

آداب و احكام برائے خطبہ جمعہ (مسائل في خطبة الجمعة)

Basic ruling regarding Friday sermon (Khutbah Jumma)

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Assalam O Alikum Brothers

I wanted to summarize the basic rulings for the Friday sermon (Khutbah). Insha-Allah it will be helpful for us and the new members wanted to join the khutbah team. Therefore I consulted following books from very reputed (Hanafi) scholars and summarize some basic rulings regarding the Friday sermon. Any error in this document is solely my responsibility, please let me know if you find a mistake. Insha-Allah I will correct it.

- English Book: "The Language of the Friday Khutbah" by Mufti Muhammad Taqi Usmani Rahimahullah (Available online: <http://www.archive.org/download/April-2010/TheLanguageOfTheFridayKhutbahBySheikhMuhammadTaqiUsmani.pdf>)
- Urdu Book: "Khutbaat ul Ahkaam Lijamaat ul aam" by Maulana Ashraf Ali thanvi Rahimahullah (Available online: http://www.4shared.com/file/140902151/c1608d0e/khutbat_ul_ahkam_ashraf_ali_thanvi.html)
- Urdu Book: "Khutbaat Jumma O Eidain ma'a aadab-o-ahkaam" by Maulana Muhammad Shafi Sahib Rahimahullah (Available online: <http://www.archive.org/download/Khutbaat-e-Juma-o-EidainByShaykhMuftiMuhammadShafir.a/Khutbaat-e-Juma-o-EidainByShaykhMuftiMuhammadShafir.a.pdf>)

The Friday sermon (khutbah) is compulsory part of the Friday prayer. The Friday prayer is not validated without the khutbah. The Friday sermon is basically two Khutbah separated by a small (quiet) sitting time. [NOTE: It is preferred that the person giving khutbah should lead the Friday prayer. However it is also allowed that any other person (who attended the khutbah) leads the prayer. Anyone who did not listen the khutbah should NOT lead Friday prayer.]

As discussed in detail in the above-mentioned book of Mufti Taqi Usmani Rahimahullah (Pages 3-8) that the Friday Khutbah is not an ordinary sermon; therefore it has some regulations and restrictions. I am summarizing them below:

Compulsory things (فرائض): These things are compulsory for the Friday sermon. The sermon is not validated without them.

- The Friday khutbah must be delivered in the prescribed time of Dhuhr. It is not allowed to give khutbah before the start of the Dhuhr time.
- The Friday khutbah must contain praise and thanks (حمد) of Allah (سبحانه و تعالیٰ). The khutbah is not validated without it.

Other things (آداب و سنن): It is preferred to have following things in the khutbah. However absences of any of these does not violate the khutbah rather make the khutbah obnoxious (Makrooh , مکروه)

- Should do abulation (وضو) before khutbah. [Important: Many scholars say that moving a wet hand on woolen socks is not acceptable for abulation (it is only acceptable on the leather socks). Those who are going to lead the prayer should be considerate for all. Therefore I would recommend to completely wash the feet for abulation].
- Should stand while delivering khutbah
- Face the audience
- Read (not loud) “auozu-billah-hi-min-nash-shai-taan-nir- rajeem” (اعوذ و بالله من الشيطان الرجيم) before starting the khutbah
- Read Khutbah loud so that audience can hear it
- Khutbah should not be very long. [Some narrations say that Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) used to do small khutbah and (comparatively) longer prayer]
- Should start the khutbah with thanks (حمد) to Allah (سبحانه و تعالى)
- Should praise (ثناء) Allah (سبحانه و تعالى)
- Read (Kalmah Shahadatain): “Ash-hadu-al-laa-illaha-ill-lal-laah wa ash-hadu-anna Muhammad –dn-abdo-hu wa rasul-lo-hu” (أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله و أشهد أن محمد عبده و رسوله).
- Read some verse (آية) from Quran
- Send blessings (درود ، صل) on Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)
- Some words of advice. Some preaching of good deeds.
- Sit in between both khutbah
- Second khutbah should also contain Praise of Allah and Blessings on prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)
- Make supplication (دعاء) for all Muslims
- The language for both parts of the khutbah should be “Arabic”.
[NOTE: (Following note is my personal comment, not from above mentioned books). As no one from us is a scholar (عالم) and the khutbah in English is generally accepted by the Muslim community at Houghton. I would request to have at least following things in Arabic (If complete khutbah is not in Arabic): praise of Allah (سبحانه و تعالى), verse from Quran, Blessings on Rasulallah (peace be upon him)]

In the end, I pray Allah (سبحانه و تعالى) to guide us to the right path.

Thanks

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