

Summarised Friday Sermon

23rd June 2006

Today's Challenges in Building A Muslim Community of Excellence

- The ummah is advised to practice openness without neglecting our basic principles as Muslims.
- Among the many hidden blessings behind such tests and problems, is to train and urge us in thinking more openly. It will increase our maturity and experience in facing the future.
- Islam places much importance on development, mental and physical development. On this basis, Islam does not stop its ummah from gaining progress and modernization.
- Living in today's modern world is not wrong from the perspective of Islamic teachings. If we are to make full use of it, without neglecting the values and principles of Islam, we will be able to live through modernization and be an exemplary community that possesses its own identity and pure values.
- Parents play a very important role in inculcating Islamic values in children, such as the sense of responsibility, accountability and other good Islamic values so as to allow them to differentiate between right and wrong and to adapt in a modernized world.
- To live and to achieve progress in Singapore, the Muslim community must possess certain characteristics to overcome these challenges. Among the many traits is to hold firmly to the principles of Islam and to adapt to a changing context.
- We should practice Islam more than the rituals so as to adapt successfully to the modernized world and by being a Muslim that can be exemplary to other communities by displaying good character and commitment in doing work.