



A Man from Paradise First Khutba

All praises are due to Allah, the great, the most forgiving, the omniscient. He called us to the way of forgiveness in His noble Book and has promised us a great reward. And I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the Uniquely One, who has no partners. And I testify that our Sayyid and Prophet Muhammad is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. The leader of those who remember Allah, the exemplar of those who praise Allah. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon our Sayyid, our Messenger, Muhammad and upon his family and companions, all of them. And upon whomever follows their way of guidance till the Last Day.

To continue: I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the enjoining of Taqwa. **وَاتَّقُوا يَوْمًا تُرْجَعُونَ فِيهِ إِلَى**

اللَّهِ ثُمَّ تُوَفَّى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ مَّا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ

And fear a Day when you will be returned to Allah. Then every soul will be compensated for what it earned, and they will not be treated unjustly.

O Muslims: Anas ibn Malik narrates that he was sitting with the Messenger of Allah who said:

يَطْلُعُ عَلَيْكُمْ الْآنَ رَجُلٌ مِنْ أَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ

A man among the inhabitants of Paradise will appear before you.

And a man from the Ansar appeared before them. The next day, the Prophet said the same thing and the same man appeared again, and this happened on the third day too. So when the Prophet got up and left the gathering, Abdullah bin Umar bin Aas decided to follow that man. So he asked him to host him three nights in his house, and the man welcomed him. Until when the three nights passed by, Abdullah ibn Amr said to him: I heard the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) say three times.

يَطْلُعُ عَلَيْكُمْ الْآنَ رَجُلٌ مِنْ أَهْلِ الْجَنَّةِ

A man among the inhabitants of Paradise will appear before you.

And you appeared on each of those occasions three times, so I wished to stay with you, in order to look at what it is you actually do [that makes you such a person] ? Hence I followed you but did not see you do many acts of worship. So what is it that you do that allowed you to reach what the Prophet told us? So the man responded: I do not do much except what you saw other than the fact that I do not find in my heart hatred and rancor against any of the believers. And I am not jealous against any of them for the good that Allah may have given them. So this tremendous companion of the Prophet was of those who never envied nor hated another. He ensured there was nothing in his heart that would lead to enmity against another human being. Rather his way was of forgiving and letting be, to pardon and to be tolerant and magnanimous. So he ensured that he never slept except that his heart was free of rancor and full of contentment. Being pure of spirit, his mind was at rest and

free of worries. In the same spirit Imam Shafi is reported to have said:

لَمَّا عَفَوْتُ وَلَمْ أَحْقِدْ عَلَى أَحَدٍ أَرَحْتُ نَفْسِي مِنْ هَمِّ الْعَدَاوَاتِ

**When I forgave and let go of hatred of another
My self was at rest from the grief of enemies.**

O Slaves of Allah:

This is the worth and value of a forgiving nature to one who embodies it. This is a noble human value, a truly moral virtue that was emphasized in the previous heavenly revelations. Before being further emphasized by our pure religion, which is a religion of the highest of values. Honoring morality with a high degree of honor, taking care of it with a high amount of care. And the characteristic of forgiveness and showing pardon is a tremendous thing, and a noble station for this Sahabi was given the glad tidings of Paradise as a result of embodying it. Whilst all the while he lives in this world walking amongst people, keeping his heart pure. Forgiving and pardoning them, as a means of obedience to his Lord, and to draw near to His creator. Who loves that people be forgiven and commands this, as Allah said to His Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him):

خُذِ الْعَفْوَ وَأْمُرْ بِالْعُرْفِ وَأَعْرِضْ عَنِ الْجَاهِلِينَ

Take what is given freely, enjoin what is good, and turn away from the ignorant.

Similarly, the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) called his companions to embody such forgiveness stating:

يَا عُقْبَةُ بْنُ عَامِرٍ، صِلْ مَنْ قَطَعَكَ، وَأَعْطِ مَنْ حَرَمَكَ، وَأَعْفُ
عَمَّنْ ظَلَمَكَ

O Uqbah ibn Amir: Reconnect with whoever has severed you and give to whoever denies you, and pardon whoever may have oppressed you.

O You who believe: Allah says:

فَاعْفُ عَنْهُمْ وَاصْفَحْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

But pardon them and overlook [their misdeeds]. Indeed, Allah loves the doers of good.

So the doers of good are those loved by Allah, for the purity of their hearts. And the peace of their hearts, being the purity of their inward and outward. He will reward them for their pardon and benevolence. So He in turn forgives them, as they in turn forgave others. **إِنْ تَبَدُّوا خَيْرًا**

أَوْ تُخْفُوهُ أَوْ تَعْفُوا عَنْ سُوءٍ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَفُورًا قَدِيرًا

If [instead] you show [some] good or conceal it or pardon an offense - indeed, Allah is ever Pardoning and Competent.

In other words if you forgive others Allah will forgive you. He shall reward them with a great reward, as Allah says:

فَمَنْ عَفَا وَأَصْلَحَ فَأَجْرُهُ عَلَى اللَّهِ

But whoever pardons and makes reconciliation - his reward is [due] from Allah.

Victory to him who pardons and exonerates, and holds no grudges and happiness for him who forgives and excuses, and bears no resentment.

