

It all started back in the year 1637 in the city of Groton Connecticut, the men, women and children were gathering together for their annual Green Corn festival which was their Fall celebration and way of showing thanks. ^{to whom they were thanking ---} After their day of celebration, they all returned back to their homes and settled in to go to sleep and get ready for the next days work. However, on that very same evening, little did they know that they were going to have some unexpected guests. The puritans and pilgrims were migrating from Europe and had been arriving for some time now. These puritans and pilgrims were not just some religious conservatives persecuted by the King of England and the Church of England for their so called unorthodox beliefs, rather they were political revolutionaries who not only intended to overthrow the government of England, as they did in 1649, but they also intended to come and usurp North America from the native American Indians. These pilgrims were not just innocent refugees fleeing from religious persecution, rather they considered themselves to be the "Chosen Elect" as mentioned in the bible. They strove to purify themselves first and then everyone and everything around them who did not accept their interpretation of their scripture. These New England Puritans and Pilgrims used any means necessary to show that they were the "chosen elect", deceptions, treachery, torture, war and genocide to achieve that end. They saw themselves fighting a holy war against satan, and everyone who disagreed with them was the enemy...and in this case the Native American Indians were the heathens, savages and therefore the instruments of the Devil himself, that needed to be exterminated. As word spread in England about the New World, the puritans and pilgrims set their boats towards north America to conquer to new land. So During the middle of the night there houses were surrounded by the Dutch and English mercenaries who ordered all the men, women and children to come outside. Those who came out were either shot or

clubbed to death, while the terrified women and children huddled inside their homes were burnt alive. The next day the governor of Massachusetts Bay Colony declared a "Day of Thanksgiving" because 700 unarmed native American Indians, men, women and children were massacred and murdered in cold blood.

Cheered by their victory these puritans and pilgrims, the colonists attacked Indian village after village. Until after many successful raids on Indian villages the churches announced days of thanksgiving after every time an Indian tribe or village was wiped out. During the feasting, of turkeys, mashed potatoes, corn and cranberry sauce, new heads of the Indians were cut off and put on wooden posts for all of the villages to see. After some time George Washington finally suggested that only one day of Thanksgiving per year be set aside, instead of celebrating each and every massacre of the Indians. At the end of the conflict of the Indians and puritans/pilgrims most of the New England Indians were either exterminated or sold into slavery in the Carolinas by the Puritans.

Brothers and sisters in Islam....this story of Thanksgiving doesn't have quite the same warm and fuzzy feelings as the story we are taught in elementary school. Where the Indians and pilgrims were all sitting down peacefully eating happily together, the story which many of us have been brainwashed to believe.

This story was actually written by those who were colonized, the Native American Indians, and not the colonizers, this is the politically incorrect narrative of the origin of Thanksgiving and was written by those who were the victims of such heinous crimes against them.

Brothers and sisters in Islam, as Muslims living in America and those blessed to be Muslims, we need to learn the truth about the history of the land we live in and the celebrations that people participate in, so that occurrences such as Thanksgiving never repeat themselves again.

Allah described the believers with a specific trait that all Muslims should try to incorporate into their behavior and manners: We are those who do not bare witness to falsehood, nor participate in it, nor promote it, nor facilitate it, nor congratulate others for participating in it. Allah says in the Quran mentioning a few characteristics and traits that a true believer should adorn themselves with:

وَالَّذِينَ لَا يَشْهَدُونَ الزُّورَ وَإِذَا مَرُّوا بِاللَّغْوِ مَرُّوا كِرَامًا

And [they are] those who do not testify to falsehood, and when they pass near ill speech, they pass by with dignity.

The meaning of Zoor here generally means to not testify, bare witness to, participate in falsehood, and specifically it means the celebrations, festivals and eids of the non-Muslims.

As Muslims we should not bare witness to, approve, participate in, celebrate holidays or partake in Eids, or festivals that are based upon commemorate the killing, raping, destroying and oppressing other people. A Muslim should never participate in a holiday or celebration in which glorification and gratitude is shown to other than Allah.

As Muslims we have a complete religion, rich with daily offerings of honest worship, thanking Allah, praising Allah and constantly showing gratitude to Him for everything we have. Muslims have no need to blindly follow the truly ungrateful who only set aside one day of the year to thank whoever they are thanking.

To the pilgrims, puritans and tyrannical colonizers Thanksgiving is a clear recognition and celebration of the killing of indigenous Native Americans? While on the other hand to the native American indians Thanksgiving is a day of mourning and sadness, so whose side do you take dearly beloved brothers and sisters?

Second Khutbah

Brothers and sisters in Islam, as we all know next Thursday is when many people will celebrate Thanksgiving, a day within everyone supposedly shows thanks to something or someone. If you were to ask the majority of people they don't even know why or to whom they are giving thanks, this shows us how confused and how in much in need of guidance they are....

As for the Muslim then he is always thankful and grateful to Allah for everything that He has given us. O Allah we are thankful to Allah first and foremost by guiding us to Islam, but sending us the Quran and the Prophet Muhammad as a teacher of the Quran, we are thankful for our families, our safety, our security, our sustenance, or health and everything that Allah has given us. Take some time to sit, ponder and reflect over the numerous blessing that Allah has bestowed upon you, Allah tells us that He created us and brought us into this world with nothing and everything that we have is from Him, then tells us why He was given us these things:

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

And Allah brought you out of the wombs of your mothers while you knew nothing, and gave you hearing, sight, and intellect so perhaps you would be thankful.

So that perhaps you would be thankful.....

How many of us are truly thankful to Allah? Allah has blessed us with all of our faculties...our eyes and the ability to see, our ears and the ability to hear, our tongues and the ability to taste, speak and chew, our noses

and the ability to smell, our brains and hearts and the ability to think, ponder and reflect, our skins and the ability to touch and feel...

Be reminded O believers that showing true thanks to Allah, our creator has three main pillars:

1. Admitting and confessing Allah's blessings upon us internally within our hearts, souls and minds while loving the One who bestowed these things upon us.
2. Speaking about Allah's blessings upon us and outwardly manifesting them, while constantly praising Allah and thanking Him for them.
3. Utilizing the blessings of Allah to be obedient to Him, using your body to worship Him, using your hearts to love him, fear him, awe him, dread him, using your tongue to praise him, read his quran, speak with truth and good words, using your money to spread His religion, using your hands to only earn halal earnings, using your money to invest in halaal things, using your eyes to look at Allah's signs in your surroundings, while at the same time...brothers and sisters....using Allah's blessings to prevent you from disobeying him...using your mind and body that Allah has blessed you with to avoid fornication, pornography, stealing, buying or selling intoxicants...using your tongue to prevent you from lying and and deceiving.

Being obedient to Allah and using your body, mind and soul to worship Him is showing true thanks and gratitude to Him for blessing you with a healthy body and all of its working functions....and being disobedient to Allah by using your mind body and soul is showing that your ungrateful to Him...

So let us be constantly grateful to Allah and know and realize that we are constantly swimming in the expansive ocean of Allah's blessings and bounties upon us every day and every minute of our lives. As He

has given us everything we've always asked Him for and more, trying to enumerate the blessings is impossible, but giving thanks to Him is constantly necessary:

وَعَاتِبْكُمْ مِّنْ كُلِّ مَا سَأَلْتُمُوهُ وَإِن تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ لَا تَحْصُوهَا إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لظَلُومٌ كَفَّارٌ

And He has granted you all that you asked Him for. If you tried to count Allah's blessings, you would never be able to number them.

Indeed humankind is truly unfair, 'totally' ungrateful