

# May Allah guide us to the straight path First Sermon

All praise is due to Allah Who sent down the Quran as a holy Book with which He guided us to the straight path. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the Servant of Allah and His Messenger. He was the seal of Prophets and Messengers. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his pure family and companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

## As to what follows,

I urge you, **O servants of Allah**, and myself to be aware that you are asked to obey Him the Most Exalted in line with His orders: "and, [moreover], this is My path, which is straight, so follow it; and do not follow [other] ways, for you will be separated from His way. This has He instructed you that you may become righteous." (Al-Anaam: \omega^{\sigma}).

# O Worshipers,

Guidance to the straight path is something that Muslims seek and beseech their Lord to bestow upon them in every Rakaa of every prayer they establish every day and night, reciting: "guide us to the straight path - the path of those upon whom You have bestowed favour, not of those who have evoked [Your] anger or of those who are astray." (Al-Fatiha: '\-\'). Responding to the believers' supplications and answering their calls, Allah the Almighty says, "This is for My servant, and My servant shall have what he has asked for."

Undoubtedly, Allah, the Most Exalted, has guided the Prophets and Messengers pbut on the straight path, for He says, "and [some] among their fathers and their descendants and their brothers and We chose them and We guided them to a straight path." (Al-Anaam: AV). The Almighty has mentioned this fact about the Prophets in several places in His holy Book. For instance, He says about Ibrahim pbuh, "indeed, Abraham was a [comprehensive] leader, devoutly obedient to Allah, inclining toward truth, and he was not of those who associate others with Allah. [He was]



In like manner, the Most Exalted has bestowed upon Prophets Musa (Moses) and Haroon (Aaron) pbut the favour of guidance. About them, Allah says, "and We guided them on the straight path." (A-Saffat: \\\^\\). In another Aya in the holy Quran, Allah the Almighty gives glad tidings to our Master Muhammad pbuh of being guided to the righteous path. He say, "and complete His favour upon you and guide you to a straight path." (Al-Fath: \(^\\\\)). Having granted him the favour of guidance to the straight path, the Most High enjoined upon the Prophet pbuh to maintain such path by observing all acts of righteousness that He has shown to him. He says, "so adhere to that which is revealed to you. Indeed, you are on a straight path." (Az-Zukhruf: \(^\\\\\^\\\\)).

The Messenger of Allah pbuh devotedly strived not only to uphold to the favour of guidance that Allah has conferred upon him, but also to show the keys to such path to his companions, may Allah be pleased with them. On this account, Abdullah Ibn Masood, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "The Messenger of Allah drew a line with his hand (in the sand) and said, 'This is Allah's path, leading straight.' He then drew lines to the right and left of that line and said, 'These are the other paths, on each path there is a devil who calls to it.' He then recited: 'and, [moreover], this is My path, which is straight, so follow it; and do not follow [other] ways, for you will be separated from His way'."

So, what is the meaning of "guide us to the straight path"? It means grant us success to follow the correct religion that you have chosen for us and sent down to us through Your Messenger pbuh who invited people to it, in line with the orders of Allah the Most Exalted; "say, "Indeed, my Lord has guided me to a straight path - a correct religion - the way of Abraham, inclining toward truth.





And he was not among those who associated others with Allah." (Al-Anaam: 171).

Such straight path is the one that was followed by only those who were blessed by Allah the Almighty with the favour of guidance. The Most Exalted says, "the path of those upon whom You have bestowed favour." (Al-Fatiha: \( \forall \)). Those are the Prophets and the righteous people about whom Allah, the Most Sublime, says, "and whoever obeys Allah and the Messenger - those will be with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets, the steadfast affirmers of truth, the martyrs and the righteous. And excellent are those as companions." (An-Nisaa: \( \forall \gamma \)). Truly, worshiping Allah the Most High is the true straight path, for He says, "and that you worship [only] Me? This is a straight path." (Ya-Sin: \( \forall \)).

Having known this, it is good to advise each other on the means of following the righteous path. The ways towards guidance are many. In its essence, guidance to the straight path comes through believing in Allah the Almighty, for He says, "so those who believe in Allah and hold fast to Him - He will admit them to mercy from Himself and bounty and guide them to Himself on a straight path." (An-Nisaa: ۱۷°). Furthermore, Allah, the Most Merciful, has also made adherence to the teachings of the holy Quran another cause of guidance. The Most Exalted says, "this is the Book about which there is no doubt, a guidance for those conscious of Allah." (Al-Baqara: <sup>۲</sup>).

