

On the responsibilities of human beings towards their Lord First Sermon

All praise is due to Allah, the Entirely Merciful. He created man and taught him eloquence. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master and Prophet Muhammad is the Servant of Allah and His Messenger. Allah has sent him as mercy and guidance to the humanity. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his family and all of his companions, and those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

As to what follows,

I urge you and myself, **O Servants of Allah**, to be aware that you are asked to obey Him the Most Exalted and Sublime, in line with His orders, "**O mankind, worship your Lord, who created you and those before you, that you may become righteous**." (Al-Baqara: Υ 1).

O Mankind,

Allah, the Exalted is He, has created man in the most perfect of stature and ultimate proper form. The Almighty says, "We have certainly created man in the best of stature." (Al-Teen: \(\frac{2}\)). Yet, Allah has greatly honoured mankind over all His other creation, for the Most Exalted says, "and We have certainly honoured the children of Adam and carried them on the land and sea and provided for them of the good things and preferred them over much of what We have created, with [definite] preference." (Al-Israa: \(\frac{1}{2}\)). Amongst the aspects of honouring that Allah the Almighty has bestowed upon mankind is that He breathed into them from His soul and ordered His angels to prostrate to Adam. The Most Beneficent says, "[So mention] when your Lord said to the angels, "Indeed, I am going to create a human being from clay. So when I have proportioned him and breathed into him of My [created] soul, then fall down to him in prostration." (Sad: \(\frac{1}{2}\)).

Furthermore, Allah the All-High has endowed upon man numerous favours and provided them with all requirements and conditions that were conducive for them to cherish a good and righteous livelihood.

On this account, the Most Sublime says, "have We not made for him two eyes? And a tongue and two lips? And have shown him the two ways?" (Al-Balad: ^- \ ·). In addition to these favours, Allah the All-Merciful has distinguished human beings with knowledge and understanding. The Owner of Majesty and Honour says, "taught man that which he knew not." (Al-Alaq: °). Moreover, the Almighty has taken on Himself to provide for man and take care of them for He says, "I do not want from them any provision, nor do I want them to feed Me. Indeed, it is Allah who is the [continual] Provider, the firm possessor of strength." (Ad-Dhariyat: °\-°^).

In return of those favours, every human being should show diligence in worshiping Allah the Almighty and discharge their duties toward Him as well as fulfil their duties in this worldly life.

O Servants of Allah,

Human beings were created for specific reasons, and they have duties and responsibilities. The most prominent responsibility in Islam that one has is towards his Creator. The rights that Allah has over human beings is to adhere to His commands and worship Him in the most perfect manner possible. The Almighty says, "and I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me." (Ad-Dhariyat: °7). That is say: Allah has created man to worship Him alone and succumb to His ordains. In this sense, a Muslim should observe the obligatory acts of worship regularly, offer plenty of Nawafil (voluntary) prayers, hasten to perform acts of goodness and be kind to all other human fellows.

Undoubtedly, the value of human beings is reflected in their humane character that features mercy and doing acts of kindness. The Messenger of Allah pbuh said in this regard, "The people who are most loved by Allah are those who are most beneficial to others." In this context, human beings should work towards strengthening their bonds, show mercy to one another and uphold ties with one another. This is in line with Allah's orders, for He enjoined upon man to maintain the best of manners when dealing with others. For Instance, the Almighty has ordered children to be dutiful to their parents and treat them in kindness. The Most Beneficent says, "and We have enjoined upon man, to his parents, good treatment." (Al-Ahqaf:

1°). For another, the Most Sublime has urged human beings to show compassion to their kith and kin as in this Aya: "and fear Allah, through whom you ask one another, and the wombs." (An-Nisaa: 1).

More to the point, Allah the Almighty has commanded Muslims to show humbleness when treating all other human beings so that no one may treat others with superiority. The Messenger of Allah pbuh said in this regard, "Allah has revealed to me that you (people) should be humble, so that no one boasts to the other, or transgresses another." This is because, as human beings, we are all equal to one another, and Allah the Most Exalted has created us from one soul as illustrated in this Aya, "O mankind, fear your Lord Who created you from one soul." (An-Nisaa: \)). On the same matter, the Messenger of Allah pbuh said, "O people! Truly, your Lord is One and your father Adam is one."

