



## **The merits of Abu Bakr As-Siddiq, may Allah be pleased with him First Sermon**

All praise is due to Allah, abundant innumerable praise. The Most Exalted took His Servant by night from Al Masjid Al Haram to Al Masjid Al Aqsa and showed him of His great signs. 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 came with the truth and guidance and he was believed by his companions, those of virtue and piety. 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.

### **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: **“O you who have believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true.”** (At-Tawba: 119).

### **Dear Muslims,**

It was narrated that Aisha, may Allah be pleased with her, said, “When the Prophet pbuh was taken on the night journey to Al Masjid Al Aqsa, people were talking about it in the morning. Some people from Quraish went to Abu Bakr and said, ‘Have you heard what your companion is saying? He is claiming that he went to Bait Al Maqdis and came back in one night!’ he said, ‘Did he say that?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ Abu Bakr said, ‘Then (I bear witness) that if he said that, he is speaking the truth.’ They said, ‘Do believe that he went to Bait Al Maqdis and came back before morning?’ He said, ‘Yes, I believe him with regard to something even greater than that. I believe him with regard to the news (revelation) that he brings from the Heaven, whether in the space of a morning or in that of an evening journey’.”

That was Abu Bakr As-Siddiq (the true believer) who believed the Prophet pbuh in all that which he brought. As a result, Allah the Almighty has praised him saying, **“and the one who has brought the truth and [they who] believed in it - those are the righteous.”** (Az-Zumar: 33). In this Aya, the one who has brought the truth is the

Prophet pbuh and the one who believed him is Abu Bakr As-Siddiq, may Allah be pleased with him.

### **O Worshipers,**

The status attributed to Abu Bakr As-Siddiq, may Allah be pleased with him, was great. He was the master of all the noble companions, may Allah be pleased with all of them. This was accentuated by Umar Ibn Al Khattab when he said to Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with both of them, “You are our master and the best amongst us.” Abu Bakr was the first man to embrace Islam and a man who spent all his wealth in the way of Allah. He was the bravest amongst the companions, may Allah be pleased with them, and the most firm in grave situations.

Furthermore, Abu Bakr was one of those who used to write the revelations and the first to compile the holy Quran. He was also the first of the companions who were promised Paradise and was the closest to the Messenger of Allah pbuh amongst his companions. He really held a special status in the sight of the Prophet pbuh, one that was unmatched. On this account, it was narrated that Ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “During the lifetime of the Prophet pbuh we considered Abu Bakr as peerless.”

Indeed, he was so close to the heart of the Messenger of Allah pbuh so he pbuh said about him, “If I were to take a Khalil (bosom friend) from amongst my people, I would have taken Abu Bakr as a Khalil.” For this reason, he pbuh chose Abu Bakr to accompany him in his emigration journey to Medina. The holy Quran has mentioned this fact, for Allah the Almighty says, **“as one of two, when they were in the cave and he said to his companion, ‘Do not grieve; indeed Allah is with us’.”** (At-Tawba: 40).

In like manner, Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, loved the Messenger of Allah pbuh to the extent that he preferred him over himself and his children. To this effect, when the Prophet pbuh took the decision to emigrate, Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, was honoured with his company. As they set off on their trip, Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, walked sometimes in front of and sometimes at the back of the Prophet pbuh. When the Messenger of Allah pbuh noticed that, he asked him, “O Abu Bakr! Why are you doing so?” Abu Bakr said, “O Messenger of Allah, when I think about

the people who are lying in wait for you (to assassinate you), I walk behind you. But when I think about the people who are searching for you, I start walking in front of you.” The Prophet pbuh asked him, “O Abu Bakr, do you prefer yourself over me to face any incident that may occur?” Abu Bakr answered, “Yes, indeed. By the One Who sent you with the truth, it is a fact.”

Afterwards, when they reached the cave, Abu Bakr requested, ‘O Messenger of Allah! Please stay outside for a while so that I would check it for you.’ He entered into the cave and checked it then called to the Prophet pbuh, “Please enter now, O Messenger of Allah.” So, he pbuh entered the cave.

### **O Who love Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him,**

Please know that amongst the other virtues of Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, is that he always hastened to perform acts of goodness and took the initiative to do all that which may open the doorways to Paradise for him. On this account, the Messenger of Allah pbuh once asked his companions, “Who amongst you is fasting today?” Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, replied, “I am.” He (the Prophet) said, “Who amongst you followed a funeral today?” Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “I did.” He pbuh (again) said, “Who amongst you visited an ill person today?” Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “I did.” Upon this, the Messenger of Allah pbuh said, “Anyone in whom these (good deeds) are combined will certainly enter paradise.”

