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**Muhammad is a Gifted Mercy**

**Frist Khutbah**

All praises are due to Allah who sent his Messenger Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) as a mercy unto all the worlds. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. And I testify that 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:

**وَمَا آتَاكُمُ الرَّسُولُ فَخُذُوهُ وَمَا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ فَانتَهُوا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ**

**And whatever the Messenger has given you - take; and what he has forbidden you - refrain from. And have Taqwa of Allah.** [Qur'an: 59:7]

**O Lovers of the Prophet:** The day of the birth of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is coming upon us. Its fragrant breezes find in us love for him, and serve as a reminder of his elevated character, morals and virtues, building within us an eagerness to learn about his life. So when we reflect we find he was born an orphan (in that he had no father), then his mother Aminah bint Wahb passed away, then his grandfather Abdul Muttalib who looked after him after that also passed away, so he was eventually raised up by his uncle Abu Talib. He came to be known amongst his people as having the best of attributes, being the most beautiful of character, and he was praised by his Lord in many verses, with the most eloquent of expressions and greatest of qualities. For he was described as a "mercy unto all the worlds" in the verse:

**وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِلْعَالَمِينَ**

**And We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds.** [Qur'an: 21:107]

Elsewhere, he is described as a "[great] favor upon the believers", as Allah says:

‌**لَقَدْ ‌مَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْ أَنْفُسِهِمْ**

**Certainly, did Allah confer [great] favor upon the believers when He sent among them a Messenger from themselves.** [Qur'an: 3:164]

Allah has expanded His chest for goodness, and raised His remembrance in the earth and the heavens. As Allah says:

**أَلَمْ نَشْرَحْ لَكَ صَدْرَكَ\* وَوَضَعْنَا عَنكَ وِزْرَكَ\* الَّذِي أَنْقَضَ ظَهْرَكَ\* وَرَفَعْنَا لَكَ ذِكْرَكَ**

**Did We not expand for you, [O Muhammad], your chest? \* And We removed from you your burden \* Which had weighed upon your back \* And raised high for you your repute.** [Qur'an: 94:1-4]

And Allah Almighty guided him to the greatest, highest, most perfect and elevated morals. As Allah says: **وَإِنَّكَ ‌لَعَلَى ‌خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ**

**And indeed, you are of a great moral character.** [Qur'an: 68: 4]

Likewise, Allah praised him with firmness upon affair of devotion, sincerity in his speech, as Allah says: **مَا ضَلَّ صَاحِبُكُمْ وَمَا غَوَى\* وَمَا يَنْطِقُ ‌عَنِ ‌الْهَوَى**

**Your companion [Muhammad] has not strayed, nor has he erred \* Nor does he speak from [his own] inclination.** [Qur'an: 53: 2-3]

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was also praised for forgiving and overlooking much:

**وَيَعْفُو عَنْ كَثِيرٍ**

**and overlooking much.** [Qur'an: 5:15]

This is only because of his mercy for the believers and his kindness toward them, and his concern and compassion for them. As Allah says: **لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ ‌بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ ‌رَءُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ**

**There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves. Grievous to him is what you suffer; [he is] concerned over you and to the believers is kind and merciful.** [Qur'an: 9:128]

This encompassing mercy includes all of creation, including the birds, animals, and all creatures. Hence the core of his message was mercy, its essence was mercy, and its ultimate goal was also mercy. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **إِنَّمَا أَنَا رَحْمَةٌ مُهْدَاةٌ**

**Indeed, I am a gifted mercy.** [Al-Darimi]

O Allah, make us from those who always sincerely love Your Prophet, who seek to emulate his character and follow his ways both outwardly and inwardly. 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, I praise Him with the best of praises, for He is the One who sends down His reward on those who listen to His speech and follow the best of it. 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 those loving the Prophet of Mercy:** Indeed, Allah sent our Prophet as a mercy unto the worlds, to guide the believers towards the straight path. So, Allah says: **قَدْ جَاءَكُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ ‌نُورٌ ‌وَكِتَابٌ مُبِينٌ\* يَهْدِي بِهِ اللَّهُ مَنِ اتَّبَعَ رِضْوَانَهُ سُبُلَ السَّلَامِ وَيُخْرِجُهُمْ مِنَ الظُّلُمَاتِ إِلَى النُّورِ بِإِذْنِهِ وَيَهْدِيهِمْ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ**

**There has come to you from Allah a light and a clear Book. By which Allah guides those who pursue His pleasure to the ways of peace and brings them out from darknesses into the light, by His permission, and guides them to a straight path.** [Qur'an: 5:15-16]

So, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was a guide and leader as Allah says: **وَدَاعِيًا إِلَى اللَّهِ بِإِذْنِهِ وَسِرَاجًا ‌مُنِيرًا**

**And one who invites to Allah, by His permission, and an illuminating lamp.** [Qur'an: 33:46]

He was a strong example for whosoever seeks an example to emulate, and an excellent pattern to emulate for whoever seeks such a pattern to emulate: **لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ‌أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ**

**There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often.** [Qur'an: 33:21]

So, Allah has made the following of him (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) a means to attain unto His love, and a means of attaining unto His forgiveness, as Allah says:

**قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي ‌يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ**

**Say, [O Muhammad], "If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful."** [Qur'an: 3:31]

Indeed, from the obligation upon us is that we instill such love in the hearts of our generations, esteeming the Prophet and ensuring they love him. This means we have to educate them and tell them about him, about his life, his teachings and the guidance he brought. It means that they should see the Prophetic character in front of them, recognizing it and come to value it and to embody it themselves. This also means that they should come to love what the Prophet loved and detest what he detested such as false speech, lies and injustice. We should also inculcate in them and ourselves, the practice of sending much salawat upon the Prophet, for the Prophet himself said:

**مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ صَلاَةً صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ بِهَا عَشْرًا**

**Whoever sends salawat upon me once, will be blessed for it by Allah ten times.** [Muslim]

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.