

The Minbar is not for reading the Newspaper or politics

The Mufti Shaykh Abdul Aziz Āli Shaykh

Shaykh Abdul Aziz the Mufti of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the head of the permanent committee of scholars directed some words of advice to those who deliver the Friday sermons. He advised those who deliver Friday sermons to:

- ❖ Make the sermons short and concise and avoid making them lengthy.
- ❖ Select topics which are vital, beneficial, and appropriate for the condition of the people and community issues.
- ❖ The manner of delivering the sermon must be suitable for those in attendance as much as possible. The subject matter must be vital and beneficial to the listeners such that it benefits them in their religion and their worldly life. The speaker's voice should not be annoying, the words should not be offensive, and there should not be repetition that will bore the listeners.
- ❖ As for taking the Minbar as an opportunity to read the newspaper, global media reports or to give a political analysis – far removed from the comprehension of those in attendance and perhaps the speaker himself does not understand the topic – this is incorrect. Address the people according to their understanding.

حَدَّثُوا النَّاسَ بِمَا يَعْرِفُونَ أُتَجِبُونَ أَنْ يُكَذَّبَ اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Address the people according to what they understand; do you want for Allah and His messenger to be rejected?¹

The strength of the speaker, his good style, and his shortening and summarizing the sermon will allow the listeners to leave with benefit. The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

إِنَّ طُولَ صَلَاةِ الرَّجُلِ وَقِصَرَ خُطْبَتِهِ مَثْنَةٌ مِنْ فِقْهِهِ، فَأَطِيلُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَقَصِّرُوا الْخُطْبَةَ، فَإِنَّ مِنَ الْبَيَانِ لَسِحْرًا

“A man's lengthening his prayer and shortening his sermon is a sign of his understanding, so make your prayers lengthy and your sermons brief, for indeed some eloquent speech is magic.”²

¹ Collected in Sahih Al Bukhari in the book of knowledge from the statement of Ali ibn Abi Talib may Allah be pleased with him.

² Collected in Muslim (969)

Those who deliver the Friday sermons should take into account the condition of the worshippers especially the elderly and those suffering from health conditions and chronic diseases such as diabetes. Prolonging Jumah harms them and prevents them from benefiting from the Friday sermon.

Source:

المفتي للخطباء: لا تجعلوا منابرکم للتحليل السياسي وقراءة الصحف

<https://www.mufti.af.org.sa/ar>

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