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| **دولـة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | **الجمعة**: 23مضان 1444هـ |
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**The Night of Qadr: A Night of Peace and Forgiveness**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah, who has singled out the last ten nights of Ramadan for the blessed night of Qadr and who has made that night better than a thousand months. O Allah, our Lord, to You belongs all praise. We believe in You, Your Angels, Your Divine Books, Your Messengers, in the Last Day, and in Your Divine decree, both its good and the apparent bad. We testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except You, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. We are content with You as our Lord, Islam as our religion, and our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad, as our Prophet. O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon his family, his companions and 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 الصِّيامُ 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 You who are Fasting:** Allah tells us: **إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي ‌لَيْلَةِ ‌الْقَدْرِ\* وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ\* لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ\* تَنَزَّلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ\* سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّى مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ**

**Indeed, We sent the Qur'an down during the Night of Decree \* And what can make you know what is the Night of Decree? \* The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months. \* The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter. \*Peace it is until the emergence of dawn.** [Qur'an: 97: 1-5]

So, the Night of Qadr is a blessed night, that Allah had singled out for the revelation to descend, as Allah says:

**إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ فِي ‌لَيْلَةٍ ‌مُبَارَكَةٍ**

**Indeed, We sent it down during a blessed night.** [Qur'an: 44:3]

For the Qur'an is a Book of immense magnitude (qadr), which was revealed by an Angel of immense magnitude (qadr), upon a Prophet of immense magnitude (qadr) on a night of immense immense magnitude (qadr). On this night Allah destines what will be in the coming year from what is proportioned from provision, lifespan and the good. As Allah says:

**فِيهَا يُفْرَقُ كُلُّ أَمْرٍ حَكِيمٍ**

**On that night is made distinct every precise matter**

 [Qur'an: 44:4]

**Slaves of Allah:** Indeed, actions on the Night of Qadr are better and greater in reward than actions that could be done in a thousand months as Allah says: **لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ**

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

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

**فِيهِ لَيْلَةٌ خَيْرٌ مِنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ، مَنْ حُرِمَهَا فَقَدْ حُرِمَ الْخَيْرَ كُلَّهُ**

**This month has come to you, and it contains a night which is better than a thousand months. He who is deprived of it is deprived of all good** [Ibn Majah]

So whoever brings life to this night by dedicating themselves to righteous deeds, such as giving charity, spiritual devotion, recitation of the Qur'an, remembrance of Allah, prayers, can hope for the attainment of forgiveness from Allah. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

**مَنْ قَامَ لَيْلَةَ القَدْرِ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا، غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ**

**He who passes Night of Qadr in prayer with faith and seeking his reward from God will have his past sins forgiven.**

[Bukhari and Muslim]

The duas on the Night of Qadr are those that are most hopeful of being accepted, and of the greatest of things that the believers can make supplication for is: **اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي**

**O Allah, You are Most Forgiving, and You love to forgive; so forgive me.** [Tirmidhi]

O Allah forgive us and have mercy on us. And give us your blessings from your nobility and grace upon us and allow us to reach the Night of Qadr and please write for us forgiveness and reward. And bless us with devotion to You, 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 uniquely 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, so have Taqwa of Him.

**O Fasting Believers**: Indeed, the Night of Qadr is also a night of peace and tranquility, which Jibril brought down and with him was noble Angels with mercy, baraka and peace. As Allah says:

**تَنَزَّلُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ وَالرُّوحُ فِيهَا بِإِذْنِ رَبِّهِمْ مِنْ كُلِّ أَمْرٍ\* سَلَامٌ هِيَ حَتَّى مَطْلَعِ الْفَجْرِ**

**The angels and the Spirit descend therein by permission of their Lord for every matter. \*Peace it is until the emergence of dawn.** [Qur'an: 97: 4-5]

In other words, the Night of Qadr is peace and goodness in its entirety, there is no evil in what the Night represents until the onset of Fajr. So, let us embed the value of peace in our hearts, in ourselves, in our speech and in our deeds. This entails that each of us strive to have peace in our hearts and to spread peace amongst ourselves. So, let us esteem the value of our characters, especially when it comes to our interactions with our family members, friends and intimate companions, broader society and the wider world we interact with. For one the Names of our Lord is al-Salam, and our religion is a religion of peace (Salam), and our Prophet was a Prophet of mercy and peace (Salam), likewise our very greeting by which we greet each other is Salam. So O Allah You are al-Salam, and from You is Salam, so enter us into Paradise, the abode of Salam.

And with this we ask 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.