



Righteous Deeds that lead to Salvation

The First Khutbah

All Praise be to Allah, Lord and Cherisher of the Worlds. Who causes night to follow day in succession. And who has made the stories of earlier generations an allegory for those who comprehend. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love, adoration and worship, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Sayyid, our Prophet, Muhammad ﷺ is the perfect example of servanthood unto Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe. O Allah send your salutations, peace and blessings upon our Prophet, Muhammad ﷺ and upon all of his family and companions. And upon whomever acts upon their way of guidance until the Last Day.

To proceed: I advise you and myself to embody a reverential consciousness (taqwa) of Allah. For He, the Most Gloriously

Transcendent, states: **وَمَنْ يَتَّقِ اللَّهَ يَجْعَلْ لَهُ مَخْرَجًا* وَيَرْزُقْهُ مِنْ**

حَيْثُ لَا يَحْتَسِبُ وَمَنْ يَتَوَكَّلْ عَلَى اللَّهِ فَهُوَ حَسْبُهُ

And whoever fears Allah - He will make for him a way out.

And will provide for him from where he does not expect.

And whoever relies upon Allah - then He is sufficient for

him. [Qur'an: ٦٥:٢-٣]

O Muslims: The Prophet ﷺ is reported to have said:

انطلق ثلاثة رهطٍ ممن كان قبلكم حتى أووا المبيت إلى غارٍ،
فدخلوه فأنحدرت صخرةٌ من الجبل، فسدت عليهم الغارَ،
فقالوا: إنه لا ينجيكم من هذه الصخرة إلا أن تدعوا الله
بصالح أعمالكم

Three men from among those who were before you, set out together till they reached a cave at night and entered it. A big rock rolled down the mountain and closed the mouth of the cave. They said (to each other), Nothing can save you from this rock except to call upon Allah by remembering your righteous deed which were done sincerely (for Allah's sake alone). [Bukhari]

So these three people turned towards Allah calling upon him sincerely, humbling themselves before His presence and putting forward their supplications. They hoped that He would save them by the fact that they had done deeds sincerely for Allah in the past, for He alone was capable of saving them from the predicament they were in. Thus the first of them drew near to his Lord by invoking his piety towards his parents and his serving them. The fact that he preferred them to others, and that he was willing to bear difficulty for their sake, so he said:

O Allah! I had parents who were of an old age. And I also had a wife and was raising my young children. So whenever I came back to my family I milked my animals and first served that milk to my parents before my children. One day I was obliged to go out to a distant place in search of fodder so I could not come back until the evening. So I found my parents asleep. Thus I milked the animals as I used to milk them. And I brought the milk to my parents and stood by their heads avoiding to disturb them from sleep. And I did

not deem it appropriate to serve milk to my children before serving my parents. My children started crying [out of hunger] and gathered near my feet. However I remained standing there in that very state and my parents remained sleeping until the break of dawn.

After mentioning this incident, the man turned towards Allah with supplication saying:

O Allah: If I did this out of sincerely seeking Your countenance and pleasure, then grant us relief from the problem we are with concerning this rock. So the rock shifted out of place a bit, however they were still unable to exit the cave.

The shifting of the rock was proof that Allah had accepted his devotion, and that Allah was pleased with his act. For piety towards one's parents is from the greatest of means through which Allah brings forward one's reward in this world. For the parents are the most deserving of people with regards to our care and concern as their favour over their children is immense, hence their rights over them are huge. For this reason Allah Himself has instructed all children to show piety towards their parents, embodying the best of behaviour towards them. Especially when the parents reach the stage and age of their lives when they may be weak and needy of support when they may come to be dependent on your care for them, just as you were dependent on them when you were young.

O Worshippers:

A second person then sought to draw near to Allah through his piety. And his abstaining from disobedience, refusing to succumb to it even after its ways were made easy for him, and its paths became facilitated. So he said:

O Allah: I used to have a female cousin. She was the most beloved of people to me, and I wanted to have sexual

relations with her. But she refused, until later she had a hard time in a famine year.

