



On the assembly of the Prophet pbuh

First Sermon

All praise is due to Allah Who has engulfed the assemblies of good with blessings and made them a cause for earning rewards and increasing the believer's record of good deeds. 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 best of people in speech and the highest in manners in his assembly. 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: **“and remember the favour of Allah upon you and what has been revealed to you of the Book and wisdom by which He instructs you. And fear Allah and know that Allah is Knowing of all things.”** (Al-Baqara: ٢٣١).

Dear Muslims,

Allah the Almighty has mentioned gatherings in His holy Book, for He says, **“O you who have believed, when you are told, ‘Space yourselves’ in assemblies, then make space; Allah will make space for you.”** (Al-Mujadila: ١١). In this Aya, the assemblies are meant to indicate the assembly of the Messenger of Allah pbuh. Historically, getting-together is an old authentic habit of the Arabs and one of their noble and firm traditions. Such assemblies used to be known as Dar An-Nadwa (meeting house or club). In another place of the holy Book, Allah, the Most Exalted, also mentioned such meeting house for He says, **“then let him call his associates.”** That is to say: his assembly where he meets his companions. This tradition of the Arabs was a source of pride that one of the then poets said

what it meant, “And if you visit them, around their houses you will find gatherings, the thoughts of which may cure ignorance.”

Following in steps of his ancestors, the Messenger of Allah pbuh would hold gatherings with his companions, may Allah be pleased with all of them. The Prophet’s daily gathering was an opportunity for him to share conversations with his companions and advise them on the teachings of Islam.

The assembly of the Prophet pbuh portrayed many high-mannered attitudes and qualities. It was an assembly of knowledge, humbleness, modesty, and tolerance. He pbuh used to give utmost care to his meetings with people. As such, he would get well-prepared before going out for his gatherings to meet his companions and other comers in terms of his presentation and outlook. It was narrated in this regard that Asmaa bin Abu Bakr, may Allah be pleased with both of them, once brought out a cloak and said, “This is the Jubba (cloak) of the Messenger of Allah pbuh. He used to wear this when he met the delegations.” Jubba is an over-garment with wide sleeves that is open at the front and is worn over the clothes.

Furthermore, the Prophet pbuh received his guests in his Majlis (assembly) in a hospital manner and welcomed them. For example, it was narrated that when the deputation of Abdul Qais came to the Prophet, he pbuh said to them, “Welcome, O the delegation (who have come)!” Thereafter, the delegation members described the way the Prophet pbuh received them and how his companions cheered with their visit. They said, “When we came to the (assembly of) Messenger of Allah pbuh, they were pleased to receive us. And when we entered, they gave space to us so we sat near the Prophet pbuh who welcomed us, prayed for us and then looked at what we needed.”

Amongst the other conducts of the Prophet pbuh in his assembly is that whenever he was greeted with a greeting, he would return the greeting with a better or an equal one in line with Allah’s orders: **“and when you are greeted with a greeting, greet [in return] with one better than it or [at least] return it [in a like manner].”** (An-Nisaa: ٨٦).

Furthermore, humbleness was a trait of the Prophet pbuh in his assemblies. To this effect, after welcoming and greeting his guests, he pbuh would sit with them humbly while they would show reverence and devotion. The Messenger of Allah pbuh was the most respectful amongst them and embraced the best of manners. Describing his merits, Allah the Almighty says, “**and indeed, you are of a great moral character.**” (Al-Qalam: ٤).

His companions also praised his noble qualities. It was narrated on the authority of Jabir Ibn Samura, may Allah be pleased with him, that he said, “I sat with the Messenger of Allah pbuh more than one-hundred times. Meanwhile, he pbuh would be silent, listening to his companions.” Moreover, the Prophet assembly was also an opportunity for entertainment and pleasant times. His companions, may Allah be pleased with them, would recite poetry and tell stories about their matters and he would smile with them.

On another level, the gatherings of Messenger of Allah pbuh also gave space for the young and the elderly to meet together so that the different generations would interact by exchanging their experiences and expertise as well as nurturing religious values and good ethics in the hearts and minds of the younger ones. In this sense, the Prophet pbuh showed respect and special care to the elderly people and those of high status. For instance, when Al Ashajj, who was the chief of his people, came to the Messenger of Allah pbuh, his noble companions, may Allah be pleased with them, gave space for him and the Prophet pbuh welcomed him and made him sit close to him.

Not only had the Prophet pbuh respected the elderly, but the young people too. On this matter, it was narrated that Saad Al Saedi, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Messenger of Allah pbuh sat with his companions and on his right hand side a boy who was the youngest amongst the gathering people. The aim was to encourage the younger ones to acquire knowledge in the gatherings of the elder people.

