21624 - What should he do if he does not understand anything of the Friday khutbah?

the question

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I'm presently living in Africa right now. So I can't speak the language down here. During the friday khutbah, I never gain anything from it. what should I do when the khutbah is going on? Can i READ the koran and remember my Lord or should I just sit there and listen to something that I don't even understand?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

If you listen, even if you do not understand anything, you will be doing something good, in sha Allah. Some of the scholars excused those who do not understand the language of the khutbah and allowed them to occupy themselves with dhikr or reading Qur'aan, subject to the condition that they do not disturb others who are listening to the khutbah. The view which I favour, however, is that you should listen even if you do not understand.