Another example that shows that Abu Bakr was unmatched in his love of giving in charity is when the Messenger of Allah pbuh one day ordered his companions to give for charity and that coincided with a time in which Umar Ibn Al Khattab, may Allah be pleased with him had some wealth. So he said, “Today I will beat Abu Bakr, if ever I beat him.” So Umar said, “I came with half of my wealth, and the Messenger of Allah pbuh said, ‘What did you leave for your family?’ I said, ‘The like of it.’ And Abu Bakr came with everything he had, so the Messenger of Allah pbuh said: ‘O Abu Bakr! What did you leave for your family?’ He said: ‘I left Allah and His Messenger for them.’ Thereupon, I said, ‘[By Allah] I will never be able to beat you to something’.”

Truly, Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, was known for his trustworthiness, piety and munificence. He spent his wealth in the sake of Allah's obedience. This was testified in the holy Quran and the Lord of the worlds has praised him, for He says, **"the righteous one will avoid it. [He] who gives [from] his wealth to purify himself."** (Al-Lail: 17-18).

In virtue of his good actions, Abu Bakr was, therefore, worthy of being called to the gateways of Paradise to enter from all of them. On this matter, it was narrated that when the Prophet pbuh mentioned the doorways of Paradise and deeds that leads to them Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, said, "O Messenger of Allah pbuh! Will there be any one who will be called from all these gates?" The Prophet pbuh replied, "Yes, and I hope you will be one of them."

The virtues and good traits of Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with him, characterised him throughout his life. He loved the Prophet pbuh and was loyal to him until the end of his life. He died at the age of 63, the same age at which the Messenger of Allah pbuh died, and was buried next to him. So, their blessed companionship continued after their demise the same way it was during their life time. As such, Abu Bakr will, by Allah's Grace, cherish the company of his beloved Prophet pbuh in Paradise. The Prophet pbuh said, "Everyone will be with those whom he loves."

O Allah, we really love Your Messenger Muhammad pbuh and love Abu Bakr, Umar, Othman and Ali as well as all the noble companions. So, we seek Your favour to gather us with them and admit us where You admit them.

O Allah, we pray to You 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: 59).

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. He bestows His favour upon whom He wills. He made our Prophet Muhammad pbuh the seal of the Prophets and chose for him the trustworthy and righteous companions. 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,**

One of the most valuable lesson that one can draw from the life story of Abu Bakr As-Siddiq, may Allah be pleased with him, is the sincere love to the Messenger of Allah pbuh and excellence in following his guidance. In fact, all of the companions, may Allah be pleased with them, have set role models for the generations to emulate. From their schools we learn the beautiful values of Islam. Allah the Almighty was pleased with them and praised them in His holy Book. The Most Exalted says, **“and the first forerunners [in the faith] among the Muhajireen (emigrants) and the Ansar (supporters) and those who followed them with good conduct - Allah is pleased with them and they are pleased with Him.”** (At-Tawba: 100).

Similarly, the Prophet pbuh attributed a high status to them as he said, “By the One in Whose Hand is my soul! If one of you were to spend an amount of gold equivalent to Uhud (mountain), it would not amount to as much as the mudd of one of them (my companions), or half of it.” No wonder for they established justice and exhibited sincerity. They are the ones who, by the favour of Allah, the Exalted is He, preserved Islam. The Messenger of Allah pbuh said in this regards, “My companions are source of security for my Ummah (people).”

Furthermore, the companions, may Allah be pleased with them, were the best of people and most generous amongst them in the cause of Allah after the Prophets pbuh. Allah, the Most Exalted, has chosen them

as companions to His Prophet pbuh and they were the most perfect amongst people in their faith and the most committed to follow his guidance. Thus, it is a duty incumbent on all Muslims to show due respect to them and love them. We should also appreciate their status and teach our daughters and sons to follow suit.

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: 56).

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

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 seek Your favour to make us amongst those who follow in steps of Your Prophet pbuh, committed to his guidance and reverent to his companions.

O Allah, we seek refuge in Your perfect words from the evil of that which descend from the sky and from the evil of that which ascends in it, and from the evil of what is created in the earth and the evil of that which comes out of it. O Allah we seek refuge in You from the trials of the night and the day, and from the visitations of the night and day, except for one that knocks with good. Indeed, You are the Most Merciful.

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.

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.