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| **دولـة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | **الجمعة**: 22شوال 1444هـ |
| الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف | **الموافق:** 12/5/2023م |

 **Piety to Parents**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah, the One who has advised human beings to demonstrate piety to their parents. 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. And we testify that our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. So, 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, and myself, with the Taqwa of Allah, as Allah says: **وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ ‌وَالْأَرْحَامَ**

**And fear Allah, through whom you ask one another, and the wombs.**[Qur'an: 4:1]

**O Believers:** Allah says: **وَقَضَى رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ ‌وَبِالْوالِدَيْنِ ‌إِحْسانًا And your Lord has decreed that you not worship except Him, and to parents, good treatment.** [Qur'an: 17:23]

Elsewhere Allah says: **‌أَنِ ‌اشْكُرْ ‌لِي ‌وَلِوَالِدَيْكَ إِلَيَّ الْمَصِيرُ**

**Be grateful to Me and to your parents; to Me is the [final] destination.** [Qur'an: 31:14]

In these two noble verses, Allah has commanded us to demonstrate filial piety and gratitude to our parents. So, he conjoins devotion towards him with good treatment and excellent behavior towards them, and gratitude towards Him as having gratitude towards them. In this is an indication of the immensity of their rank, the loftiness of their station, and the obligation of us to put them forward before others. For after the rights of Allah there is nothing more obligated than the rights of the parents. This is because Allah created human beings and made the parents the means for their existence. After this, the parents brought up the child when they were young, and took care of them until they became old enough to be independent, such that each of us is then able to repeatedly supplicate for them saying: **‌رَبِّ ‌ارْحَمْهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِي صَغِيرًا**

**"My Lord, have mercy upon them as they brought me up [when I was] young."** [Qur'an: 17:24]

So, supplicating for our parents is actually a right they have upon us, for this was the way of the Prophets (peace and blessings of Allah be upon them). This was the example of the Prophet Nuh (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) when he specifically made supplication for his parents saying: **‌رَبِّ ‌اغْفِرْ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيَّ**

**My Lord, forgive me and my parents** [Qur'an: 71:28]

Similarly, we see the Father of the Prophets, Sayyindina Ibrahim (peace and blessings of Allah be upon them) calling upon his Lord as saying:

**رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لِي ‌وَلِوَالِدَيَّ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ يَوْمَ يَقُومُ الْحِسَابُ**

**Our Lord, forgive me and my parents and the believers the Day the account is established."** [Qur'an: 14: 41]

As one of the scholars said "Whoever prays the five daily prayers has indeed shown gratitude to Allah, and whoever makes supplication for their parents after each obligatory prayer has indeed shown gratitude to their parents." The sign that a son supplicates for his parents is a sign of their being firm upon their religion and good character, hence the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said that when a person dies amongst the things that will continue to benefit them are: **‌وَلَدٍ ‌صَالِحٍ ‌يَدْعُو ‌لَهُ**

**A righteous child who supplicates for them** [Muslim]

From such righteousness to our parents, is to serve them to the best of our ability, and to hasten to meet their needs, to seek to attain unto whatever they request and to spend upon them. It also includes to always speak to them in the best of ways, to seek to make them happy, these acts are from the most beloved of acts to Allah. It is narrated on the authority of Ibn Masud (may Allah be pleased with him) who said I asked the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him): **أَيُّ الْعَمَلِ أَحَبُّ إِلَى اللَّهِ**؟

**What are the deeds that are most beloved to Allah?**

The Prophet said: **الصَّلاَةُ عَلَى وَقْتِهَا**

**Prayer in its correct time.**

So, I said: ثُمَّ أَيٌّ؟

The Prophet said: **ثُمَّ بِرُّ الْوَالِدَيْنِ**

**After that is piety to one's parents.** [Bukhari and Muslim]

So, O Allah forgive us and forgive our parents, and have mercy on them as they had mercy on me when I was young. And aid us in showing kindness and good behavior to them. 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 Believers**: Allah gives happiness to the hearts of those who are kind, respectful, and reverent of their parents. It is behavior such as this which becomes the means by which they are accepted and find their affairs attaining unto success, that they find a way out from their difficulties, that their provision is expanded, that they have baraka in their lives, and that they in turn will also find their children (when the time comes) who are similarly kind and respectful back to them. In an ultimate sense such people attain unto the approval of Allah, and such people are those who enter into Paradise. It is narrated on the authority of Aisha, the Mother of the Believers (may Allah be pleased with her), that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **نِمْتُ، فَرَأَيْتُنِي فِي الْجَنَّةِ، فَسَمِعْتُ صَوْتَ قَارِئٍ يَقْرَأُ، فَقُلْتُ: مَنْ هَذَا؟ فَقَالُوا: هَذَا حَارِثَةُ بْنُ النُّعْمَانِ، فَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ : «كَذَلِكَ الْبِرُّ، كَذَلِكَ الْبِرُّ**

**I fell asleep and I saw myself in Paradise, so I heard a voice reciting** so I said: **"Who is this?"** It was said: **"This is Haritha Ibn Nu'man".** So, the Prophet said **"This is Birr (filial piety), this is Birr."** [Adad al-Mufrad]

The Prophet said this about **Haritha Ibn Nu'man** (may Allah be pleased with him) because he was amongst the most respectful of people to his mother. So, let us be avid O slaves of Allah in showing such piety to our parents, and to show loyalty and reverence towards them. This entails we recognize their ranks, their favor, and to respond to them in the best of ways. Let us instill in the hearts of our boys and girls this noble attribute. O Allah, You are the Possessor of Peace, and from You is all Peace, and to You is all Peace, so admit us in the Paradise, Gardens and ultimate Abode of Peace, O Possessor of all Majesty and Honor.

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.