



## Summarised Friday Sermon

4 JANUARY 2008

### APPRECIATING OTHER CULTURES

- In a hadith, Rasulullah s.a.w said: (Hadith narrated by Imam Bukhari and Muslim)Which means: You will surely follow the ways of those nations who were before you, inch by inch, yard by yard, so much so that even if they enter a lizard's hole, you will follow them. The Companions then asked: "O Rasulullah! Do you mean the Jews and the Christians?" He said, "Whom else?"
- This hadith clearly forbids us from imitating the ways of other people which are against the teachings of Islam. We have been given the best judicial system, the best way of life, the best legal system. We should be proud of our own Islamic jurisdiction. The complete religion. The religion that guides every aspect of our lives. The guidance that comes from the Creator of mankind, Allah rabbul 'alamin.
- We are forbidden from imitating the ways of the non-Muslims. But this does not mean that we should reject everything that comes from other societies. Not all aspects of their lives are wrong and at odds with Islam. In fact, many aspects of their lives reflect certain Islamic values.
- .So Allah s.w.t commanded us to learn from other races, even from those who are not from the same religion. Because their lifestyles do have some positive values which we can adopt to strengthen our own society. But we cannot learn from other people, if we still have pride and arrogance in ourselves.
- We are taught to get to know each other and to learn from each other, regardless of race or religion. But we need to know what is right and what is wrong, what is true and what is false. And there is no better way to know it than to equip ourselves with Islamic knowledge.



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*Mosque without borders*