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| **دولـة الإمـارات العـربية المتحـدة** |  | **الجمعة**: 10 جمادى الأول1445ه |
| الهيئة العامة للشؤون الإسلامية والأوقاف | الموافق: 24/11/2023م |

**The Value of Giving**

**First Khutbah**

Praise be to Allah, who multiplies the gifts of those who give, rewards them abundantly, and admits them to the Paradise promised to them. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, alone without any partner, and I bear witness that our master and Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is His servant and Messenger. 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 servants of Allah and myself, to observe Taqwa of Allah as Allah says:

**فَأَمَّا مَنْ أَعْطَىٰ وَاتَّقَىٰ \* وَصَدَّقَ بِالْحُسْنَىٰ \* فَسَنُيَسِّرُهُ لِلْيُسْرَىٰ**

**But as for he who gives and fears [Allah] and believes in the best [reward], We will ease him toward ease.** (Quran, 92:5-7).

**O Believers:** Giving is among the noblest of deeds and the most beautiful of qualities. It is a Divine attribute, for Allah, the Most-High, gives all creatures what is beneficial for them and guides them to the path by which they can maintain their existence. The Prophet Moses (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) described his Lord, the Mighty and Majestic, saying:

**رَبُّنَا الَّذِي ‌أَعْطَى كُلَّ شَيْءٍ خَلْقَهُ ثُمَّ هَدَى**

**Our Lord is He who gave each thing its form and then guided [it].** (Quran, 20:50).

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) set an example in generosity and giving, being more generous than the moisture laden wind. He would give in a manner as someone who never feared poverty. Anas ibn Malik (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that a man came to the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and he gave him a large flock of sheep, as numerous as filling the valley between two mountains.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) encouraged extending bridges of giving to the needy, alleviating their suffering, easing their pain, and bringing joy into their lives and upon their hearts, so the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **أَحَبُّ النَّاسِ إِلَى اللَّهِ تَعَالَى أَنْفَعُهُمْ لِلنَّاسِ، وَأَحَبُّ الْأَعْمَالِ إِلَى اللَّهِ تَعَالَى سُرُورٌ تُدْخِلُهُ عَلَى مُسْلِمٍ، أَوْ تَكَشِفُ عَنْهُ كُرْبَةً، أَوْ تَقْضِي عَنْهُ دَيْنًا، أَوْ تَطْرُدُ عَنْهُ جُوعًا**

**The most beloved people to Allah are those who are most beneficial to people. The most beloved deeds to Allah are bringing happiness to a Muslim, removing his distress, settling his debt, or warding off his hunger** (reported by Tabarani).

**Slaves of Allah:** Indeed, Allah has special servants whom He has distinguished with His generosity and made them keys to goodness for His other servants. He has bestowed His generosity upon them so that they may be generous in turn, and through them, goodness reaches others. This is in accordance with the saying of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him):

**مَنْ كَانَ مَعَهُ فَضْلُ ظَهْرٍ فَلْيَعُدْ بِهِ عَلَى مَنْ لَا ظَهْرَ لَهُ، وَمَنْ كَانَ لَهُ فَضْلٌ مِنْ زَادٍ فَلْيَعُدْ بِهِ عَلَى مَنْ لَا زَادَ لَهُ**

**He who has an extra mount should lend it to him who has none, and he who has extra provision should give it to him who has none.** (Muslim)

Everyone should give from what Allah has bestowed upon them. If Allah has granted wealth, then believers are tasked to give from their wealth. Likewise, if Allah has honored someone with knowledge, then they should share from that knowledge. If Allah has blessed you with good health, then they should assist others with their efforts. For the people of generosity know that Allah will reward them for what they give of themselves, multiply their rewards, and honor them with admission into His paradise. Allah, the Most-High, says: **إِنَّ الْمُصَّدِّقِينَ وَالْمُصَّدِّقَاتِ وَأَقْرَضُوا اللَّهَ قَرْضًا حَسَنًا ‌يُضَاعَفُ ‌لَهُمْ ‌وَلَهُمْ أَجْرٌ كَرِيمٌ**

**Indeed, the men who practice charity and the women who practice charity and [they who] have loaned Allah a goodly loan - it will be multiplied for them, and for them is a noble reward.** (Quran, 57:18).

O Allah, make us eager to give, those who strive in performing good deeds. 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 Believers:** O Believers, generosity is like a flourishing tree, with its branches providing comforting shade, sheltering humanity under the kindness of its leaves, lifting the burdens of suffering from humankind. It is a tree that plants goodness, draws in smiles and happiness, and eradicates sadness and despair. Therefore, let us, O servants of Allah, strive to initiate acts of giving in all of their forms and manifestations. We should express gratitude to those who perform acts of kindness, acknowledge the generosity of those who give, and diligently supplicate for their well-being. This is in accordance with the words of Allah, the Most-High who states:

**خُذْ مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ صَدَقَةً تُطَهِّرُهُمْ وَتُزَكِّيهِمْ بِهَا ‌وَصَلِّ ‌عَلَيْهِمْ**

**Take from their wealth a charity to cleanse them and purify them through it, and pray for them. Indeed, your prayer is a comfort for them.** (Quran, 9:103).

When a people came to the Prophet, peace be upon him, with their offerings, he would say: **اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى آلِ فُلَانٍ**

**O Allah, send blessings upon the family of so-and-so.** [Bukhari and Muslim]

Our wise leadership continues to generously give and never hesitates to extend help to those in need. They have contributed significantly to the provision of medical facilities, playing a vital role in rescuing and saving lives. Allah, the Most-High, says:

‌**وَمَنْ ‌أَحْيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَا أَحْيَا النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا**

**And whoever saves one [life] - it is as if he had saved mankind entirely**. (Quran,5:32).

Among their most manifest acts of generosity is the provision of water. When asked about the best form of charity, the Prophet, peace be upon him, replied: **سَقْيُ الْمَاءِ**

**Providing water.** (Nisai)

We have also been tasked to give and provide food and clothing to the needy! When the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was asked about the one of the best things to do in Islam, he replied: **تُطْعِمُ الطَّعَامَ**

**Feeding others.** (Bukhari and Muslim)

So, O Allah, we ask that you reward the wise leadership of this nation with the best reward for what they have sacrificed in the service of humanity for Your sake.

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.