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| **دولـة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | **الجمعة**: 21 رمضان 1443هـ |
| الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف | **الموافق: 22/4/2022م** |

**The Last Ten Days of Ramadan**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah, the most generous, all-gracious, who has nobled us with the last tend days of Ramadan, and has placed therein the Night of Power, making its reward greater than a thousand months. 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:

**يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ**

**O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous [Qur'an: 2:183]**

**O those fasting:**

Allah says: **إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي ‌لَيْلَةِ ‌الْقَدْرِ\* وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ**

**Indeed, We sent the Qur'an down during the Night of Decree. And what can make you know what is the Night of Decree? [Qur'an: 97:1-2]**

So Laylat al-Qadr (The Night of Decree) is of great importance with immense goodness, in which reward is multiplied. As Allah says: **لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ**

**The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months. [Qur'an: 97:3]**

In it sins are forgiven, as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

**مَنْ قَامَ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ**

**He who passes Laylat al-qadr [Night of Decree] in prayer with faith and seeking his reward from God will have his past sins forgiven. [Bukhari and Muslim]**

This is a night in which the Angels descend with blessings, goodness and mercy. As Allah says:

**تَنَزَّلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ**

**The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter. [Qur'an: 97:4]**

The Angels encircle those who remember Allah, surrounding the pious, guarding the believers, saying "ameen" to the supplication of those who are faithful. On this Night of Decree, there is peace and tranquility, and goodness for all of creation. As Allah says:

**سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّى مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ**

**Peace it is until the emergence of dawn. [Qur'an: 97:5]**

This is a night which is attained to the degree one attains peace, for one of Allah's Names is al-Salam (The Peace) and from Him is all peace, wherein His religion is the religion of mercy and peace.

**O you who are Fasting:** The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **مَنْ كَانَ ‌مُتَحَرِّيًا ‌لَيْلَةَ ‌القَدْرِ، فَلْيَتَحَرَّهَا فِي الْعَشْرِ الْأَوَاخِرِ**

**Whoever wants to search for it (i.e. the Night of Qadr) should search in the last ten (nights of Ramadan). [Bukhari]**

For this reason the Prophet would strive in the last ten days of Ramadan more than any other time as this was a way of seeking that blessed night and its tremendous reward, being avid to attain unto its tremendous blessings. So, he used to free himself up for worship and prayer, calling upon his Lord. Seeking His forgiveness and bounty and he used to urge his family to do the same. It is narrated on the authority of Ali ibn Talib (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: **The Prophet would awaken his family during the last ten (nights) of Ramadan and every small and elderly member used to perform prayer. [Tirmidhi].**

So, let us prepare to receive these last ten days, with readied hearts, orienting ourselves to Allah sincerely, such that we can seize the opportunity of these days and nights and attain unto the Night of Decree. And may He accept all of us for His obedience and bless us with obedience towards His Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and obedience towards those He has ordered us to show obedience towards, in accordance with His saying: **يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ**

**O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.** [Qur'an: 4:59]

I say this and I seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness, indeed He is the most forgiving, most Merciful.

**Second Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah the One. And may peace and blessings be upon our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and upon all of his companions. I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah.

**O you who are Fasting:** On the Night of Decree, supplications are answered and needs are met, so let us ask our Lord for forgiveness and clemency, for His mercy and His compassion. It is narrated by Aisha, the Mother of the Believers (may Allah be pleased with her): يَا نَبِيَّ اللَّهِ، أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ وَافَقْتُ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ، مَا أَقُولُ؟ قَالَ: «**تَقُولِينَ: اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي**

**O Messenger of Allah, what do you think I should say in my supplication, if I come upon Laylatul-Qadr?" He said: "Say: 'Allahumma innaka 'afuwwun tuhibbul-'afwa, fa'fu 'anni (O Allah, You are Forgiving and love forgiveness, so forgive me). [Tirmidhi]**

Whoever Allah forgives their sin and removes their worries – they are those who attain unto the bliss in this world and the next. So, let us strive in every night to attain unto this blessed night, by safeguarding our prayers, giving much charity and investing our time in dhikr and supplications, recitation of Qur'an, and doing good deeds. This is how we will attain unto the immensity of this month and also get its reward.

And with this we ask You O 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 them intercession for their people, and grant their families 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.