



**U H U B**  
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**PRESS RELEASE**

**We cannot remain silent against the attack on our religion**

Representatives of some bar associations such as Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir and representatives of so-called human rights organizations such as Human Rights Association ('HRO'), attacked the President of the Presidency of Religious Affairs Prof. Ali Erbaş and our beliefs and values, on the excuse of his khutbah on Friday, dated April 24, 2020.

In their press release and criminal complaint against Ali Erbaş, they spit their hatred for the millennial values, religion, and beliefs of this nation in a way that had nothing to do with the content of the khutbah President of Religious Affairs had called out.

Moreover, they crossed the line by calling our religious values as dogma.

The President of the Religious Affairs stated that Ramadan was a training of patience and willpower during the period when the Islamic sensitivity increased due to Ramadan, and he suggested that this month be the occasion to get rid of bad habits.

He talked about the harms of smoking, drinking, and the harms of adultery, homosexuality and lesbianism. This is a call to the society to get away from these bad habits.

The call to shy away from such bad habits is not in any way aimed to humiliate those who exercise them as such, nor is it an expression of hostility. On the contrary, since these habit holders are valued as human beings, it is recommended that those habit holders get rid of these bad habits and not to spread these habits.

On the occasion to the first Friday of Ramadan, the President of the Religious Affairs has done exactly what should be done and performed his duty. He stated the truths that are established by Islam and commandments of Allah.

Is drinking or smoking beneficial, homosexualities such as adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism is a lifestyle that should be preferred?

Why are the representatives of Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir bar associations and the officials of the HRO annoyed by this. Why they advocate adultery, homosexuality, male-to-male sexual intercourse.

Do they consider themselves responsible for depraving the society?

Treating these people who exercise such bad habits humanely or not is, however, distinct from legitimisation of such habits.

Representatives of Ankara, İstanbul, İzmir bar association and HRO are exactly trying to justify these bad habits. It is working to the detriment of humanity.

We strongly condemn the executives and representatives of the abovementioned bar associations and HRO. We believe that executive board of both İstanbul Bar Association and Ankara Bar Association and also İzmir Bar Association will never represent our colleagues from İstanbul, Ankara and İzmir due to their press releases. Because we know that our colleagues do not accept adultery, homosexuality, lesbianism as a legitimate normal lifestyle that should be defended.

Because no reasonable person, who is not hostile to this nation and to the religion and values of this nation, does not object to the statement of the Presidency of Religious Affairs.

We also express that we once again strongly condemn the Ankara Bar Association's humiliation and statement of this nation's millennial values and belief by calling them as dogma.

**Necati Ceylan**

**Att. At Law**

**General Secretary of the International Jurists Organisation**