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**Visiting the Sick**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah, the Lord of all the worlds. O Allah for you is all praise. We believe in You our Lord, and Your Angels, Your Books, Your Messengers, the Last Day and in Destiny its good and apparent bad. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. We are content with Allah as our Lord, Islam as our religion, 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:

**وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ ‌يُكَفِّرْ ‌عَنْهُ ‌سَيِّئَاتِهِ وَيُعْظِمْ لَهُ أَجْرًا**

**And whoever fears Allah - He will remove for him his misdeeds and make great for him his reward. [Qur'an: 65:5]**

**O Believers:** The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ يَقُولُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ: يَا ابْنَ آدَمَ، ‌مَرِضْتُ ‌فَلَمْ ‌تَعُدْنِي. قَالَ: يَا رَبِّ كَيْفَ أَعُودُكَ وَأَنْتَ رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ؟ قَالَ: أَمَا عَلِمْتَ أَنَّ عَبْدِي فُلَانًا مَرِضَ فَلَمْ تَعُدْهُ؟ أَمَا عَلِمْتَ أَنَّكَ لَوْ عُدْتَهُ لَوَجَدْتَنِي عِنْدَهُ؟**

**On the day of resurrection Allah the most high will say, “O son of Adam, I was sick and you did not visit me.” The man will reply, “My Lord, how could I visit You when You are the Lord of the universe?” He will say, “Did you not know that my servant so and so was ill and yet you did not visit him? Did you not know that if you had visited him you would have found me with him? [Sahih Muslim]**

In other words, it is as if Allah is saying to such a person that had you visited such a sick person you would have found my grace and reward and I would have gifted you My special favors and the blessings of closeness to Me. In this, there is encouragement upon us to visit the sick and a clarification of the immensity of this virtue and the great reward attached to it. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **مَا مِنْ مُسْلِمٍ يَعُودُ مُسْلِمًا غُدْوَةً إِلَّا صَلَّى عَلَيْهِ سَبْعُونَ أَلْفَ مَلَكٍ حَتَّى يُمْسِيَ، وَإِنْ عَادَهُ عَشِيَّةً إِلَّا صَلَّى عَلَيْهِ سَبْعُونَ أَلْفَ مَلَكٍ حَتَّى يُصْبِحَ، وَكَانَ لَهُ خَرِيفٌ فِي الْجَنَّةِ**

**No Muslim visits (a sick) Muslim in the morning, except that seventy-thousand angels send Salawat upon him until the evening, and he does not visit them at night except that seventy thousand angels send Salawat upon him until the morning, and there will be a garden for him in Paradise.**

**[Sahih Tirmidhi]**

In other words, visiting the sick Muslims is a way of us taking a path that will lead us to Paradise. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **مَنْ عَادَ مَرِيضًا؛ نَادَى مُنَادٍ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ: طِبْتَ وَطَابَ مَمْشَاكَ، وَتَبَوَّأْتَ مِنَ الْجَنَّةِ مَنْزِلًا**

**Whoever visits a sick person, a caller calls from heaven: "May you be happy, may your steps [in visiting the person] be blessed, and may you occupy a dignified position in Paradise". [Ibn Majah]**

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to visit the sick, he used to console and advise them, lightening their burdens and worries from them. He used to remind them of the mercy of their Lord, and the reward for their bearing difficulties and having patience, with regards to an increase in ranks and spiritual stations and well as expiation of sins. So, one day he visited a sick person and said to her: **إِنَّ مَرَضَ الْمُسْلِمِ يُذْهِبُ اللَّهُ بِهِ خَطَايَاهُ، كَمَا تُذْهِبُ النَّارُ خَبَثَ الذَّهَبِ وَالْفِضَّةِ**

**Indeed, Allah removes the sins of a Muslim through his illness just as fire removes the dross of gold and silver.**

**[Sunan Abi Dawud]**

He also used to say: **مَا مِنْ مُسْلِمٍ يُصِيبُهُ أَذًى: شَوْكَةٌ فَمَا فَوْقَهَا، إِلَّا كَفَّرَ اللَّهُ بِهَا سَيِّئَاتِهِ، كَمَا تَحُطُّ الشَّجَرَةُ وَرَقَهَا**

**No Muslim is afflicted with any harm, even if it were the prick of a thorn, but that Allah expiates his sins because of that, as a tree sheds its leaves. [Bukhari and Muslim]**

Similarly, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to supplicate for the healing of the sick when he visited them. So when he visited Sa'd bin Abi Waqqas (may Allah be pleased with him) he supplicated for him saying:

**اللَّهُمَّ اشْفِ سَعْدًا**

**O Allah, heal Sa'd [three times]. [Bukhari and Muslim]**

Indeed, it is Allah who is the Healer. Allah tells us in the words of Prophet Ibrahim (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him):

**‌وَإِذَا ‌مَرِضْتُ فَهُوَ يَشْفِينِ**

**And when I am sick, it is He who cures me. [Qur'an: 26:80]**

So O Allah, we ask you for the facilitation of us being able to do good deeds, the ability to hasten to the things you have said draw us closer to You (such as visiting the sick). And 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 you who pray**: Indeed, our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) has commanded us to visit the sick, when he said: **‌عُودُوا ‌الْمَرْضَى Visit the sick. [Ahmad]**

Indeed, in the visiting of the sick there lies the guidance of our Prophet, the exemplar of all nobility, demonstrating that such acts are an indication of the nobility of a person. In such a way a Muslim is someone who sacrifices his time, his efforts, for the sake of other people, someone who values all human beings. It is recommended in such visiting that the visits not be very long, that they not become arduous for the sick, that these visits follow all the precautions of good health, that the visits leave hope in the souls of the sick, that they raise their spirituality, that they ease their affairs. These are the noble acts, through which we can enhance affection and compassion between us, and compassionate communication and solidarity in our society.

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. And send your blessings upon the righteous and rightly guided Khulafa: Sayyiduna Abu Bakr, Sayyiduna Umar, Sayyiduna Uthman and Sayyiduna Ali, and upon all of the companions and those of the righteous who come after them, may Allah be pleased with them all.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President 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.