or pardon should be implemented in accordance with time and place and not liberally. This is what the Qur'an purports

The administration of the Jama'at and the office-holders should try and make recommendations and reach decisions after due consideration and deliberation and ultimately base them on what pleases God.

Teachings of
Islam is
inclined
toward
reformation

**Excellent
model of
Holy
Prophet
(Peace and
blessings of
Allah be
upon him)**

Sayings of
Promised
Messiah (on
whom be
peace)

Islam teaches that if you forgive someone you should not have any malice toward them.

During the Battle of Uhad, wife of Abu Sufyan Hind mutilated the body of the Prophet's uncle Hamza and gouged out his liver and ate it. After the conquest of Makkah, Hind came into an assembly of the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) with her face covered. She took bai'at and became Muslim. The Holy Prophet asked her if she was the wife of Abu Sufyan. She answered but she had accepted Islam with a sincere heart and asked that what had happened in the past be forgiven. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) forgave her.

Hind's life transformed She sent the Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) two roasted goats with the message that her herd was not very large at the time. The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) prayed for her and her herd increased tremendously..

Teachings of Islam is inclined toward reformation

Excellent model of Holy Prophet (Peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)

Sayings of Promised Messiah (on whom be peace)

January 22nd
2016

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: The Holy Qur'an does not deem pointless pardon and clemency as warrantable because it causes decline in human morals and renders everything chaotic. Rather, pardon is allowed where it leads to some reformation

The Promised Messiah (on whom be peace) said: The re-compose of evil is in proportion to what is committed but if there is forgiveness and the forgiveness is in accordance to time and place with the objective of reformation, its reward is with Allah.

Forgive if pardoning is beneficial but if the perpetrator is mischievous and wicked then follow: 'And the recompense of an injury is an injury the like thereof...'

The worldly laws are being taken to the extreme which will create disorder and restlessness. Islam speaks against decisions which create disorder and restlessness and states that decision should lead to enhancement of individuals.

Funeral Prayer in absentiam



Bilal Mahmood Sahib

Bilal Mahmood Sahib was martyred in Rabwah on 11 January 2016

He was attacked by two unknown assailants on motorbike who fired at him as he walked home in the evening.

Bilal Sahib was born in 1989 and was a Waaqif e Nau

.He was currently working at the Wasiyyat department

May God elevate his station and grant steadfastness to his family.

January 22nd
2016