

TREATING THE NEIGHBOURS

It is the bounden duty of every Muslim to refrain from saying anything or doing anything, which may be a source of trouble to his neighbour. Islam's approach to life is not non-social. Islam no doubt makes man stand in the presence of the **Rabb** as an individual, but he is never isolated from other men. The distress which vexes him is not his own only; it is that of his brethren as well; the redemption for which he longs for is also the redemption of his people, his fellow-believers, nay, the entire humanity. It is the duty of a Muslim not only to lead a peaceful life himself, but also to create a social atmosphere where every man feels secure from the tyranny of the oppressors.

Sayyiduna Abu Hurayra reported that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) said: *"He will not enter Paradise whose neighbour is not secure from his wrongful conduct."* (Muslim) The term "wrongful conduct" covers all injurious treatments and malevolent or mischievous dispositions.

Sayyidah Ayesha reported that the Beloved Habeeb (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) said: *"Sayyiduna Jibra'eel continued to recommend me about treating the neighbours kindly and politely, so much so that I thought he would order me to make them as my heirs"*. (Bukhari)

Sayyiduna Abu Shuraih reported that Sayyiduna Rasoolullah ﷺ said: *"By Allah, he does not believe! By Allah, he does not believe! By Allah, he does not believe!"* It was said: *"Who is that, O Allah's Apostle?"* He said: *"That person whose neighbour does not feel safe from his evil."* (Bukhari)

Sayyiduna Abu Hurayra reported that the Glorious Prophet of Islam (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) said: *"Anybody who believes in Allah and the Last Day should not harm his neighbour, and anybody who believes in Allah and the Last Day should entertain his guest generously and*

*anybody who believes in **Allah** and the Last Day should talk what is good or keep quiet (i.e. abstain from all kinds of evil and dirty talk)."* (Bukhari)

Sayyidah Ayesha reported: *"I said, 'O **Allah**'s Apostle! I have two neighbours. To whom shall I send my gifts?' He said, 'To the one whose gate is nearer to you'"*. (Bukhari)

The Holy Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) himself was ready to forego his own comforts for the sake of his neighbours. His treatment towards his close neighbours and the As'haab-e-Suffah was very cordial, friendly and sympathetic. Once Sayyiduna Ali asked the Holy Prophet (Sallallahu Alaihi Wassallam) for a maidservant for Sayyidah Fatima, his daughter. He said: *"As yet, the companions of Suffah have not been provided for."*