

Albanian American Islamic Center of Arizona  
“Greenway Masjid”

Khutbah delivered by Imam Didmar Faja  
November 9, 2007

## Logic development

All praises are due to Allah, may His peace and blessings be upon Prophet Muhammad, his family members, his companions, and all of those who followed his path.

**Dear brothers and sisters:** Allah has created humankind with a special gift, and that is logic. Logic is the reasoning which differentiates us from animals. In order to possess sound logic, it becomes our duty to develop our logic throughout the stages of our life. Here I will mention some ways we can follow in order to maintain and develop sound logic.

- **Development of logic using wisdom**

Almighty Allah says:

وَلَا تَقْفُ مَا لَيْسَ لَكَ بِهِ عِلْمٌ إِنَّ السَّمْعَ وَالْبَصَرَ وَالْفُؤَادَ كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ مَسْئُولًا.

“And pursue not that of which thou hast no knowledge; for every act of hearing, or of seeing or of (feeling in) the heart will be enquired into (on the Day of Reckoning).” (Israa: 36)

The Holy Quran tells us to use logic with wisdom. It teaches us neither to hasten our judgment nor to rush to conclusions.

Almighty Allah says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِن جَاءكُمْ فَاسِقٌ بِنَبَأٍ فَتَبَيَّنُوا أَن تُصِيبُوا قَوْمًا بِجَهَالَةٍ فَتُصْحَبُوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلْتُمْ نَادِمِينَ

“O ye who believe! If a wicked person comes to you with any news, ascertain the truth, lest ye harm people unwittingly and afterwards become full of repentance for what ye have done.” (Al Hujurat: 6)

Almighty Allah not only wants us to use logic with wisdom in our social issues, but He goes further and tells us to use logic such that we can find the One and only Creator and the right guidance. He says:

هُؤُلَاءِ قَوْمُنَا اتَّخَذُوا مِن دُونِهِ آلِهَةً لَّوْلَا يَأْتُونَ

عَلَيْهِمْ بِسُلْطَانٍ بَيِّنٍ فَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ افْتَرَى عَلَى اللَّهِ كَذِبًا

“These our people have taken for worship gods other than Him: why do they not bring forward an authority clear (and convincing) for what they do? Who doth more wrong than such as invent a falsehood against Allah?” (Surah Al Kahf: 15)

- **Development of group logic**

The real strength is in a Jama'ah. Muslims should develop logic as a group - “group logic” – that is, logic which will serve towards the betterment of the Jama'ah and not only the individual. Using group logic is a must in order for the community to stay united. The Quran says:

وَاتَّقُوا فِتْنَةً لَا تُصِيبَنَّ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا مِنْكُمْ خَاصَّةً وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ  
اللَّهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ

“And fear tumult or oppression, which affecteth not in particular (only) those of you who do wrong: and know that Allah is strict in punishment.” (Anfal: 25)

- **Development of advanced logic**

Muslims should always strive to advance their logic in ways that do not contradict the teachings of Islam. Following blindly through imitation do not help to advance logic. The Quran says:

وَكَذَلِكَ مَا أَرْسَلْنَا مِنْ قَبْلِكَ فِي قَرْيَةٍ مِّنْ نَّذِيرٍ إِلَّا قَالَ مُتْرَفُوهَا إِنَّا وَجَدْنَا آبَاءَنَا  
عَلَىٰ أُمَّةٍ وَإِنَّا عَلَىٰ آثَارِهِم مُّقْتَدُونَ

“Just in the same way, whenever We sent a Warner before thee to any people, the wealthy ones among them said: "We found our fathers following a certain religion, and we will certainly follow in their footsteps.” (Zukhruf; 23)

- **Development of self-criticism based logic**

For a Muslim to be just and to strive in the development of sound character and personality, he/she needs to accept his/her own mistakes and critique oneself instead of needlessly criticizing others or justifying own mistakes. The Holy Quran shows us that self criticism is a must when a person or a community has shortcomings. Almighty Allah says:

وَمَا أَصَابَكُمْ مِّنْ مُّصِيبَةٍ فَبِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِيكُمْ وَيَعْفُو عَنْ كَثِيرٍ

“Whatever misfortune happens to you is because of the things your hands have wrought, and for many (of them) He grants forgiveness.” (Ash-Shura: 30)

We realize that Allah held accountable Adam and his wife Hawwa for eating a fruit which Allah forbade them even though Iblis was the one encouraging them. Adam and his wife accepted their mistake and asked the Almighty for forgiveness. This was a great example for generations to follow as it taught them that self criticism and asking God for forgiveness is a part of the methodology for improvement.