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| **دولـة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | الجمعة: 7 محرم 1444هـ |
|  الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف | **الموافق: 5/8/2022م**  |

**Loyal Hands**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah Lord of all the Worlds, who has made the act of cooperating in providing support and aid a character trait of the believers. 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:

**وَتَعاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَى**

**And cooperate in righteousness and piety [Qur'an: 5:2]**

**O Believers:** Nu'man ibn Bashir (may Allah be pleased with him) states that he heard the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saying something and so devoted his hearing and heart to hearing him say:

**الْمُؤْمِنُونَ: تَرَاحُمُهُمْ وَلُطْفُ بَعْضِهِمْ بِبَعْضٍ؛ كَجَسَدِ رَجُلٍ وَاحِدٍ**

**The mutual mercy and gentleness of the believers amongst one another is as if they are one body of a person. [Ibn Hibban]**

Hence the act of people mutually supporting one another within a community is the evidence of the existence of faith and mercy within them and indicates the degree of societal cohesion they have. Such mutual support is also evidence of their exalted character and their level of civilization in dealing with different circumstances in a way that is beloved to Allah and His Messenger. Thus, when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) heard about a people who when afflicted with difficulty would help and aid one another with mutual assistance, he affirmed and praised their deeds and their actions. In fact, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **هُمْ مِنِّي وَأَنَا مِنْهُمْ**

**They are from me and I am from them. [Bukhari and Muslim]**

In other words, the character of such people in their providing mutual aid and supporty resembles the exalted character of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). This is why Sayyida Khadijah (may Allah be pleased with her) described the Prophet's character with the words: **وَتُعِينُ عَلَى نَوَائِبِ الْحَقِّ**

**You assist the deserving ones who have been afflicted by calamity. [Bukhari and Muslim]**

In her statement, Khadija was noting that the Prophet's way was to aid in lightening the load for those afflicted by calamities. So where are we with emulating this Prophetic characteristic?

**Slaves of Allah**: Indeed, helping others and cooperating with one another in times of difficulty brings about results in society that collectively give it reasons for pride and honor. Among such praiseworthy results is attaining unto the protection and aid of Allah for the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have said: **وَاللَّهُ فِي عَوْنِ الْعَبْدِ؛ مَا كَانَ الْعَبْدُ فِي عَوْنِ أَخِيهِ**

**Allah is in the aid of His slave as long as the slave is in the aid of his brother. [Muslim]**

Through provisioning of such mutual support and aid a society can draw closer to each other and become more connected. The members of such a society also increase in love and mercy, until they begin to resemble bricks in a well-built building whose foundations and pillars are sturdy, strong and stable. This is why the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have said:

**الْمُؤْمِنُ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ كَالْبُنْيَانِ، يَشُدُّ بَعْضُهُ بَعْضًا**

**A faithful believer [in relation] to another faithful believer is like the bricks of a wall, [each mutually] enforcing each other. [Bukhari]**

So, O Allah we pray that you continue to bless the UAE with the spirit of mutual assistance and the honor that comes with such embodiment. We also pray that you accept all of us for Your obedience and bless us with obedience towards Your Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and obedience towards those whom You have ordered us to show obedience towards, in accordance with Your 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 Believers**: Our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has encouraged us to always respond in the best of ways to his [and our] family. This entails that we mention them in the best of ways, that we praise their good deeds and efforts and that we make supplication for good to come to them. This would be acting on the saying of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him):

**مَنْ أُولِيَ مَعْرُوفًا فَلَمْ يَجِدْ لَهُ خَيْرًا إِلَّا الثَّنَاءَ؛ فَقَدْ شَكَرَهُ**

**Someone who has had good done to them and who doesn’t find any good [to offer in return] except to praise [the one who did good] has indeed demonstrated gratitude. [Ibn Hibban]**

So, thanks should be offered to the nation's wise, paternal leadership for harnessing the possibilities of things we can achieve and for assisting us in overcoming the difficulties we face. In the recent campaign called "Loyal Hands" we saw a demonstration of how such leaderships responds to such difficulty, and we should salute and appreciate the patriotic duty that dealt with the circumstances to ensure the safety of all. So, we praise this support extended to all those disturbed by the different difficulties that may have afflicted them, and we extend our gratitude to those who are involved in such great efforts of providing support, in the protection of the wellbeing of people.

And with this we ask You O Allah that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, 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 Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan 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 which is good and what pleases You. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed 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 all of the believers, the living and the dead.

Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Be grateful for your blessings and you will be increased therein. So, stand up for prayer.