Another way of achieving the gracious status of righteousness is taking example of the Prophet pbuh and following his advocacies with regards to acts of worship, transactions and good manners. Allah the Almighty has accentuated that the Messenger pbuh has come with a mission to guide people to the straight path, for He says, "and indeed, [O Muhammad], you guide to a straight path. The path of Allah, to whom belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth." (Ash-Shura: °\-°\-\-°\-). That is to say: you invite for a correct religion that is absolutely free of flaws.



One other important source of guidance is knowledge. It guides its seekers to the straight path by making clear to them the righteous way to choose. With knowledge, one will be able to differentiate between truth and falsehood, right and wrong. Allah the Almighty says in this regard, "and those who have been given knowledge see that what is revealed to you from your Lord is the truth, and it guides to the path of the Exalted in Might, the Praiseworthy." (Sabaa: 7). This means, the people of knowledge will know that the holy Quran is the truth and that it guides to Allah's religion and His straight path.

Indeed, successful is he who has turned to Allah in supplication and sincerely pleaded to Him to guide them to the righteous path. It was the tradition of the Messenger of Allah pbuh to do so. When he woke up for night prayer, he would start his prayer saying, "O Allah, Lord of Gabriel, and Michael, and Israfil, the Creator of the Heavens and the Earth, Who knows the unseen and the seen; You decides amongst Your servants concerning their differences. Guide me with Your permission in the divergent views (which the people) hold about Truth, for it is You Who guides whom You wilt to the Straight Path." Let us, therefore, beseech Allah the Almighty to guide us to the straight path, the path of those upon whom He has bestowed favour.

O Allah, we seek Your favour to guide us all to obey You and obey Your Messenger Muhammad and obey those You have commanded us to obey in line with Your orders: "O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you." (An-Nisaa: oq).

May Allah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger pbuh.

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

#### **Second Sermon**

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the servant of Allah and His



Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Master Muhammad, his pure family, companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

I urge you, **O Servants of Allah**, and myself to be aware that you are asked to obey Him, the Most Exalted and Sublime.

### O Worshipers,

In His Book, Allah the Almighty has made clear such attainment as well as in the Sunnah of His noble Messenger pbuh and explained the means of achieving His satisfaction, reaching to the shores of safety and security and being admitted to His Paradise, the House of Peace. The Most Exalted says, "and Allah invites to the Home of Peace and guides whom He wills to a straight path." (Yunus: Yo). Thus, you are urged, O Worshipers, to strive to take the means of guidance to the straight path and also teach your daughters and sons to do so. Allah the Most Sublime says, "and whoever holds firmly to Allah has [indeed] been guided to a straight path." (Al-Imran: Yor).

That is said, please bear in mind that you are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet pbuh. Allah, the Most Sublime, says, "indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace." (Al-Ahzab:  $\circ$ 7).

On the same matter, the Prophet pbuh said, "For everyone who invokes a blessing on me will receive ten blessings from Allah."

# المينة العامة للشؤور الإسلامية والأوقاف GENERAL AUTHORITY OF ISLAMIC AFFAIRS & ENDOWMENTS



O Allah, please confer Your blessings and grant peace upon our Prophet Muhammad pbuh, his family and all of the companions.

May Allah be pleased with the Rightly Guided Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali, and all of the noble Companions.

O Allah, we implore to You to make amongst those who adhere to the teachings of Your great Book and the Sunna of Your noble Messenger that we might be amongst the successful.

May Allah have mercy on the honourable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets. May Allah make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You answer to the supplications.

O Allah, please grant the best reward for the families of the martyrs and offer them patience and solace. May Allah grant victory to the soldiers of the Arab Coalition who gathered to restore the rights to their owners. O Lord, please be by their side and guide the Yemeni people to everything that is good. O Allah, make them rally for the word of truth and legitimacy, and bless them with welfare and stability, O the Most Generous.

O Lord, we beseech You to bless all of the Muslim countries and the whole world with stability and peace.

O Allah, we seek Your grace to increase the UAE in delight and beauty and give the best of rewards and recompense to whoever sowed the seeds of goodness and welfare in it. Indeed, You are the Most Merciful of the merciful.

May Allah grant success and continued health and care to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan. May Allah also ensure success to his Vice-President, trustworthy Crown Prince and his brothers, Their Highnesses the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, please forgive all of the Muslims, men and women, living and dead. May Allah have mercy on Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the Late UAE Sheikhs. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on them and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whoever has done a favour to us.





We pray to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, to continue blessing the UAE with stability and welfare and bless its provisions. O Allah, please continue blessing the UAE with safety and security.

O Allah, we seek Your favour to send us wealthy rain and make us not amongst those who are despondent. O Allah, relieve us! O Allah, relieve us! O Allah, relieve us! O Allah, give us from the blessings of the sky and grow for us from the blessings of the earth.

Remember Allah and He will remember you. Be grateful of His benevolence and He will increase His blessings to you.

Please stand up for prayer.