



## Indeed the righteous shall be in bliss

### The First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, the Most Majestic, Most Forgiving. Who honors his righteous servants and raised their ranks to be in the company of His chosen Prophets. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon his name), is the perfected example of servanthood unto Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe.

**To Continue:** I advise you, dutiful servants of Allah, and myself, to adhere to a heartfelt consciousness (Taqwa) of Allah. For He, the Most Gloriously Transcendent, states:

وَلَأَجْرُ الْآخِرَةِ خَيْرٌ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَكَانُوا يَتَّقُونَ

**And the reward of the Hereafter is better for those who believed and were fearing Allah.**

[Qur'an: ١٢:٥٧]

## **O Muslims:**

Indeed for the righteous there is a lofty rank as Allah makes mention for them, writing down their deeds, then placing it in the illiyyun about which He states:

كَلَّا إِنَّ كِتَابَ الْأَبْرَارِ لَفِي عَلِيَيْنِ \* وَمَا أَدْرَاكَ مَا عَلِيُّونَ \* كِتَابٌ  
مَرْقُومٌ \* يَشْهَدُهُ الْمُقَرَّبُونَ

**No! Indeed, the record of the righteous is in illiyyun.**

**And what can make you know what is illiyyun?**

**It is [their destination recorded in] a register inscribed**

**Which is witnessed by those brought near[to Allah].**

[Qur'an: ٨٣:١٨-٢١]

In other words the Angels shall witness their deeds in the Heavens. On the Day of Judgment they shall be in an endless bliss, as Allah states:

إِنَّ الْأَبْرَارَ لَفِي نَعِيمٍ \* عَلَى الْأَرَائِكِ يَنْظُرُونَ

**Indeed, the righteous will be in pleasure. On adorned couches, observing.**

[Qur'an: ٨٣:٢٢-٢٣]

They are observing that which Allah has given them, of good that shall never end and an endless grace. They are looking towards the countenance of Allah, wherein their faces shall be radiant in contentment, as Allah

says: **تَعْرِفُ فِي وُجُوهِهِمْ نَضْرَةَ النَّعِيمِ \* يُسْقَوْنَ مِنْ رَحِيقٍ مَخْتُومٍ \***  
**خَتَامُهُ مِسْكٌ وَفِي ذَلِكَ فَلْيَتَنَافَسِ الْمُتَنَافِسُونَ**

**You will recognize in their faces the radiance of contentment.**

**They will be given to drink [pure] wine [which was] sealed.**

**The last of it is musk. So for this let the competitors compete. [Qur'an: ٨٣:٢٤-٢٦]**

**So what is righteousness? And how can one become from the righteous?**

The word berr (righteousness) is a comprehensive term that includes all forms of piety and good deeds, that draws one near to Allah. The foremost attribute of the righteous is True Faith in Allah, His Angels, His Prophets, His Books, and the Last Day. As Allah says:

**لَيْسَ الْبِرُّ أَنْ تُولُّوا وُجُوهَكُمْ قِبَلَ الْمَشْرِقِ وَالْمَغْرِبِ وَلَكِنَّ الْبِرَّ مَنْ آمَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةِ وَالْكِتَابِ وَالنَّبِيِّينَ**

**Righteousness is not that you turn your faces toward the east or the west, but [true] righteousness is [in] one who believes in Allah , the Last Day, the angels, the Book, and the prophets... [Qur'an:**

**٢:١٧٧]**

So the believers are those who answer the call of what true faith entails, such that they be written in the ranks of those who are righteous, as they say:

رَبَّنَا إِنَّا سَمِعْنَا مُنَادِيًا يُنَادِي لِلْإِيمَانِ أَنْ آمِنُوا بِرَبِّكُمْ فَآمَنَّا رَبَّنَا  
فَاغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَكَفِّرْ عَنَّا سَيِّئَاتِنَا وَتَوَفَّنَا مَعَ الْأَبْرَارِ

**Our Lord, indeed we have heard a caller calling to faith, [saying], 'Believe in your Lord,' and we have believed. Our Lord, so forgive us our sins and remove from us our misdeeds and cause us to die with the righteous. [Qur'an: ٣:١٩٣]**

From the greatest of deeds of the righteous is Prayer. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) is recorded to have said:

صَلَاةٌ عَلَىٰ إِثْرِ صَلَاةٍ لَا لَغْوَ بَيْنَهُمَا كِتَابٌ فِي عِلِّيِّينَ

**Prayer followed by a prayer with no idle talk between the two is recorded in the illiyyun.**

[Sunan Abi Dawud]

