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# The Family of Imran in the Qur'an First Khutba

All praises are for Allah, the most noble, most generous. Having narrated to us in the Qur'an about the Family of Imran. 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. 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. وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَنَا مِنْ أَذْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُن وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا

And those who say, "Our Lord, grant us from among our wives and offspring comfort to our eyes and make us an example for the righteous."

O Muslims: Allah has mentioned for us in Surah Al Imran, as an example of a righteous Muslim family, a successful and upright family, about which Allah says: إِنَّ اللَّهُ اصْطَفَى

آدَمَ وَنُوحًا وَآلَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَآلَ عِمْرَانَ عَلَى الْعَالَمِينَ

Indeed, Allah chose Adam and Noah and the family of Abraham and the family of 'Imran over the worlds So Allah chose the family of Imran for His religion, and made eternal their remembrance in His revelation. This was done so that they can be emulated in their faith and character. So who are the individuals that make up this blessed family?

They consist firstly of the leaders of the family, Imran and his wife and then their daughter, Mary, the mother of Jesus, and then the great Prophet of Allah, Jesus himself. Connected to the family is also Zakariyyah and his wife, and their son, Yahya (John), may the peace and blessings be upon all of them.

Imran was of the Scholars of his time.He was devout in his worship of his Lord, constantly turning back to his creator. His wife was from the most righteous of women and most honorable of character and the most loyal of women to her husband. So she asked her Lord to gift her righteous offspring and Allah heard her supplication, thus she was answered therein, bearing forth a child. After that her husband died, and she was patient in his loss.

Then she resolved that the child in her stomach shall be of those who establish the rights of Allah and care for His house. And that the child shall be solely dedicated to His worship, out of gratitude to her Lord, from what He had blessed her with out of praising Him for all the blessings He had sent forth. So she said:

رَبِّ إِنِّي نَذَرْتُ لَكَ مَا فِي بَطْنِي مُحَرَّرًا

"My Lord, indeed I have pledged to You what is in my womb, consecrated [for Your service]" In other words she intended her child be purely dedicated to His worship and the service of His house. This so the child could be firmly established in faith and certainty being sincerely dedicated in his knowledge and worship. She supplicated and asked that her Lord gift her this blessing, through accepting her vow and that He be pleased with her gift, so she said:

فَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

# So accept this from me. Indeed, You are the Hearing, the Knowing.

In other words You are the Lord who hears whoever calls. You are the One who knows whatever is intended, for nothing is hidden from you from this affair.

#### **O** Servants of Allah:

Indeed Allah knew the truthfulness of the wife of Imran and the magnitude of her sincerity, so he honored her with what was even greater than that which she asked for. He thus chose for her what was even greater than what she had decided, so he bestowed on her the greatest woman ever born - Mary, the mother of Jesus, about whom Allah says:

فَلَمَّا وَضَعَتْهَا قَالَتْ رَبِّ إِنِّي وَضَعْتُهَا أُنْثَى وَالَلَّهُ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا وَضَعَتْهَا وَضَعَتْ

But when she delivered her, she said, "My Lord, I have delivered a female." And Allah was most knowing of what she delivered. So she was contended with whatever Allah had gifted her. And she took on the role of her husband in looking after his offspring in the best possible way. And the best of gentle care that could be given. So she chose for her daughter the best of names as Allah says detailing what she said:

## وَإِنِّي سَمَّيْتُهَا مَرْيَمَ And I have named her Mary

In other words Maryam (Mary) was a devotee, devoted purely for her Lord, collecting in her all that was good. This was her good fortune, through her beautiful state, and a sign of Allah's acceptance of her. So the wife of Imran turned to Allah that He protect Maryam and her offspring from the plots of the devil. So she said: وَإِنِّي أُعِيدُهَا بِكَ وَذُرِيَّتَهَا مِنَ وَأُنْبَتَهَا نَبَاتًا حَسَنًا وَإِنِّي أُعِيدُهَا بِكَ وَذُرِيَّتَهَا مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ\* فَتَقَبَّلَهَا رَبُّهَا بِقَبُولٍ حَسَنٍ وَأُنْبَتَهَا نَبَاتًا حَسَنًا and I seek refuge for her in You and [for] her descendants from Satan , the expelled [from mercy of Allah]. So her Lord accepted her with good acceptance and caused her to grow in a good manner.

