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**The People of the Right**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah, the Lord of all the Worlds. He is one how has promised the People of the Right with admittance into the Paradise of Bliss. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the One who has no partners. And I testify that our Sayyid, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is the slave of Allah and His Messenger.

**To Continue**: I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah, for verily Allah says: **إِنَّ ‌لِلْمُتَّقِينَ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِمْ ‌جَنَّاتِ النَّعِيمِ**

**Indeed, for the righteous with their Lord are the Gardens of Bliss.** [Qur'an: 68:34]

**O Believers:** The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُدْنِي الْمُؤْمِنَ، فَيَضَعُ عَلَيْهِ كَنَفَهُ، وَيَسْتُرُهُ فَيَقُولُ: أَتَعْرِفُ ذَنْبَ كَذَا؟ أَتَعْرِفُ ذَنْبَ كَذَا؟ فَيَقُولُ: نَعَمْ أَيْ رَبِّ. حَتَّى إِذَا قَرَّرَهُ بِذُنُوبِهِ، وَرَأَى فِي نَفْسِهِ أَنَّهُ هَلَكَ؛ قَالَ: سَتَرْتُهَا عَلَيْكَ فِي الدُّنْيَا، وَأَنَا أَغْفِرُهَا لَكَ الْيَوْمَ. فَيُعْطَى كِتَابَ حَسَنَاتِهِ ‌بِيَمِينِهِ**

**[On the Day of Resurrection] Allah will bring a believer near Him and shelter him with His Screen and ask him: Did you commit such-and-such sins? He will say: Yes, my Lord. Allah will keep on asking him till he will confess all his sins and will think that he is ruined. Allah will say: 'I did screen your sins in the world and I forgive them for you today', and then he will be given the book of his good deeds in his right hand.** [Bukhari and Muslim]

So, the believer reads his book of deeds, being pleased with his faith, rejoicing in the goodness of his works, and is elated at what awaits him of God's reward and generosity. As Allah says:

**فَأَمَّا مَنْ أُوتِيَ كِتَابَهُ ‌بِيَمِينِهِ\* فَسَوْفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا\* وَيَنْقَلِبُ إِلَى أَهْلِهِ مَسْرُورًا**

**Then as for he who is given his record in his right hand, he will be judged with an easy account and return to his people in happiness.** [Qur'an: 84:7-9]

From the intensity of their happiness a person who receives their record in their right hand will say to those they meet: **‌هَاؤُمُ ‌اقْرَءُوا ‌كِتَابِيَهْ** **"Here, read my record!"** [Qur'an: 69:19]

In other words, it is as if the people of the right are saying, "Here read the record of my deeds. For in it I put forward good deeds and actions that I did." Such a person will be in a state of utter contentment with what Allah had prepared for him of bliss. As Allah says: **وَأَصْحَابُ الْيَمِينِ مَا أَصْحَابُ الْيَمِينِ\* فِي سِدْرٍ مَخْضُودٍ\* ‌وَطَلْحٍ مَنْضُودٍ\* وَظِلٍّ مَمْدُودٍ\* وَمَاءٍ مَسْكُوبٍ\* وَفَاكِهَةٍ كَثِيرَةٍ\* لَا مَقْطُوعَةٍ وَلَا مَمْنُوعَةٍ\* وَفُرُشٍ مَرْفُوعَةٍ**

**The companions of the right - what are the companions of the right? [They will be] among lote trees with thorns removed. And trees layered [with fruit]. And shade extended. And water poured out. And fruit, abundant [and varied], neither limited [to season] nor forbidden. And [upon] beds raised high.** [Qur'an: 56: 27-34]

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

**إِنَّ فِي الْجَنَّةِ شَجَرَةً يَسِيرُ الرَّاكِبُ فِي ظِلِّهَا مِائَةَ عَامٍ لَا يَقْطَعُهَا، اقْرَءُوا إِنْ شِئْتُمْ: (وَظِلٍّ مَمْدُودٍ)**

**In Paradise there is a tree so big that in its shade a rider may travel for one hundred years without being able to cross it and if you wish, you can recite:**

**وَظِلٍّ مَمْدُودٍ**

**'In shade long extended.'** [Qur'an: 56:30]

The people of the Right will enter into Paradise with the righteous from their families. They will be greeted by the Angels who will give them the salutations of the Pleasure of their Lord. As Allah says: **جَنَّاتُ عَدْنٍ يَدْخُلُونَهَا وَمَن صَلَحَ مِنْ آبَائِهِمْ وَأَزْوَاجِهِمْ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِمْ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ يَدْخُلُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ بَابٍ\*‌ سَلَامٌ ‌عَلَيْكُمْ بِمَا صَبَرْتُمْ فَنِعْمَ عُقْبَى الدَّارِ**

**Gardens of perpetual residence; they will enter them with whoever were righteous among their fathers, their spouses and their descendants. And the angels will enter upon them from every gate, [saying], Peace be upon you for what you patiently endured. And excellent is the final abode.** [Qur'an: 13:23-24]

So how pure and blessed will be their abode and their abiding therein. In describing their life of bliss and the rank they attain unto, Allah says: **فِي عِيشَةٍ رَاضِيَةٍ \* فِي جَنَّةٍ عَالِيَةٍ\* قُطُوفُهَا دَانِيَةٌ\* كُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا هَنِيئًا بِمَا أَسْلَفْتُمْ فِي الْأَيَّامِ الْخَالِيَةِ**

**So, he will be in a pleasant life - In an elevated garden, Its [fruit] to be picked hanging near. [They will be told], "Eat and drink in satisfaction for what you put forth in the days past."** [Qur'an: 69:22-24]

So, O Allah make us from those who make from the People of the Right, those who attain unto entry into Paradise. O Allah, 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:** How can we become from the People of the Right? Allah has described the way of the People of the Right in the Qur'an, for He says: **ثُمَّ كَانَ مِنَ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ وَتَوَاصَوْا بِالْمَرْحَمَةِ\* أُولَئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْمَيْمَنَةِ**

**And then being among those who believed and advised one another to patience and advised one another to compassion.** **Those are the companions of the right.** [Qur'an: 90:17]

In other words, they are those who believe in their Lord, they are devout towards their Creator and so do much good and perform many good deeds. They abstain from the forbidden, give much charity, feed the poor and needy, are kind and goodly to their relations, show patience in light of difficulties, and their hearts are full of compassion towards all people. These are the people who have complete conviction in the words of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who said:

**‌الرَّاحِمُونَ ‌يَرْحَمُهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ، ارْحَمُوا أَهْلَ الْأَرْضِ يَرْحَمْكُمْ مَنْ فِي السَّمَاءِ**

**The Compassionate One has mercy on those who are merciful. If you show mercy to those who are on the earth, He Who is in the heaven will show mercy to you.**

[Abu Dawud and Tirmidhi]

These are the people who are covered through the mercy from their Lord, and He enters them into the abode of Paradise that He has described for them to abide forever. O Allah make us constant in your devotion, of those who perform good deeds, those who keep us good relations with our relatives, who are kind and goodly to the people, and have mercy on us – O most merciful of the merciful.

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.