O you who love to pardon:

The opportunities for pardoning encompass all aspects of our lives. What a beautiful thing it would be to bring and infuse the moral trait of pardoning into our interactions and behavior in both our social and family life. Thus, each of the married spouses pardons the shortcomings and pardons the faults of the other. This way of pardoning creates an atmosphere filled with compassion and love and a culture imbued with tranquility and affection. Which in turn produces peace and love, enabling happy children, and a well-knit and bonded family and successful married life. Allah Almighty addresses the husbands and wives saying:

وَأَنْ تَعْفُوا أَقْرَبَ لِلتَّقْوَىٰ وَلَا تَنْسُوا الْفَضْلَ بَيْنَكُمْ

And to forego it is nearer to righteousness. And do not forget graciousness between you.

Amongst the various forms of pardoning is the pardoning that exists amongst siblings (brothers and sisters) and next of kin.

How often do you see two brothers engaged in lengthy arguments between them, each one believing that he is right. But then when one of them hastens to show pardon, the other matches him with forgiveness and love and relinquishes his right out of affection for him and desiring to maintain family ties. This happens when the act of pardoning removes the veil of aggression and animosity from the hearts. And then pure love and true affection emanate from them. Our Lord, Allah, the Supreme-

Pardoner and Oft-Forgiving, has spoken the truth when He says: **ادْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ فَإِذَا الَّذِي بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَهُ عَدَاوَةٌ كَأَنَّهُ وَلِيٌّ حَمِيمٌ**

كَأَنَّهُ وَلِيٌّ حَمِيمٌ

Repel (evil) with what is best, and you will see that the one you had mutual enmity with him will turn as if he were a close friend.

So then pure love and true affection emanate from them. The circle of opportunities to exercise pardon is spacious and wide to encompass relatives, neighbors, friends, work colleagues fellow students, and all people in all walks of life and all levels of relationships.

O Allah make us of those who pardon and forgive people.

وَلَا تَجْعَلْ فِي قُلُوبِنَا غِلًّا لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ رَءُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ

And do not place in our hearts any rancor against those who believe; Surely, Our Lord, you are Very-Kind, Very-Merciful.

And bless us all with your devotion, and devotion towards your Messenger Muhammad. And piety towards those You have ordered us to show piety towards in Your manifest Book, when You said, and You are the most truthful of those that speak: **يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ**

وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ

O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.

I say this and seek His forgiveness for me and for You. So seek His forgiveness, for He is the most forgiving, most merciful.

Second Khutba

All praises are for Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. We praise with all praises due to Him, which in reality cannot be counted. And shall never cease to exist, a praise due to him in the both the beginning and the end. I bear witness that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing partner in that Oneness. I bear witness that our Sayyid, Muhammad, is the perfect embodiment of servanthood towards Allah and is His Messenger. O Allah: We ask you to bestow Your peace and blessings upon our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad and upon his family and all of his companions. And whomsoever follows them and seeks to emulate them in the best of ways till the Last Day. I counsel you, O servants of Allah, and myself, to adhere to the taqwa of Allah (glorified be He).

O you who believe: Allah says whilst describing the doers of good:

وَالْكَاطِمِينَ الْغَيْظَ وَالْعَافِينَ عَنِ النَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

Who spend [in the cause of Allah] during ease and hardship and who restrain anger and who pardon the people - and Allah loves the doers of good.

In other words if there comes upon them anger they contain it, and forgive and pardon whoever it was that wronged them. And by this they attain unto the love of Allah and His pleasure, who in turn raise their rank and hence they increase in respect and honor. The Prophet said:

مَا زَادَ اللَّهُ عَبْدًا بِعَفْوٍ إِلَّا عِزًّا

Allah does not increase a servant who exercises pardon except in honor and prestige

Therefore, let us make pardoning a clear and obvious feature in our lives. And let none of us go to sleep except that he has shown pardon to others, forgiven all those who have wrong him, and purified his heart and mind (from malice and enmity), so he can be like this noble companion. He whom the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) has given the glad tidings of Paradise. Let us reinforce that in the moral character of our sons and daughters, because its reward with Allah is tremendous, and its recompense is the Gardens of Bliss.

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the seal of the Prophets and Messengers as we have been commanded to by the Lord of all the Worlds for He states in His manifest Book: **إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا**

أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

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.

O Allah, bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon our Master Muhammad ﷺ and upon his family and all of his companions. And be pleased with the Righteous Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali. And with all the companions O Allah, grant success to the UAE President

HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good.

And grant success to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates. Bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed and Sheikh Maktoum, 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 entry unto Your Paradise.

O Allah, grant your forgiveness to Sultan Qaboos bin Said and bless him with Your expansive mercy. Overlook any shortcomings of his with Your clemency. Make his abode of rest one in the Gardens of Paradise, of everlasting bliss, and reward him for all the good he did, with excellence, and an encompassing forgiveness and pardon.

O Allah, continue blessing the UAE with Your blessings, Your grace and Your bounties. And bless it in its goodness and its people. And make it always a place of true happiness. Ever increasing in goodness. O Allah, have mercy on the righteous martyrs and coalition forces, and admit them into Paradise with your elect. And bless their families with the reward for those who are patient, for You are the most gracious of the gracious. O Allah: Aid the Arab coalition forces. And spread peace and stability in the lands of the Muslims, and the entire world.

O Allah, bless us with Your blessings of the Heavens and make us not from those who are ungrateful. O Allah, bless us with an encompassing, surrounding blessing, giving us both the blessings of the Heavens, and making us firm with the blessings of the earth. 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. 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.

So stand up for prayer.