

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES TO POWERPOINT PRESENTATION 'HUNGER AND POVERTY: AN ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE'.



The following notes provide further explanation on the meaning of the quotes from the Qur'an and sayings of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), used as part of the '*Hunger and Poverty: An Islamic Perspective*' PowerPoint.

HOW COULD I USE THESE NOTES?



You may want to read from these notes as you present the PowerPoint to a group. You could also provide members of the audience with a copy of these notes as they watch the presentation.



Slide 1:

'God commands justice, doing good and generosity towards others and He forbids what is shameful, blameworthy and oppressive'

(The Qur'an, chapter 16, verse 90)

Many root causes of poverty are linked to injustices being committed. For example, countries with a spiral of debt are unable to afford to invest in their own countries in order to improve health, education and many other basic needs, for their citizens. They use much of their national income generated in paying off debts to those they owe and, as a consequence, are unable to alleviate poverty.

Slide 2:

'More than a billion people in the developing world live on less than a dollar a day.'

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

Slide 3:

'He who sleeps on a full stomach whilst his neighbour goes hungry is not one of us'

Saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)

(Bukhari)

This saying of the Prophet (peace be upon him) alludes to the importance of citizenship and social responsibility towards others. It focuses on the importance of making sure our neighbours are given their due rights and are cared for when in a state of poverty and need.

An important point here is that everything in Islam is rooted to earning God's pleasure and reward. As God is pleased with those who care about others, Muslims will strive to look after their neighbours and fellow citizens.

Slide 4:

'Over 960 million people are malnourished in the world today.'

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

Slide 5:

'O children of Adam! Wear your beautiful apparel at every time and place of prayer: eat and drink: But waste not by excess, for Allah loves not the wasters'

(The Qur'an, chapter 7, verse 31)

This verse places emphasis on the importance of moderation in Islam; there are enough resources for everyone but because we use in excess, we actually deprive others.

To waste and to be excessive is disrespectful to the blessing of being able to eat and drink.

Again, it is important to mention that everything in Islam is rooted to earning God's pleasure and reward. As God is displeased by those who are wasteful and excessive, Muslims will strive to be modest in character.

Slide 6:

'Under-nourishment plays a part in more than half of all child deaths.'

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

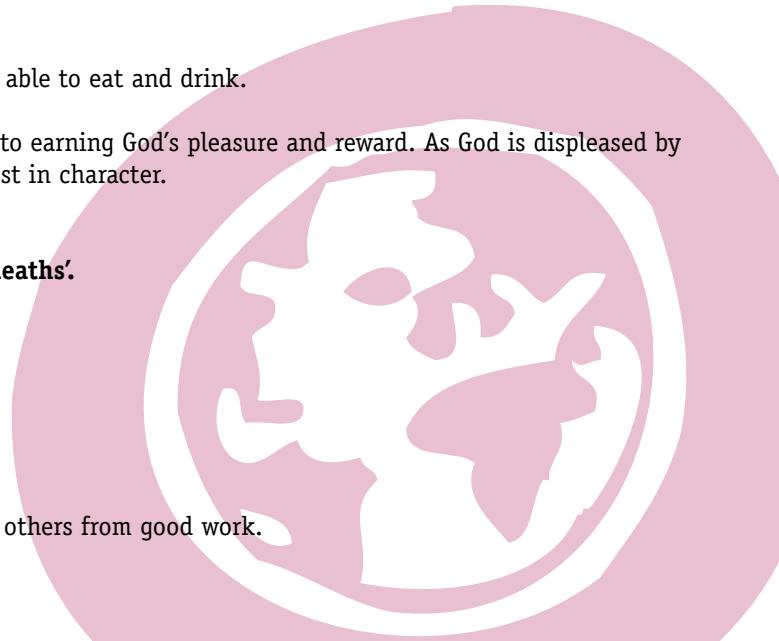
Slide 7:

'The best of you is he (or she) who is of most benefit to others'

Saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)

(Tabarani)

This is an encouragement to become an active citizen and to benefit others from good work.



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Slide 8:

'Two and a half billion people have no access to basic sanitation and 900 million people no clean water'.
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

Slide 9:

'Whoever relieves his brother of a trial or difficulty in this life, God will relieve him of a trial in the next life.'
Saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)
(Bukhari and Muslim)

This saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), is an encouragement to help those in need and in suffering.

In Islam, this life is a test. Muslims are encouraged to do their best to help others through their trials. This is to earn God's pleasure, to be successful in the next life, and to make a real difference in this life.

Slide 10:

'A quarter of the world's population, about 1.6 billion people, have no electricity in their homes'
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

Slide 11:

'A believer who serves water to another who is thirsty, will have his thirst quenched from the sealed drinks by God on the Day of Judgement.'
Saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)
(Tirmidhi)

This draws upon the message that all good deeds hold reward in Islam.

Our dependency on water for our existence is greater than any other substance. The miracle of water is that it is colourless, has no smell, and yet is the most essential element for the human body. Offering relief through providing water and building wells is one of the highest sources of reward in Islam.

Slide 12:

'If we fail to get to grips with water and sanitation, around 4,000 people, mostly children, will continue to die needlessly every day'
<http://www.dfid.gov.uk>

Slide 13:

'The best friend in the sight of Allah is he who is the well-wisher of his companions, and the best neighbour is one who behaves best towards his neighbours.'

Saying of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him)
(Tirmidhi)

This draws upon the message of tolerance and respect towards all men and women in Islam.
The neighbour is to be treated well as this will enhance community spirit, spread goodness and help those in need.



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