O People,

There is no doubt that amongst the duties of man on earth is to inhabit it, build civilisations and accomplish achievements. The Exalted in Might says, "**He has produced you from the earth and settled you in it.**" (Hood: ⁷¹). This means, Allah has created your father Adam from the earth and dispersed his offspring across the earth for them to build it up and make best use of the abundant resources that He has provided for them in it. Indeed, Allah the Almighty has arranged for human beings all that which may help them in inhabiting the earth and establishing civilisations on it. The

Most High says, "and it is He who spread the earth and placed therein firmly set mountains and rivers; and from all of the fruits He made therein two mates; He causes the night to cover the day. Indeed in that are signs for a people who give thought." (Ar-Raad: ").

Another responsibility that man should discharge on earth in line with the orders of their Lord is to work hard and diligently, seeking to attain the means of decent living. An illustration of this can be seen in the Almighty's saying, "it is He who made the earth tame for you - so walk among its slopes and eat of His provision - and to Him is the resurrection." (Al-Mulk: \o'). He also says, "so when you have finished [your duties], then stand up [for worship]." (Ash-Sharh: \o'). That is to say: when you are done with the daily life matters, then it is time to perform acts of worship and obedience to Allah the Almighty.

More to this, one should show resilience and sincerity in their work. So, when one has completed a task, he should start another one. This way, the person will benefit from his/her time and occupy it with useful work. Allah the Almighty has emphasised this for He says, "We have certainly created man into hardship." (Al-Balad: ٤). In like manner, the Prophet pbuh has urged Muslims to show persistence in work and be productive. He Pbuh said, "If the Final Hour comes while you have a palm-cutting in your hands and it is possible to plant it before the Hour comes, you should plant it."

Certainly, in this life, it is a duty incumbent on each human being to work, build and strive to achieve all that which is good for himself/herself, their families, relatives, society, homeland and the entire humanity. It is a religious duty, for all people are partners in development and civilisation building, and Muslims should set a model for others to emulate in fulfilling such a duty.

Bearing this in mind, we seek Allah's favour to make us beneficial for the entire humanity and help us exert ourselves in good deeds.

May Allah guide us all to obey Him and obey His Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those He has commanded us to obey in line with Your orders: "O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority amongst 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 People,

In the Hereafter, every person will be accountable for their deeds and no one will bear the sin committed by others. The Most Just says, "that no bearer of burdens will bear the burden of another. And that there is not for man except that [good] for which he strives. And that his effort is going to be seen. Then he will be recompensed for it with the fullest recompense." (An-Najm: "^-51).

Human beings are, therefore, urged to seize the opportunity of their existence in this world and make best use of their time by hastening to do acts of good and righteousness and be beneficial for mankind. Allah, the Most Exalted says, "by time. Indeed, mankind is in loss, Except for those who have believed and done righteous deeds and advised each other to truth and advised each other to patience." (Al-Asr: \(\frac{1}{2}\)).

That is said, please bear in mind that you are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet pbuh. Allah, the All-High, 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: ^o7).

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 Lord, please make us amongst those who are rightful to their fathers and mothers and kind to their kith and kin.

O Allah, we seek Your favour to continue blessing our rulers and beloved country with happiness.

May Allah grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good. O Allah, we also seek Your favour to grant him continued health and care. 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. We pray to Allah to show mercy on late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the late UAE Sheikhs. O Lord, grant them abundant mercy 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.

O Allah, may we ask You to guide us to all that may help us attain Your mercy and forgiveness and grant us rewards for our good deeds. O Allah, we implore to You to protect us from every major sin and grant us the reward of every good deed. O Allah, we seek Your grace to make us amongst those who will win Your Paradise and save us from the Hellfire.

O Allah, we implore You at this instance not to let a sin unforgiven, a distress unrelieved, a debt unpaid, an illness unhealed, a dead without mercy or a need unsatisfied, for You are the Most Generous and over all things Competent. Indeed, You are ever responding.

We pray to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, to continue blessing the UAE with stability and welfare and increase it in bounties, knowledge, civilisation, happiness, beauty and tolerance. O Allah, please continue blessing it with happiness and security.

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.

Our Lord, give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire.

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.