



Insights into the merits of Allah's Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh

First Sermon

All praise is due to Allah Who sent His Messengers as instructors (for the people) and made them guidance for those who follow them in righteousness. 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. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his pure blessed family and companions, and all 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 in line with His orders: “**and We have instructed those who were given the Scripture before you and yourselves to fear Allah.**” (An-Nisaa: ١٣١).

Dear Muslims,

Allah the Almighty has chosen Prophets and Messengers, preferred them over His Creation and made them beacons of guidance to the straight path for the true believers. The Most Exalted has illustrated this in His holy Book as He says, “**and We made them leaders guiding by Our command.**” (Al-Anbiyaa: ٧٣). The Most High has sent the Messengers for people to take example from their guidance and follow the model of their traditions. Allah the Almighty says, “**those are the ones whom Allah has guided, so from their guidance take an example.**” (Al-Anaam: ٩٠).

One of those guided Prophets and righteous superiors is Allah's Prophet Yaaqoob (Jacob) pbuh who was raised in a house of knowledge and wisdom. Therein, he received the light of Prophethood. Yaaqoob was a Prophet whose father was a Prophet and so was his grandfather. He is the son of Ishaq who is the son of Ibrahim (Abraham), the close friend of Allah the Most Merciful, may peace be upon all of them. Allah the Almighty has praised them in His holy Book, for He says, “**and remember Our servants, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob - those of strength and [religious] vision. Indeed, We chose them for an exclusive quality:**



remembrance of the home [of the Hereafter]. And indeed they are, to Us, among the chosen and outstanding.” (Sad: ٤٥-٤٧).

Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh was also praised by Allah the Almighty as being a man of divine knowledge that the Most Exalted has gifted him. The Almighty says, **“and indeed, he was a possessor of knowledge because of what We had taught him.”** (Yusuf: ٦٨). So, this is a good opportunity to earn a little amount from the vast knowledge of Yaaqoob pbuh, his wisdom, religious and the ethical values that he has nurtured in the minds and hearts of his sons.

O Servants of Allah,

Please know that Yaqaob pbuh has spent his life in performing acts of obedience to his Lord, inviting his people to the right path and raising his children in the best manner possible. As such, he did not spare any effort in giving them good advice on all their life matters. So, he entrenched in them the values of true belief and strengthened their bonds with their Lord. An example of his admonitions to them can be seen in the following Aya in which he says to them: **“O my sons, indeed Allah has chosen for you this religion, so do not die except while you are Muslims.”** (Al-Baqara: ١٣٢).

Furthermore, Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh strived to keep his sons holding fast to the obedience of Allah the Almighty after his death. So, feeling that death was approaching him, he said to them, **“what will you worship after me?”** They said, **“we will worship your God and the God of your fathers, Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac - one God. And we are Muslims [in submission] to Him.”** (Al-Baqara: ١٣٣). He pbuh has also cemented in their hearts the sincere trust in Allah and reliance upon Him, by giving them an example to emulate. This can be seen in the following Aya where he says to them, **“the decision is only for Allah; upon Him I have relied, and upon Him let those who would rely [indeed] rely.”** (Yusuf: ٦٧). That is to say: I trusted Allah the Almighty to protect you and take care of you, for whoever relies on Him, He will relieve them from all their distress. Allah the Most Merciful has accentuate this, for He says, **“and whoever relies upon Allah - then He is sufficient for him.”** (At-Talaq: ٣).



Moreover, placing one's trust in Allah the Most Beneficent is one other value that Yaaqoob pbuh has instilled deep inside his sons, in addition to being positive and holding on to hope. To this, he said to them, **“and despair not of relief from Allah. Indeed, no one despairs of relief from Allah except the disbelieving people.”** (Yusuf: ٨٧). In this Aya, Yaaqoob pbuh instructs his sons not to lose hope in Allah's mercy. Indeed, hope is a great value by which one can achieve their aspirations and reap the fruits of their good deeds.

Dear Virtuous Fathers,

Truly, Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh was a role model father. He has established a bridge of trust between him and his sons. So, when the vision came to Yusuf (Joseph) pbuh in his dream, he could not find anyone closer to him than his father to tell him about it. Thus, he said, **“O my father, indeed I have seen [in a dream] eleven stars and the sun and the moon; I saw them prostrating to me.”** (Yusuf: ٤). This really sets a pattern for how the relationship between father and son should be. It should be built upon mutual trust and constructive dialogue.

In this sense, when Yaaqoob pbuh listened to the narration of his son Yusuf pbuh about his vision, he feared that envy might infiltrate to his brothers hearts and that Satan may plot against him a plan and make his brothers hurt him. So, he said to him, **“O my son, do not relate your vision to your brothers or they will contrive against you a plan. Indeed Satan, to man, is a manifest enemy.”** (Yusuf: ٥).