Everything that is written in the illiyyun is from righteous deeds . Hence the establishing of prayer in its correct times, the performance of ruku and sajdah, the content and presence in prayer, in a manner that is pleasing to Allah - is all from righteousness. Likewise the spending of charity for the sake of Allah is from righteousness, as Allah says:

وَأَتَى الْمَالَ عَلَىٰ حُبِّهِ ذَوِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسَاكِينَ وَابْنَ  
السَّبِيلِ وَالسَّائِلِينَ وَفِي الرِّقَابِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَى الزَّكَاةَ

and gives wealth, in spite of love for it, to relatives, orphans, the needy, the traveler, those who ask [for help], and for freeing slaves; [and who] establishes prayer and gives zakah [Qur'an: ٢:١٧٧]

Also as Allah says: لَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ حَتَّى تُنْفِقُوا مِمَّا تُحِبُّونَ وَمَا تُنْفِقُوا مِنْ شَيْءٍ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ بِهِ عَلِيمٌ

Never will you attain the good [reward] until you spend [in the way of Allah ] from that which you love. And whatever you spend - indeed, Allah is Knowing of it. [Qur'an: ٣:٩٢]

### O Righteous Ones:

The believer continues to ascend the ranks of righteousness through his deeds and noble character. For when the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) was asked about righteousness, he said:

الْبِرُّ حَسَنُ الْخُلُقِ

### Righteousness is noble character [Muslim]

So adorning oneself with beautiful attributes and lofty character is that which is righteousness. From such character is the attribute of loyalty, for Allah mentions:

وَالْمُوفُونَ بِعَهْدِهِمْ إِذَا عَاهَدُوا

[those who] fulfill their promise when they promise [Qur'an: ٢:١٧٧]

This entails being sincere in one's words and deeds. This is the character of righteousness, a means by which people are further guided towards

righteousness. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said: **عَلَيْكُمْ بِالصِّدْقِ، فَإِنَّ الصِّدْقَ يَهْدِي إِلَى الْبِرِّ، وَإِنَّ الْبِرَّ يَهْدِي إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ، وَمَا يَزَالُ الرَّجُلُ يَصْدُقُ وَيَتَحَرَّى الصِّدْقَ؛ حَتَّى يُكْتَبَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ صِدْقًا**

**Adhere (you people) to truth, for truth leads to good deeds and good deeds lead to Paradise, and if a man continues to speak the truth and makes truth his object he will be recorded as truthful before Allah. Avoid (you people) falsehood, for falsehood leads to wickedness and wickedness leads to Hell, and if a man continues to speak falsehood and makes falsehood his object he will be recorded as a liar before Allah. [Bukhari and Muslim]**

To embody patience in times of distress is the way of those who are sincere. As Allah says:

**وَالصَّابِرِينَ فِي الْبَأْسَاءِ وَالضَّرَّاءِ وَحِينَ الْبَأْسِ أُولَئِكَ الَّذِينَ صَدَقُوا  
وَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْمُتَّقُونَ**

**and [those who] are patient in poverty and hardship and during battle. Those are the ones who have been true, and it is those who are the righteous.**

[Qur'an: ٢: ١٧٧]

So those who are sincere in their faith, adhering to the performance of their activities of worship, having lofty character, being beautiful in their words and deeds, taking all forms of good.

## Servants of Allah:

Our Lord has commanded us to hasten to the good, striving to the ascertaining of righteousness, advising us towards that and encouraging us in that regard. For Allah has said:

وَتَنَاجَوْا بِالْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي إِلَيْهِ تُحْشَرُونَ

**converse about righteousness and piety. And fear Allah , to whom you will be gathered.**

[Qur'an: ٥٨:٩]

Allah has commanded us to cooperate in this regard, saying: وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ

**And cooperate in righteousness and piety**

[Qur'an: ٥:٢]

This is because of the effects works of goodness have in bringing about societal and individual welfare and ultimate happiness in both this world and the next. O Allah: Make us from those who are righteous in their words and deeds. And assist us all in the way of piety and obedience. Piety towards Your trustworthy Messenger, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), the ability to be dutiful towards those You have commanded us to be dutiful towards, in accordance with Your words: **O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.** [Qur'an: ٤:٥٩]

May Allah bless me and bless you with the Noble Qur'an and with the Way (Sunnah) of His Noble

Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him). I say this, and I seek forgiveness for me and for you, so seek His forgiveness, for He is the All-Forgiving and the All-Merciful.

## **The Second Khutbah**

All praises are for Allah. I praise Him with a praise commensurate to the majesty of His countenance, and the immensity of His authority. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon his name), is the perfect example of dutiful servanthood towards Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe. O Allah: We ask you to bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon him; his family; all of his companions; and whomsoever follows and seeks to emulate him in the best of ways till the Last Day.

