|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **دولـة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | **الجمعة**: 3 محرم 1445هـ |
| الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف | **الموافق**: 21/7/2023م |

**O Allah bless us in what you have given us**

**First Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah for all the blessings and bounties He has given us and for the tremendous goodness He has bestowed. O Allah I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except You, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. And I 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 slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah as Allah says: **إِنَّ المُتَّقِينَ فِي مَقَامٍ أَمِينٍ\* فِي جَنَّاتٍ وَعُيُونٍ Indeed, the righteous will be in a secure place; within gardens and springs.** [Qur'an: 44:51-52]

**O Believers:** Indeed, Allah has placed upon the Earth his blessings prolonging them through His grace, as Allah says: **‌وَبَارَكَ فِيهَا وَقَدَّرَ فِيهَا أَقْوَاتَهَا**

**and He blessed it and determined therein its [creatures'] sustenance.** [Qur'an: 41:10]

The word Baraka is the affirming of goodness in something and for the blessing of that goodness to be increased through benefit from it. This is something that a human being can sense for themselves, for if they reflect on the blessings of sound health and wellbeing, and the blessings of having children, then they see will these blessings are being maintained by Allah's grace alongside a facilitation of wealth and provision in a manner that is sufficient for their needs and brings contentment to the soul. So, the issue of Baraka is a tremendous matter, and for this reason Allah has orientated His Prophets such as Prophet Nuh (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to ask for such Baraka: **وَقُلْ رَبِّ أَنْزِلْنِي مُنْزَلًا مُبَارَكًا وَأَنْتَ خَيْرُ الْمُنْزِلِينَ**

**And say, 'My Lord, let me land at a blessed landing place, and You are the best to accommodate [us].'** [Qur'an: 23:29]

And our master Jesus, the son of Mary, peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, enumerated the blessings of his Lord upon him, and he mentioned from these blessing the importance of attaining unto Baraka, saying:

**وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا أَيْنَمَا كُنْتُ**

**And He has made me blessed [in Baraka] wherever I am** [Qur'an: 19:31]

In other words, the Prophet Jesus (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) asked to be someone blessed with Baraka who is of benefit to the people wheresoever he is directed. Likewise, it is narrated from the supplication of our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) that he would say: **وَبَارِكْ ‌لَنَا ‌فِيمَا ‌أَعْطَيْتَ**

**And confer blessings [Baraka] upon us in everything You have bestowed upon us.** [Abu Dawud]

So how do we attain unto the Baraka in our lives? From the greatest of means through which one can attain unto Baraka is that they commence their days with devotion and worship, such as performing prayer, reciting the Qur'an and to reflect on its meanings, so their entire day would be blessed and full of Baraka as the Qur'an itself is a book of Baraka. As Allah says: **كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَارَكٌ لِيَدَّبَّرُوا آيَاتِهِ**

**[This is] a blessed Book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], that they might reflect upon its verses.**

[Qur'an: 38:29]

The Surah Baqarah is from the Surahs most full of Baraka in the Qur'an, as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) said: **اقْرَءُوا سُورَةَ الْبَقَرَةِ، فَإِنَّ أَخْذَهَا بَرَكَةٌ**

**Recite Surah al-Baqara, for using it produces blessing [Baraka].** [Sahih al-Muslim]

So, if he conjoins these deeds with getting up early then they can attain unto the Baraka that the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) asked for:

**اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لِأُمَّتِي فِي بُكُورِهَا**

**O Allah, bless my nation in their early mornings (i.e., what they do early in the morning).** [Abu Dawud]

Baraka increases when one is sincere in their dealings amongst people as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) said about two people conducting trade:

**إِنْ صَدَقَا وَبَيَّنَا بُورِكَ لَهُمَا فِي بَيْعِهِمَا**

**[If both parties in a business transaction] tell the truth and make everything clear they will be blessed in their transaction.** [Bukhari and Muslim]

And the one who is satisfied with God’s gifts and grace - after he has done his best and strived as taking the means – they will find the Baraka will come into their provision. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) said:

**مَنْ رَضِيَ بِمَا قَسَمَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ لَهُ؛ بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لَهُ فِيهِ وَوَسَّعَهُ**

**Someone who is content with whatever Allah has destined for them then Allah will give them Baraka in it and expand it.** [Musnad Ahmad]

So, O Allah bless us with Baraka in all of our affairs and make us blessed wheresoever we be, 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 in the beginning and the end, who extends His Baraka upon whoever is grateful for the blessings they have been given, who is kind and gentle to his relatives, maintaining kinship ties, and good to the people. 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:** The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **مَنْ سَرَّهُ أَنْ يُمَدَّ لَهُ فِي عُمْرِهِ، وَيُبَارَكَ لَهُ فِي رِزْقِهِ؛ فَلْيَبَرَّ وَالِدَيْهِ وَلْيَصِلْ رَحِمَهُ**

**Whoever wishes to have their lifespan extended, and to attain unto Baraka in their sustenance; then let him show kindness and filial piety to his parents and uphold his ties of kinship.** [Musnad Ahmad]

So being kind to our parents and maintaining relationships with our kinship are from the means by which we bring about Baraka in our provision and our lives. In both the real-life sense and its deeper meaning of spreading peace, the act of giving salaams as soon as we enter our homes is a means of spreading Baraka. As Allah says:

**فَإِذَا دَخَلْتُمْ بُيُوتًا فَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى أَنْفُسِكُمْ تَحِيَّةً مِنْ ‌عِنْدِ ‌اللَّهِ ‌مُبَارَكَةً طَيِّبَةً**

**But when you enter houses, give greetings of peace upon each other - a greeting from Allah, blessed [i.e. of Baraka] and good.** [Qur'an: 24:61]

Likewise, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah upon him) said: **إِذَا دَخَلْتَ عَلَى أَهْلِكَ فَسَلِّمْ يَكُنْ بَرَكَةً عَلَيْكَ وَعَلَى أَهْلِ بَيْتِكَ**

**When you enter your house, give peace to your family, for it will be a blessing both to you and to your family.** [Tirmidhi]

In such a manner they can attain the reward of peace and attain unto the response of salaams from the Angels. These are the means by which Allah bestows Baraka and His gifts to families and the individuals in it. Through their mutual love and concern for one another. Through manifesting connection in their hearts, so they become connected to one another in mutual love, even in acts like eating together on the same table. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

**اجْتَمِعُوا عَلَى طَعَامِكُمْ، وَاذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ؛ يُبَارَكْ لَكُمْ فِيهِ**

**If you gather together at your food and mention Allah's name, you will be blessed in it**. [Sunan Abi Dawud]

And with this we ask that 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.