In like manner, women also took share in the daily assembly of the Messenger of Allah pbuh. On this account, on the authority of Abu Saeed Al Khudri, may Allah be pleased with him, that he said, “A woman came to the Messenger of Allah pbuh and said, ‘O Allah’s

Messenger pbuh! Men (only) benefit by your teachings, so please devote to us from (some of) your time, a day on which we may come to you so that you may teach us of what Allah has taught you.’ Allah's Messenger pbuh said, ‘Gather on such-and-such a day at such and- such a place.’ They gathered and Allah's Messenger pbuh came to them and taught them of what Allah had taught him.”

More of the manners of the Messenger of Allah in his assembly is that he was hospitable. He would offer food for his companions and be generous with them. In this regard, Abdullah Ibn Omar, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “While we were sitting with the Prophet pbuh, fresh dates were brought to him, and these were amongst the best and most delicious food. The Messenger of Allah pbuh shared them with everyone.”

O Followers of the Prophet’s guidance,

Please know that the assembly of the Prophet pbuh was an assembly of knowledge and learning wherein his noble companions, may Allah be pleased with them, learnt the Quran and wisdom. This was accentuated by Allah the Almighty for He says, “**certainly did Allah confer [great] favour upon the believers when He sent among them a Messenger from themselves, reciting to them His verses and purifying them and teaching them the Book and wisdom, although they had been before in manifest error.**” (Al Imran: ١٦٤). So, he would recite to them the verses of the Quran that were revealed to him. It was narrated that Abu Waqid Al Laithi, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “We used to sit in the company of the Prophet pbuh and if a verse from the Quran was revealed to him, he would recite it to us.”

More to the point, in his daily meeting, the Messenger of Allah pbuh would also answer people’s questions and advise them about matters that they may have overlooked and impart knowledge to them. It was narrated that Jabir Ibn Sulaim, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “I came to the Prophet pbuh while he was sitting with his companions. So, I said to him, ‘O Messenger of Allah! There are things that I have no knowledge about, so would you teach me?’” And the Prophet pbuh taught him.

With this in mind, we implore to Allah the Almighty to guide us all to follow the example of our Prophet Muhammad pbuh at our homes, assemblies, and in all our daily life matters.

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: ٥٩).

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, abundant, good and blessed praise as our Lord loves and is pleased with. 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 and strive to maintain the assemblies of goodness.

O Worshipers,

Please know that the daily assembly of the Prophet pbuh was a garden from the gardens of Paradise that were thriving with the remembrance of Allah the Almighty. As a result, it was engulfed with tranquillity, shielded with mercy and surrounded by angels. In this regard, it was narrated that Anas Ibn Malik, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Messenger of Allah pbuh said, “When you pass by the gardens of Paradise, then feast. The people said: ‘And what are the gardens of Paradise?’ He pbuh said: ‘The circles of remembrance’.”

Amongst the traditions of the Prophet pbuh is that he used to conclude his assembly with an invocation that Jibril (Gabriel) pbuh taught him. So, he would say, “Glory is due to You, O Allah, and praise. I bear witness that there is no deity save You. I seek Your forgiveness and turn to You in repentance.” This is because this supplication is “an atonement for what takes place in the assembly.” Following such a great Prophetic guidance and tradition, the UAE has given much care to assemblies. To this effect, many Majlises were established in the cities, featuring schools that instils noble values and principles. It is, therefore, a duty incumbent on us to preserve these Majlises and make best use of them. We should also nurture the importance of such Majlises in the heart and mind of our sons and daughters.

Dear Muslims,

We are in the month of Shaaban, a blessed month during which the Prophet pbuh used to observe fasting much. When the people asked him about the reason for this, he pbuh said, “That is a month to which people do not pay much attention, between Rajab and Ramadan. It is a month in which the deeds are taken up to the Lord of the worlds, and I like that my deeds be taken up when I am fasting.”

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: ٥٦).

On the same matter, the Messenger of Allah pbuh said, “No people sit in a gathering in which they do not remember Allah, nor send blessings upon their Prophet, except it will be a source of remorse for them.”

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 our Majlis full of knowledge, remembrance of Allah, good manners and dignity.

O Allah, apportion for us, fear of You that shall come between us and disobedience of You, and of obedience to You, which shall cause us to obtain Your Paradise. O Allah, grant us enjoyment of our hearing, our seeing and our strength as long as You keep us alive.

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 Lord, may we ask You for all that which is good in this world and in the Hereafter. O Allah, may we also ask You for all the good that our Master Muhammad pbuh used to ask from You.

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.