I advise you, O servants of Allah, and myself, with Taqwa of Allah (glorified be He).

### **O Worshippers:**

From the greatest images of righteousness, is piety towards one's parents. This is in light of the rights they have upon one and the immense sacrifices they bear in raising children. Allah praises this when He says (speaking about a Prophet to be emulated):



وَبَرًّا بِوَالِدَيْهِ وَلَمْ يَكُنْ جَبَّارًا عَصِيًّا

**And [he was] dutiful to his parents, and he was not a disobedient tyrant. [Qur'an: ١٩:١٤]**

A child righteous towards his parents is always gentle and kind towards them, being their companion in turn. He or she is one who looks to that bond of kinship and always maintains its rights, loving and honoring not just them, but their wider families and friends. As the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

إِنَّ أَبْرَّ الْبِرِّ صَلَّةُ الْوَالِدِ أَهْلًا وَدًّا أَبِيهِ

**"The strongest form of righteousness is when a man maintains relations with the people his father loved." [Muslim]**

Acts such as being righteous towards one's parents place one in Paradise, making such people from those whose supplications are answered, as the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said about a man who showed piety towards his mother: يَأْتِي عَلَيْكُمْ أُوَيْسُ

بْنُ عَامِرٍ... لَهُ وَالِدَةٌ هُوَ بِهَا بَرٌّ، لَوْ أَقْسَمَ عَلَى اللَّهِ لِأَبْرَهُ

**There would come to you Uwais b. Amir [from the tribe of Qaran] ... His treatment with his mother would have been excellent. If he were to take an**

**oath in the name of Allah, He would honour that.**

[Muslim]

Whoever increases in their righteousness, then such a person actually does not need to make much supplication, for Allah grants such people whatever they want [before they even ask]. And when they ask, they are given. So let us strive to be such people; performing acts of righteousness. That we become of those of sincere faith, prayer, charity, patience, mutual assistance, and piety towards our parents and all the people around us. Let us strive towards all manner of goodness, until we are known as the people of righteousness.

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the one we have been commanded to send our peace and blessings upon, as Allah 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.** [Qur'an: ٣٣:٥٦]. So, O Allah, bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon our Master, our Prophet and upon his family and all of his companions. And may Allah be pleased with the Righteous Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, Ali; and the noble companions of the Prophet, the Sahaba, may Allah be pleased with all of them. O Allah, we ask You for soundness in our faith, and trust in good character,

and a true success that will be followed by eternal bliss. O Allah, we ask You for Your mercy, for true prosperity, for Your redemptive forgiveness and Your pleasure. O Allah, make us from those who are obedient, respectful, those who venerate their parents, honoring their mothers and their fathers, embodying excellent character towards their families and wider societies.

O 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 seek Your favour in granting him continued good health and care. O Allah, we also ask You to grant success to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, we ask You to forgive all of the Muslims, both the men and women, the living and dead. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to the mercy of their Lord. O Lord, grant them from your abundant mercy and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction. O Allah, we ask you to admit them into Paradise, being given bounties therein without being taken to account. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whosoever may have a right upon us.

O Allah, we ask You, from your loving kindness, for the immensity of your forgiveness, for the reward of all righteousness, for the safety and protection from all

sin. O Allah, we ask you for the ultimate success in attaining Paradise, and the ultimate respite in being saved from the Fire. O Allah, do not allow us to sin except that You forgive us, nor to have any worry except that you relieve us therein, nor for any debt to come upon us except that You see it compensated, nor for there to be any sick amongst us except that You see them healed. Let there be no dead, except that You have covered them in Your mercy, and let there be no pressing need, amongst any of us, except that You see it met and fulfilled. O most Noble of the Noble, You are capable over all things, and You are the most generous in responding to those who call upon You.

We ask You, O Allah, the Lord of all domains, to continue blessing the UAE with stability, welfare, increase in its bounties, knowledge, civilization, happiness, beauty and tolerance. O Allah, please continue blessing it with safety and security. O Allah, have mercy on the honorable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the Prophets. O Allah, make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You are ever-responsive to those who call upon You. O Allah, grant to the people of Yemen that which is good, and unite them upon that which is True and Sacred, and provide for them all manners of prosperity, O most Noble of the Noble.

O Allah, spread peace and security amongst all the Muslim nations, and the entirety of the world. O our Lord, we ask You for the best of this World, the best of the Hereafter, that You will protect us from the punishment of the Fire, and that You enter us into Your paradise with the righteous. Indeed You are the Most Generous and Most Forgiving.

**O Servants of Allah:** Remember Allah, the Majestic, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His blessings and He will increase you therein. And establish the prayer.

**So stand up for prayer.**