In other words she became severely constricted through her limited resources and was of desperate need. **So she came to me and I gave her one hundred and twenty golden dinars on the condition that she would not resist my desire.**

However his cousin then reminded him of Allah, the One who knows that which is secret and even that hidden more. So instead of fulfilling his desire, the fear of Allah fell into his heart, and he feared the tremendous station of his Lord. Hence he forbade and prevented his ego from fulfilling its desires, and was honourable and noble towards his cousin. Honouring their relationship and her chastity by not engaging in the act, he left for her the golden dinars. He then said: **O Allah: I turned away from her when she was the most beloved of people to me. And I left behind the gold that I then gave to her. O Allah: If I did this out of sincerely seeking Your countenance and pleasure, then grant us relief from the problem we are in. So the rock shifted out of place a bit more, however they were still unable to exit the cave.**

So this man serves as an example of a type of person Allah is pleased with. People whose supplication He answers whenever they call, and whom He saves from calamities, and rectifies their states when in difficulty. People whom He enters into Paradise, making them know and become familiar with it intimately, by residing therein. As He says:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ يَخْشَوْنَ رَبَّهُم بِالْغَيْبِ لَهُمْ مَغْفِرَةٌ وَأَجْرٌ كَبِيرٌ

Indeed, those who fear their Lord unseen will have forgiveness and great reward. [Qur'an: ٦٧: ١٢]

O Muslims: The third person then sought to draw near to Allah through his faithfulness in paying wages to those who worked

for them. He called to account his loyalty and sense of looking after trusts placed in his care, so he said:

O Allah! I employed some labourers and I paid all of them their wages save the exception of one man. He did not take his wages and went away. So I invested his wages and I got much property and wealth thereby. Until he came to me after a while and said: O slave of Allah! Pay me my wages. So I said to him: All of what you can see is from your wages, all of the camels, cows and sheep... Thus he took all of it and drove the entire herd away with him, leaving behind nothing. O Allah: If I did this out of sincerely seeking Your countenance and pleasure, then grant us relief from the problem we are in.

So this person, was of those who fulfill their trusts, paying the wages to those who have worked for them, and preserving their rights. He showed goodness when he invested that money for its owner and not himself. Allah in turn brought forward his recompense in this world. So He answered his supplication, and removed from him his difficulty. And in this manner did Allah save these three people from the tribulation and trial they had fallen in. Ultimately it was their own collective goodness and the righteousness of their lives and deeds that interceded on their behalf. **So the rock shifted out of its place, and they were able to exit from the cave and walk onwards to safety.** This is the nature of the reward and fruits that awaits one who engages in righteous deeds in their lives. Through such deeds Allah removes all manner of difficulties and trials, and facilitates for their doers the paths towards goodness.

O Allah: Bless us with righteous deeds, that we can draw near to You thereby, that illuminates our hearts. That provides relief to us from our worries, and that provides happiness to us in both this world and the next. And bless us all with devotion and piety towards You. Piety towards Your trustworthy Messenger,

Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), and bless us with 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. I seek the forgiveness of Allah, I seek the forgiveness of Allah.

The Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, Lord of all the worlds. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love, adoration and worship, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that Oneness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Sayyid, our Prophet, Muhammad ﷺ, 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 ﷺ; 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 Muslims: Indeed these three men were certain that Allah does not accept any deeds. Except that which was done sincerely for Him, and it was for this reason that each one of these people said:

فَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ فَعَلْتُمْ ذَلِكَ ابْتِغَاءً وَجْهَكُمْ؛ فَافْرُجْ عَنَّا مَا نَحْنُ فِيهِ

If I did this out of sincerely seeking Your countenance and pleasure, then grant us relief from the problem we are in

These men knew that from the good that draws a person towards his Noble Lord, is fear of Him. From this good is also piety, honouring trusts and showing the best of conduct always, so Allah esteemed their works. And He gave them relief from their difficulties, making them examples of categories of people that we can emulate. Such that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ himself put them forward as an example, this so we can emulate them in their sincerity. That is emulate them in their beautiful behaviour, and in their performing righteous deeds. So let us engage in doing good deeds, busying our times with that which is good, distancing ourselves from that which is impermissible. These are the means by which Allah takes care of one, as the Prophet ﷺ said: **احْفَظِ اللَّهَ يَحْفَظَكَ، احْفَظِ اللَّهَ تَجِدْهُ أَمَامَكَ،**

تَعْرِفْ إِلَيْهِ فِي الرَّخَاءِ، يَعْرِفَكَ فِي الشَّدَّةِ

Be mindful of Allah and Allah will protect you. Be mindful of Allah and you will find Him in front of you. Recognize and acknowledge Allah in times of ease and prosperity, and He will remember you in times of adversity. [Imam Ahmad]

Thus let us honour our parents, let sons and daughters respect their mothers and fathers, out of their honouring of Allah and His command. And let us strive to embody beautiful conduct in all our dealings, with our parents, relatives, the weak and whoever we interact with from the needy. May we always fulfill people's rights and dues, especially the financial rights of people who have worked and are owed money.

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, honouring 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 honourable 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.**