

## Environment & Animal Rights 2-11-11

And when your Lord said to the angels, I am going to place in the earth a khalif (Allah SWT trusted us to rule the earth as his representative) (2:30)

And the heaven He has raised it high, and He has set up the Balance

Surely the squanderers/wastefuls are the brothers of the Shaitans (17:27)

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When he turns his back his aim everywhere is to spread damage/corruption through the earth and destroy crops and cattle. But Allah does not love corruption (2:205)

Thus have We made of you an Ummah justly balanced (2:143)

### **Environment:**

The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said: Faith has over seventy branches or over sixty branches, the highest of which is the declaration that there is no god but Allah, and the least of which is the removal of what is harmful from the path: and modesty is the branch of faith.

### Pollution

The Prophet (pbuh) passed by Sa'd while he was performing ablution and said, "What is this extravagance/waste, Sa'd?" He said, "Is there extravagance in the use of water?" He said, "Yes, even if you are at a flowing river." **Conservation.**

On migrating to Medina, God's Messenger (PBUH) organized the planting of trees and of date groves. He made the forests and green spaces conservation areas, where every sort of living creature lived. These were called sanctuaries (hima). Islam gives to nature conservancy and protection of all nature's living creatures. This is the same thing as a Wild life reserve.

## **Plants:**

“If a Muslim plants a tree, that part of its produce consumed by men will be as almsgiving for him. Any fruit stolen from the tree will also be as almsgiving for him. That which the birds eat will also be as almsgiving for him. Any of its produce which people may eat thus diminishing it, will be as almsgiving for the Muslims who planted it.”

“If the Hour starts to happen and in the hand of one of you is a palm shoot or seedling; then if he’s able to plant it before the Hour happens, then let him plant it”.

But the first lesson that comes to my mind is that a Muslim should learn to contribute under all circumstances. It may have been expected that the Prophet would have instructed us to throw out that plant, and to concentrate on prayer or something. Subhana Allah, not even the Hour is an excuse for the one of us not to contribute to society and to the benefit of humanity.

Abu-Bakr's instructions to his army leader: “I give you ten commandments: don’t kill a woman or a child or an old person, and don’t cut trees or ruin dwellings or slay a sheep but for food. Don’t burn palm trees or drown them. And don’t be spiteful or unjust.”

## **Living Creatures: Animal Rights: Animal Abuse:**

There is no animal that walks upon the earth, nor a bird that flies with its two wings, but are communities like you. (6:38)

And there is not a thing but glorifies His Praise. But you understand not their glorification. (17:44)

The Prophet said, "A woman entered the (Hell) Fire because of a cat which she had tied, neither giving it food nor setting it free to eat from the vermin (mice) of the earth."

The Prophet said, "A man felt very thirsty while he was on the way, there he came across a well. He went down the well, quenched his thirst and came out. Meanwhile he saw a dog panting and licking mud because of excessive thirst. He said to himself, "This dog is suffering from thirst as I did." So, he went down

the well again and filled his shoe with water and watered it. Allah thanked him for that deed and forgave him. The people said, "O Allah's Apostle! Is there a reward for us in serving the animals?" He replied: "Yes, there is a reward for serving any animate (living being)."

The Prophet, may God praise him, said, "Whoever kills a sparrow or anything bigger than that without a just cause, God will hold him accountable on the Day of Judgment." The listeners asked, "O Messenger of God, what is a just cause?" He replied, "That he will kill it to eat, not simply to chop off its head and then throw it away."

"If someone kills a sparrow for sport, the sparrow will cry out on the Day of Judgment, "O Lord! That person killed me in vain! He did not kill me for any useful purpose."

### **American Buffalo.**

If the Prophet saw, any animal over-burdened or ill fed he would speak mildly to the owner and say, "Fear God in your treatment of animals."

"God has ordained kindness and excellence in everything. If the killing (of animals) is to be done, do it in the best manner, and when you slaughter, do it in the best manner by first sharpening the knife, and putting the animal at ease."

**Mental cruelty:** Hide the knife and do not slaughter in front of other animals.

All living creatures were put on this earth by God for our benefit. They should not be treated cruelly. It is humankind's responsibility to see that they have food, water, and shelter from the elements. Living creatures must not be overburdened, abused, or tortured and doing so will surely result in God's just punishment. A true believer in God demonstrates his or her belief by respecting the entire creation, and Prophet Muhammad's character and actions are a shining example of respect for all that exists.