

ICNA RELIEF NATIONAL BLOOD DRIVE

Khutbah Talking Points — Answer the Call. Give Blood. Save Lives.

- **Opening: Our Responsibility to Help Others**

- The Prophet ﷺ said:
- **“Allah continues to aid His servant as long as the servant is aiding his brother.”**
- — *Sahih Muslim* 2699
- Helping others is not simply an act of kindness—it is an act of worship.
- Charity is more than giving money:
 - We give our wealth.
 - We give our time.
 - We give our skills.
 - And sometimes, we give a part of ourselves.
- **Blood donation is a direct act of service and compassion.**

- **Saving a Life**

- Allah says:
- **“Whoever saves one life—it is as if they had saved all of humanity.”** Maidah 5:32
- Blood donation gives us a tangible way to live out this principle.
- Your donation could help:
 - A mother giving birth.
 - Sickle Cell Treatment
 - A child receiving treatment.
 - Someone injured in an accident.
 - A cancer patient.
 - Someone living with a serious medical condition.
- We may never know who receives our blood.
- We may never know their name or hear their story.
- **But Allah knows.**

- **We Are Facing a National Blood Crisis**

- On **July 27, 2026**, the American Red Cross declared a **national blood supply crisis—the second national blood crisis in its history.**
- Blood donations had fallen to a **four-year summer low.**
- O-positive blood had fallen below a **one-day national supply.**

- The Red Cross has had to limit distributions of some type O blood products to hospitals.
- The Red Cross also reported that its blood supply fell nearly **25% in June alone**.
- This is not simply a statistic:
 - Behind every unit of blood is a person.
 - A patient.
 - A family.
 - A life.
- **Why Is There a Shortage?**
 - Blood can only come from people.
 - **It cannot be manufactured in a factory.**
 - The blood supply depends on people choosing to donate.
 - Summer makes the situation more difficult:
 - People travel.
 - Families go on vacation.
 - Schedules change.
 - Schools close.
 - Many school-based blood drives pause during the summer.
 - Fear of leaving home/ICE arrests
 - At the same time:
 - Hospitals continue to need blood every day.
 - Injuries and medical emergencies continue.
 - Weather and other disruptions can cancel blood drives or prevent donors from attending.
 - **The need continues, but not enough people are showing up to give.**
- **“Someone Else Will Donate”**
 - But what happens when everyone thinks that way?
 - Islam teaches us to ask:
 - **“What can I do?”**
 - Not:
 - “What is everyone else doing?”
 - “Will someone else take care of it?”
 - But:
 - **“What has Allah given me that I can use to help another person?”**
- **What If It Were Someone You Love?**
 - Imagine tomorrow the person who needs blood is you, your children, family
 - Suddenly, the blood shortage is no longer an abstract issue.
 - It becomes personal.

- We don't know whose life may depend on a healthy blood supply tomorrow.
- That is why we don't wait for an emergency.
- **We prepare before the emergency happens.**
- **The Muslim Community Can Answer the Call**
 - Muslims have a long tradition of serving humanity.
 - When there is a disaster, we respond.
 - When someone is hungry, we feed them.
 - When a family is struggling, we support them.
 - When someone is displaced, we help them rebuild.
 - **Blood donation is another form of humanitarian service.**
 - This service is not limited by religion:
 - The person receiving your blood may be Muslim.
 - Christian.
 - Jewish.
 - Another faith.
 - Or no faith at all.
 - **We don't need to know who they are to care about their life.**
 - Allah has given human life dignity and given us opportunities to be a source of mercy.
- **Answer the Call**
 - If you are eligible to donate:
 - **Make an appointment.**
 - **Show up.**
 - **Give blood.**
 - **Bring someone with you.**
 - Every person who answers the call helps strengthen the community.
- **Closing**
 - Return to the hadith:
 - **“Allah continues to aid His servant as long as the servant is aiding his brother.”**
 - We don't always know how Allah will allow us to help someone.
 - Sometimes it is through our money.
 - Sometimes through our time.
 - Sometimes through our words.
 - And sometimes, **through something as simple as rolling up our sleeve and giving blood.**
 - We may never know whose life we touched.
 - **But Allah knows.**
 - Let us be people who answer the call.

- Let us be people who show up when others are in need.
- Let us be people through whom Allah brings mercy to others.
- —all of which can reduce donor turnout or disrupt blood drives.

As Muslims living in t, the USA, faith is not confined to the walls of the mosque. Our faith is alive when it walks the streets, heals the sick, and relieves the suffering of our neighbors. Allah tells us in the Quran

وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ ۖ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ ۚ

“...And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression...” (Qur’an 5:2)