Undoubtedly, a wise and conscious father will definitely advise his sons with that which is good for them and draw their hearts closer to one another. He would instil love in them and protect them against conflicts, thereby block the path in the face of the devil and turn down his evil plans. This way, they will become a harmonious family with strong bonds of affection.

Dear Muslims,

Another attribute making Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh a great father is that he strived to ensure the safety of his sons. He would draw them away from all that which might cause them any harm. Evidence on this is when they wanted to travel, he bade them farewell with a precious



advice, saying, **“O my sons, do not enter from one gate but enter from different gates.”** (Yusuf: ٦٧). The reason for this is that his sons were known to be good looking and he was afraid that they will be afflicted by the evil eye.

Truly, this highlights that he pbuh possessed wisdom and knowledge. Fathers are urged, therefore, to strive for ensuring the safety of their children and fortify them against envy and seek refuge with Allah, the Protector, for them from the evil eye. This was the advice of our Master Muhammad pbuh as he said, “Seek refuge with Allah, for the evil eye is real.”

O Servants of Allah,

Amongst the other lessons that one can draw from Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh is that correcting the flaws of one’s children is a duty, yet it requires patience and wisdom. Such a lesson can be learnt from his reaction when the Satan succeeded in making Yusuf’s brothers hurt him. His reaction displayed wisdom and patience in raising his sons. In spite of his awareness of their sinful action, his reaction lacked any harsh recourse and portrayed a character tempered with patience and wisdom by explaining to them the great sin that they have committed. So, he said to them, **“rather, your souls have enticed you to something, so patience is most fitting. And Allah is the one sought for help against that which you describe.”** (Yusuf: ١٨).

Yaaqoob displayed patience and steadfastness during affliction. He accepted the decree of Allah and remained sincere in his trust in and reliance on Him, losing not hope. As such, he said to his sons, **“so patience is most fitting. Perhaps Allah will bring them to me all together. Indeed it is He who is the Knowing, the Wise.”** (Yusuf: ٨٣). This way, he cemented in them the value of patience and endurance during turbulences. Indeed, perseverance is such a beautiful character that helps one to stand the afflictions of life. Our Master Muhammad pbuh emphasised the value of patience as he said, “And whoever remains patient, Allah will make him patient. Nobody can be given a blessing better and greater than patience.”

In fact, Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh has set an example on the patience of father as he showed tolerance toward his sons for long time until he finally achieved his goal and Allah the Almighty imparted happiness to his heart by seeing his sons together again. Certainly, patience is the key to relief.



Bearing this in mind, let us beseech Allah the Almighty to grant us success to follow the guidance of the Prophets and make amongst His sincere righteous servants.

May Allah guide us all to obey Him and obey His Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those He have commanded us to obey in line with His 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

Our Lord, all the praises are due to You; You are the Light of the Heavens and the Earth. To You all the praises are due; You are the Maintainer of the Heavens and the Earth. All the praises are due to You; You are the Lord of the Heavens and the Earth and whatever is in them. O Allah, we believe in You, and we depend upon You, and we repent to You. We bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. We also bear witness that our Master and Prophet 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 High and Exalted.

O Worshipers,

The lessons that we can draw from the story of Yaaqoob pbuh are many. One of such great lessons is that demonstrating patience in raising one’s children and treating them in kindness will definitely blossom with all that is good. To this, we can see that Allah the Almighty has graced Yaaqoob pbuh with the favour of the reunion of his sons and brought their hearts together. They, then, regretted what they have done and admitted their sin. About them, Allah the



Almighty says, **“they said, ‘O our father, ask for us forgiveness of our sins; indeed, we have been sinners.’”** (Yusuf: ٩٧).

Thereupon, Prophet Yaaqoob pbuh said to them, **“I will ask forgiveness for you from my Lord. Indeed, it is He who is the Forgiving, the Merciful.”** (Yusuf: ٩٨). So, not only he forgave them their sin, but also promised them to ask forgiveness from Allah the Almighty for them. Indeed, he possessed a role model character for fathers to emulate. Fathers should learn from him to forgive their children, invoke Allah the Most Merciful for them and never to curse them. Our Master Muhammad pbuh has accentuated this as he said, **“Do not invoke Allah against yourselves, and do not invoke Him against your children, and do not invoke curse on your property, lest you happen to do it at a time when Allah is asked for something and grants your request.”**

Indeed, these are such precious values and lessons that you are urged to reflect upon. You are also advised to raise your children on such virtuous and noble principles. We ask Allah the Almighty to grant us all success to do so.

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 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.

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 un-forgiven, 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 to prayers 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. O Allah, admit us to Your Paradise with the righteous. Indeed, You are Exalted in Might and Forgiving.

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.