

## Khutbah Lecture Summary - Friday, January 2, 2015

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### Topic: Celebrations & Best Use of Time

- Islamic traditions have no established precedence for celebrating new year.
- Celebrations are good, but should be tied to a higher purpose that is noble, praiseworthy and rewarding.
- A new year, month or day are all opportunities for reflection. What have we done and what are we doing next?
- Allah did not create us nor the heavens, earth and everything in between, in vain.
- Thus, we should also ensure our actions are of benefit in some legitimate way, whether in this world, the Hereafter or both.
- Merely satisfying our desires is not a legitimate purpose.
- Surah al-'Asr tells us that each passing moment is leaving us in a loss, except for those who 1) believe, 2) do good deeds, 3) encourage people towards the truth, 4) encourage people towards patience.
- Hadith of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ:

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ : مِنْ حُسْنِ إِسْلَامِ الْمَرْءِ تَرْكُهُ مَا لَا يَغْنِيهِ حَدِيثٌ حَسَنٌ ، رَوَاهُ التِّرْمِذِيُّ وَغَيْرُهُ

- "Part of the perfection of one's Islam is his leaving that which does not concern him." (Recorded by Tirmidhi)

### Take Action

- Reflect on the passing of time: How have you been using your time?
- Find activities that you can do that are of most benefit. Drop the ones that are harmful or of very little benefit.
- Develop an 12-month personal plan. Find a template at <http://www.soundvision.com/info/development/annual.asp>