

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

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Honesty: Its Manifestations and Its Impact on Achieving Societal Security

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“Allah commands you [people] to return things entrusted to you to their rightful owners.”** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

The Islamic Shai’ah is rich with calls for good ethics and noble values, including the value of honesty. The Almighty Allah ordered His servants to adhere to this value and described the faithful people as having this trait. Allah, the Exalted, said, **“Allah commands you [people] to return things entrusted to you to their rightful owners.”** Allah also said about believers, “...Who are faithful to their trusts and pledge.” The Prophet (PBUH) said, “[There] are four [qualities] if you possess them, you will not be [bothered] about what you miss in the world life: fulfilling trusts, truthful speech, good manners, and modesty with food [i.e. not to be wasteful, extravagant, etc].”

Honesty has many forms and great meanings, all of which involve a person's sense of responsibility in everything entrusted to him. It includes honesty with money, honesty of speech, honesty of keeping secrets, honesty in giving advice, honesty in buying and selling, and honesty in work. The Almighty Allah said, "**O believers! Be mindful of Allah, and say what is right.**" The Prophet (PBUH) said, "A man may speak a good word without knowing its worth, Allah records for him His pleasure till the day he will meet Him; and a man may utter an evil word without realizing its evilness, Allah records for him His displeasure till the day he will meet Him." In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said, "When a man tells something and then departs, it is a trust" Also, the Prophet (PBUH) said, "One who is consulted is entrusted." The Prophet (PBUH) also said, "The truthful and honest merchant is associated with the Prophets, the upright, and martyrs."

One of the most important forms of honesty is the honesty in calling to Allah, which is one of the most important characteristics of the Prophets and Messengers. Allah (The Exalted) told us that Prophets Noah, Hood, Saleh, Lot and Shuaib (peace be upon them), all of them told their peoples, "**I am a faithful messenger to you.**" We witness that the Prophets of Allah (peace be upon them) were faithful to their trusts, and that our Prophet (peace be upon him) delivered the message, performed his duty, advised the nation, and Allah has relived us of troubles though him. Honesty in

Da'wah requires being truthful and avoiding searching for the strange and odd views in order to draw attention or get follow-up on social media.

Our Prophet (peace be upon him) was entitled among his people from his early childhood as the truthful and the honest. He (PBUH) gave us the most wonderful example of honesty upon his emigration to Medina, when he (PBUH) asked Ali Ibn Abu Talib to stay at Mecca to return deposits to their owners, who were the polytheists chasing him to kill him. He (PBUH) did not consume these deposits for himself or for his companions.

As our religion has ordered us to adhere to honesty, it has strongly warned against treason showing that it is one of the traits of hypocrites. The Almighty Allah said, **“Believers, do not betray Allah and the Messenger, or knowingly betray [other people’s] trust in you.”** The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, “The signs of a hypocrite are three: When he speaks, he tells a lie; and when he promises, he breaks his promise; and when he is entrusted, he betrays.” In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said, “He who is not trustworthy has no faith, and he who does not keep his covenant has no religion.” The Prophet (PBUH) also said, “O Allah, I seek refuge in You from treachery, for it is an evil thing to hide in one’s heart.”

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There is no doubt that faith, security and honesty are related to one another. There is no security without faith, and no faith without honesty. If honesty disappeared, there will be great unrest, hostility and strife in the society, and there will be not trust among friends, husbands and wives, and neighbors. Honesty brings about peace, tranquility and community security for people.

We affirm that honesty is part of our faith, and of our religion. We practice it with friends and even enemies, and we do not respond to betrayal with betrayal. The Almighty Allah said, **"If you learn of treachery on the part of any people, throw their treaty back at them, for Allah does not love the treacherous."** This means, let them know that the covenant between you and them is resolved. Our Prophet (peace upon him) said, "Pay the deposit to him who deposited it with you, and do not betray him who betrayed you." It is not permissible for a person to betray trusts under any form, circumstances or situations. Maymoun ibn Mehran said: Three

things should be fulfilled for both good and bad people: Honesty, covenants, and keeping good ties to relatives. Finally, we affirm that the most severe form of betrayal is a person's betrayal of his homeland, conspiracy against it, and allying with its enemies.

We ask Allah to guide us to do good deeds and to protect our country Egypt and all other countries of the worlds!