

Summarised Friday Sermon

30th June 2006

The Foundations for an Excellent Muslim Community

- Knowledge is very important in our efforts to fulfill the development of an excellent Muslim community in Singapore; holding strongly to the Islamic principles and guidelines, while at the same time adapting to our changing environment.
- To build a knowledgeable Muslim community today, we must not forget to appreciate Islamic civilization and history. Learning from the past enables us to understand current issues and overcome the challenges of modernization.
- Besides appreciating the advancement of the Islamic civilization, another important attribute is by interacting and learning from other civilizations and races, which are at present, more advanced than the Muslim community in all fields of knowledge.
- Muslim community in multi-racial Singapore can learn from the positive values of the Chinese and Indian community who live together with us. Likewise, they can learn from what we can offer to others too.
- Besides knowledge and principles, good character is as important in making the Singapore Muslim community an excellent one. It is pointless to possess intelligence and knowledge but lack dignity and exemplary manners.
- Good moral values and a deeply embedded spirituality are the motivators of a Muslim community to be bolder in facing changes and challenges in living in a multi-racial society.
- Thus it is important for us, the Muslim community, to realize that the spirituality of Islam does not in any way stop us from achieving progress. In fact, Islam guides us towards the values.