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| **دولــة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  |  الجمعة: 8 ربيع الأول 1443ه |
| الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف  |  **الموافق: 15/10/2021م** |

**The Prophet of Mercy and Peace**

**First Khutbah**

All praise is due to Allah,who has sent unto us the seal of the Prophets, and sent him as a mercy unto all of the cosmos. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One who has no partners in His one-ness. And I testify that our Sayyid, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon whomsoever follows him in guidance until the Last Day.

**To Continue**: I advise you, O slaves of Allah and myself, with the Taqwa of Allah, for verily Allah says:

**وَمَا آتَاكُمُ الرَّسُولُ فَخُذُوهُ وَمَا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ فَانْتَهُوا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ**

**And whatever the Messenger has given you - take; and what he has forbidden you - refrain from.** [Qur'an: 59:7]

**O Believers:** We are in the month of Rabi' al-awwal and in the month of Rabi' al-awwal in what is known as the Year of Elephant, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad was born. His coming to this world was a mercy which Allah manifested for His creation, through whom He guides people to the Truth. This was how Allah manifested His response to the supplication of the Prophet Ibrahim (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) when he said:

**رَبَّنَا وَابْعَثْ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ**

**Our Lord, and send among them a messenger from themselves.** [Qur'an: 2:129]

Similarly, the Prophet Easa, the son of Maryam (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) came and stated he was:

**وَمُبَشِّرًا بِرَسُولٍ يَأْتِي مِنْ بَعْدِي اسْمُهُ أَحْمَدُ**

**Bringing good tidings of a messenger to come after me, whose name is Ahmad.** [Qur'an: 61:6]

So, the birth of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was a blessing and his being sent forth was a huge grace unto mankind. Hence, Allah says:

 **‌لَقَدْ ‌مَنَّ ‌اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْ أَنْفُسِهِمْ**

**Certainly, did Allah confer [great] favor upon the believers when He sent among them a Messenger from themselves.** [Qur'an: 3:164]

So the Prophet was sent as a mercy unto mankind and said:

**إِنَّمَا** **أَنَا رَحْمَةٌ مُهْدَاةٌ**

**Indeed, I am a gifted mercy** [Darami]

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) came with a universal message for humanity, urging mutual love and harmony. He said: **أَوَلاَ أَدُلُّكُمْ عَلَى شَيْءٍ إِذَا فَعَلْتُمُوهُ تَحَابَبْتُمْ؟ أَفْشُوا السَّلَامَ بَيْنَكُمْ**

**Shall I tell you of something you can do to make you love one another? Spread Salam (true peace) amongst yourselves (i.e. between each other).** [Muslim]

And he established the principles of justice and the fulfillment of oaths and trust, so he attended before his formal declaration of Prophethood, what is known as the "Alliance of the virtuous". In this alliance the various tribes had gathered and agreed to safeguard and return the rights to people who may have been wronged. This alliance was an agreement and charter to bring about justice and any such alliances that involve mutual support to bring about similar aims and call to such virtues such as piety and righteousness should be emulated. This is how Islam asks us to honor justice and rights, this is why the Prophet when speaking about such alliances said:

**لَمْ يَزِدْهُ الْإِسْلَامُ إِلَّا شِدَّةً**

**[There is no alliance established for good except that] Islam intensifies and strengthens it.** [Muslim]

In other words, Islam affirms and protects any alliance of goodness, wheresoever it may be. This is an important reason, for justice is a necessary foundation for the spreading of peace, and as we have discussed it is the spreading of peace that allows us to realize mutual love and care for one another. So, O Allah, make us of those who follow our Prophet and those who act in accordance with his guidance. I say this and seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness for He is the most-forgiving, the Most Merciful.

**Second Khutbah**

All praises are for Allah, the One, and may peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, and upon his family and companions, and whomsoever follows them in the best of ways.

I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah.

**O Lovers of the Prophet**: Allah says:

**لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ‌أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ**

**There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern** [Qur'an: 33:21]

So, what could be more beautiful and better than us following and emulating the Prophet in the guidance he brought. That we seek to imbibe his exalted character in our lives. So, let us strive to increase our love for him and let us increase our sending of blessings and salutations upon him, for he said: **إِنَّ مِنْ أَفْضَلِ أَيَّامِكُمْ يَوْمَ الْجُمُعَةِ، فَأَكْثِرُوا عَلَيَّ مِنَ الصَّلاَةِ فِيهِ، فَإِنَّ صَلاَتَكُمْ مَعْرُوضَةٌ عَلَيَّ**

**Indeed, from the best of your days is Friday… So, send a great deal of salawat upon me on this day, for your salawat will be presented to me.** [Abu Dawud]

And with this we ask You Allah that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, and especially on the seal of them, our master, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon him, and upon his family, his companions, all of them.

**O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates. and guide them to all that is good and what pleases You.** **O Allah: Bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to Your mercy. We ask you to admit them into Paradise by Your grace. O Allah have mercy on those martyred for Your sake, and grant their families with patience and a great reward.**

And have mercy, our Lord, upon our fathers and mothers, and upon whoever has a right upon us. Please continue sending Your blessings and bounties upon this nation the UAE, and upon all the Muslims and the entire Ummah wheresoever they may be. O Allah, confer upon us Your blessings upon us and do not make us from those who despair. O Allah: aid us, help us, and bless us. O Allah: bless us in this life with that which is good and in the next life that which is good, and save us from the hellfire. Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Let us align ourselves towards Him sincerely, and align our hearts. So, stand up for prayer.