

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Friday Khutbah – 17/01/2014

The danger of the hypocrites – Reasons why there are so many hypocrites nowadays  
Part of the decree and wisdom of Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*), the All-knowing, the All-wise is that He tests the believers with the *Kuffar* and the *Munafiqoon* who harm them and seek to turn them away from truth and good and encourage them to follow falsehood and evil.

Although the hypocrites are smaller in number and weaker in force than the *Kuffar*, yet they are more dangerous than the *Kuffar*.

The *Munafiqoon* are more dangerous because those who show their *Kufr* and enmity openly, the believer know them, take their precautions against them and avoid their evil. On the other hand the believers underestimate the risk of the *Munafiqeen*. They do not consider them as enemies because they appear to be Muslims and perhaps pray and do other things as the *Munafiqoon* used to do during the time of the Prophet (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) performing *Salat* behind him and fasting.

Muslims accept from the *Munafiqoon* that which they do not accept from the *Kuffar*. One example is that when the *Kitabi Kuffar* recently made a mockery of the Prophet (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) in their drawings, writings and films, the Muslims reacted very strongly against their abuse. However, the *Munafiqoon* among us continue to make mockery of the religion of the Prophet (*salla Allahu alaihi wasalla*), its scholars and followers and announce their refusal of the Shari'ah without the Muslims reacting against them in the same manner they react against the abuse of the *Kuffar*.

Because the *Munafiqoon* are very dangerous, Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) and His Messenger (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) warned Muslim against their dangers.

Allah (*subhanahu wa ta'ala*) mentioned *Nifaq* (hypocrisy) and *Munafiqeen* (hypocrites) in seventeen *suras* of the thirty Madinian *suras*. The total number of verses in which *Nifaq* and *Munafiqeen* are mentioned is around three hundred and forty verses.

Ibn Al-Qayyim, may Allah have mercy upon him, said: "The Qur'an was about to be all about them."

Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) feared for his *Ummah* the threat of the leaders of hypocrites. He said (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*): "What I fear for you most after me is an articulate (well-expressed) *Munafiq*."

The number of the hypocrites has been and continues to be high. Their number will increase and their danger will become greater with the passage of time, with the weakness of Iman, and as long as the the *Kuffar* become more powerful.

One of the proofs that the number of the hypocrites was always high even during the virtuous centuries is that *Hudhaifah, radhiya Allahu 'anhu*, the keeper of the secret of Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) with regard to the hypocrites -Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*) informed him about them – heard a man saying: 'O Allah! Destroy the hypocrites.' *Hudhaifah* said to him: 'O Son of my brother! If Allah destroys the hypocrites, then you will be lonely on the streets because then there will be very little people left.'

Al-Hassan Al-Basri, may Allah have mercy upon him, said: ‘If the *Munafiqeen* are not there then you will feel very lonely.’

These two traditions from *Hudhaifah* and Al-Hassan Al-Basri refute the false claim of *Al-Murji’a* who say that there is no *Nifaq* after the time of the Prophet (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*), that there is only *Kufr* and *Iman*, and that whoever says the *Shahada* is a complete believer. They say so because unlike *ahl As-Sunnah wal-Jama’ah* they do not consider ‘*amal* (action) to be part of *Iman*.

*As-Salaf as-Salih* rejected this opinion of *Al-Murji’iah* and considered their *bid’ah* to be equivalent to the *bid’ah* of *Al-Khawarij* who went to extreme with regard to *Takfir*; considering one who commits a major wrong action to be *Kafir*.

It was said to Al-Hassan Al-Basri that there are some people who claim that there is no *Nifaq* and they are not afraid of it. He said: “By Allah! For me to know that I am free from *Nifaq* is more beloved to me than having the equivalent of the earth full of gold.”

Sufian Ath-Thawri said: “The disagreement between us an *Al-Murji’ah* is over three issues – and mentioned of them that: “We say there is *Nifaq* and they say there is no *Nifaq*.”

-----  
There are too many reasons why there are so many *Munafiq* nowadays. These reasons are even more than before. It is not possible to mention all of these reasons in the short space of time we have. I will suffice myself by mentioning some of these reasons:

- 1) The spread of ignorance in the *Ummah*, the corruption of *Aqeeda* and the spread of *Shirk* practices and *bid’at*.
- 2) The spread of the *Irja’i* thought without people necessarily being affiliated to it. The *Murj’iah* claim that no sin will harm one as long as he says the *Shahada*.
- 3) The spread of the ‘*Itizali* thought without affiliation to it– the *Mu’tazilah* are those who overstate the role of the intellect and make it a determining factor to accept the interpretation of many of the Qur’anic verses and *Ahadith* of Rasulullah (*salla Allahu alaihi wasallam*.) This is the attitude of the apologetic ones who feel embarrassed and defeated in front of the *Kuffar*.
- 4) Removing Islam from most of the areas of life, the adoption of man-made laws which are derived from the French or other laws and the loyalty of Muslim rules to the *Kuffar* at the expense of Islam.
- 5) The control of the media by the hypocrites in Muslim countries, who keep the righteous Muslims away from the media and only give the opportunity to those who are anti-Islam.
- 6) The military, scientific, economical and civil advancement of the *Kuffar*. This led the ignorant and helpless Muslims to imitate them and take them as their role models.
- 7) The terminologies war, something which the enemies of Islam have mastered very well. These include such terms like fundamentalism, extremism, political Islam and terrorism. This war has shaken the trust of Muslims in themselves and has changed many of the concepts and convictions of Muslims.

These are only a few factors which led to the increase in the number of hypocrites in our time.

I ask Allah (*subhanahu wa ta’ala*) my Lord and your Lord to protect us from *Shirk*, *Nifaq* and bad *IkhlAQ*. He is the most merciful, most generous.