



Mosques

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Design:



www.sfn.com.tr
0312 435 15 95

Publications of Presidency of Religious Affairs: 664
Brochures: 36

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October 2008, Ankara

The Decision of Higher Committee of Religious Affairs:
01.06.2006/95

Publishing: Başak Printing House
Tel: (0312) 384 27 61-62

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Mosques Mean History

The first thing our prophet, Mohammad (PUH), did after he fled from Mecca to Medina was to construct a mosque there. This first mosque was both the center of social and religious life. In a way, this mosque was indeed the starting point for the Islamic civilization and history. All the mosques on earth, in some ways, bear resemblance to this mosque.

Wherever Muslims went, they first constructed a mosque so as to build their own lives. Thus, constructing a mosque has always been regarded as one of the greatest divine services to God. Mosques are the projections and footprints of Muslims in history.

Mosques, far from being geometrical monuments, are perceived as a life style and world-view. Mosques are as eternal and generous as history, thus being regarded as a gate opening up to the past and future.

Mosques Mean Civilization

Civilization is the reflection of divine truth over a society. Mosques represent the understanding of this truth by the Muslim society.

Mosques are the centers of [Muslim] cities. Life, truth and civilization are united under these mosques' domes. Every time Muslims look at mosques, they will once more realize that starting point of life has emerged from the divine truth and that Muslims have to remain faithful to this divine truth. Hence, the truth realized under the domes of mosques has been transformed into civilization under the vault of heaven.



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Mosques Mean Art

Mosques, which are the sources of civilization, are at the same time the greatest fruits of it. Each civilization, while blossoming, has produced art as a symbol of its perfection.

Mosques have a special place in what the Islamic civilization has produced. Mosques, which combine architecture, ornamentation and calligraphy, also reflect the aesthetic views of the believers. While mosques express the features of time and geography in an artistic way, they at the same time reconstruct a divine aesthetics and eternalize it by transmitting from one generation to other.

Mosques Mean Worship

Muslims are filled with the greatest sense of awe when they stand in the presence of God. The feeling of peace manifests itself in the prayer niche. The closer the worshippers are to the prayer niche in mosques, the more merit they acquire. Thus, imam who collect the all the worshippers' merits, lead the prayers.

Muslims, the moment they set foot in mosques, begin worshipping. Because, mosques, apart from all their functions and associations, are places for worship. One cannot enter mosques without ablution or purification. The greatest contentment is experienced in mosques, one finds divine peace there. Muslims enter mosques as if they would never step out.





Mosques Mean Equality

When Muslims set foot in mosques, they leave every worldly title behind. They abandon their titles, fame, posts and belongings, standing in the presence of their Creator as human beings; the servants of God only. They have nothing but the servants now. Their worldly possessions have no meaning in mosques. What is clear now is that despite all their discrepancies, all men are equal and the only eternal possession here is peaceful mind and devotion to the Almighty.

Mosques Mean Unity

The believers, who range themselves in orderly rows - shoulder to shoulder, learn to share the burdens, joys and sorrows of life together. They know that whoever gets out of the row would disrupt all the sense of unity and orderliness. This has taught them to keep an eye on the other Muslims in the rows. When the muezzin calls for prayer from the minaret – the symbol of unity, Muslims' bodies shake with awe and turn to only God, Allah. They once more conceive the virtue of being generous, not hoarding; sharing but not sparing, leaving all earthly and mundane tasks behind. Mosques have instilled something important into the Muslims' hearts: Everything on earth increases when shared.







Mosques Are for Conversation

Mosques' gates are open to anyone. Likewise, Muslims' hearts are open to everyone. The moment they step in mosques, they are not only in the presence of God, but also ready to communicate with everyone there. This mutual communication leads to natural and friendly exchange of words. In these talks, no word is futile. In these talks, there is no jabbering but wise talk.

Mosques Mean Wisdom

Once Muslims get in mosques, their hearts wide open to spiritual world; their minds to wisdom. Because mosques have always been the seat of wisdom in the course of history. Every word recited from the pulpit enlarges the horizons of the believers inside. Every word flowing out of the pulpit is worth rediscovering. Mosques are the source of wisdom because knowledge conveyed via mosques would bear the fragrance of divine truth. Wisdom is put into words in mosques; and embodied there. Therefore, worshippers enter mosques with good manners. Virtues and good-manners culminate in mosques. Those who once step in mosques have realized that wisdom cannot coexist with ill-manners; likewise truth cannot coexist without knowledge.





بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ
الحمد لله رب العالمین
والصلاة والسلام على
المرسلین
الطیبین الطاهرین
آل محمد الطیبین الطاهرین
الطیبین الطاهرین



Mosques Mean Love

Pure truth can come into existence with love, because to love means to come closer. Believers go into mosques with love and this love nourishes mosques. Mosques, in return, love believers, too. Upon congregating, these lovers are perfected. Mosques and believers share their love with other people. Thus, there is love if mosques are seen there. Mosques teach wisdom and sharing with love. Mosques spread love to those who seek shelter; they give love to worshippers. Mosques do not disillusion the smiling faces, showing 'The Real Beloved One' to those who fill their hearts with love and affection.



Mosques Mean Contentment

Mosques, teaching love and wisdom, also endow worshipping believers with contentment. One realizes that the fountain of civilization, morality and wisdom is these places of worship; at the same time these places serve as shelters.

Believers are always under the shade of mosques. They are well aware of the fact that mosques are the Houses of God. They are represented by God in these holy places. Believers here have come to understand that whatever they have got or are deprived of is because of God.

Wherever believers go, they will be under the shades of mosques. There is neither fear nor sorrow any more for them. On meeting others in mosques, believers would only be hearing the words of peace and tranquility.



Mosques Mean Cleanliness

Believers go into mosques wholeheartedly and unconditionally. They have cleaned not only their bodies but also their souls before they enter.

Mosques have opened their gates to believers. They let believers fill in their heart with divine peace. Only those - who have spiritually cleaned up - can enter mosques. Mosques freshen the souls of believers. First their sins fall apart, then their sorrows alleviate; they get rid of their moral weaknesses and thus get ready to stand in the presence of God with contented and complacent hearts.



Mosques Mean Understanding

Mosques have taught believers to comprehend. They have showed the believers the wisdom of life. Mosques have instilled the divine truth into the understanding of believers. Every time worshippers enter mosques, they first conceive the meaning of understanding, then this becomes a mental faculty and everywhere they go, they take this faculty along with them. They see events through the eyes of mosques; hear with the ears of mosques and feel surrounding universe with the walls of mosques. Their life is surrounded by mosques; they have turned into an integrated community now.



Mosques Are Shelters

Muslims are well aware that mosques' affectionate gates are wide open when there is no shelter either on earth and or in their very hearts. Mosques are shelters for never-ending affection. Actually the source of affection observed in all the shelters can be experienced in mosques. Mosques offer shelter to those who do not seek refuge in mosques as well. Muslims are also conscious of the fact that they all have come from the same source. Mosques are homes for those who shelter; hope for those who do not.



Believers Cannot Exist without Mosques

Believers have always been in and with mosques; in the same way, mosques are with believers all the time. Believers determine their path through mosques. They are fully aware that they cannot exist without mosques. They know that the owner of the mosques is God. They have now understood that all the pains have been suffered for only one purpose; all these joys, happiness, wisdom, love and life have been experienced for one thing: Leading a life without mosques!