In other words he raised her up with the best of upbringing with the best of character and purity of heart. And Allah prepared for her the most conducive of environments, that she be raised in a sacred House from the Houses of Allah. Placed in the care of a Prophet from amongst His Prophets, who was the husband of her maternal aunt (sister of her mother). This Prophet excelled in teaching and raising her, having the biggest portion of responsibility for her care and education. Allah Most High says: وَكَفَلَهَا زَكَرِيًا

## and (Allah) made Zakariyya her guardian

Thus, she gained from him knowledge that is beneficial, practice that is pleasing and a character that is virtuous, and hence becoming one of the signs of Allah Most High. So she was a woman of truth, a devout servant, one who is obedient to Allah Almighty. Allah Most High says concerning her: وَإِذْ قَالَتِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَا مَرْيَمُ إِنَّ اللَّهُ اصْطَفَاكِ وَطَهَّرَكِ

And when the Angels said: "O Maryam, Allah has chosen you and purified you and chosen you over the women of all the worlds.

**O Believers:** Zakariyya noticed Maryam's firm faith, her strong conviction and righteous upbringing. He also saw the care her Lord has raised her with, the bounty He has bestowed upon her and the honor He has conferred upon her. And he supplicated to his Lord to honor him with a progeny that is good and pure despite his old age. So Allah Most High gave him the good news of Yahya: كُلَّمَا دَخَلَ عَلَيْهَا زَكَرِيَّا الْمِحْرَابَ وَجَدَ عِنْدَهَا رِزْقًا قَالَ يَا مَرْيَمُ أَنَّى لَكِ هَذَا قَالَتْ هُوَ مِنْ عِنْدِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْزُقُ مَنْ يَشَاءُ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ\* هُنَالِكَ دَعَا زَكَرِيَّا رَبَّهُ قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ

So her Lord accepted her with good acceptance and caused her to grow in a good manner and put her in the care of Zechariah. Every time Zechariah entered upon her in the prayer chamber, he found with her provision. He said, "O Mary, from where is this [coming] to you?" She said, "It is from Allah. Indeed, Allah provides for whom He wills without account." So Allah Most High gave him the good news of Yahya: سَيِّدًا وَحَصُورًا وَنَبِيًّا مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ

"...noble, abstinent (from women), a Prophet and one of the righteous."

As for Maryam, Allah Almighty granted her 'Isa (peace be upon him) as a Sign from among His Signs, a Miracle from among His Miracles and a Prophet from among His Prophets. Allah Most High says relating the words of 'Isa: إِنِّي عَبْدُ اللَّهِ آتَانِيَ الْكِتَابَ وَجَعَلَنِي نَبِيًّا\* وَجَعَلَنِي مُبَارَكًا أَيْنَمَا كُنْتُ وَأَوْصَانِي بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ مَا دُمْتُ حَيًّا\* وَبَرَّا بِوَالِدَتِي وَلَمْ يَجْعَلْنِي جَبَّارًا شَقِيًّا\* وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَيَّ يَوْمَ وُلِدْتُ وَيَوْمَ أَمُوتُ وَيَوْمَ أُبْعَتُ حَيًّا

"I am indeed a servant of Allah: He hath given me revelation and made me a prophet; "And He hath made me blessed wheresoever I be, and hath enjoined on me Prayer and Charity as long as I live; "(He) hath made me kind to my mother, and not overbearing or miserable; "So peace is on me the day I was born, the day that I die, and the day that I shall be raised up to life (again)"!

So O Allah bless us with stable, righteous and firm families and children who are accepted by you for their righteousness. 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: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهُ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِى الْأَمْر 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

## Second Khutba

All praises are for Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. Who has blessed His Prophets and Messengers, the Truthful ones as well as the righteous. I bear witness that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing partner in that One-ness. 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:** This narrative of the family of Imran, is one of a family that sincerely believed in its Lord hence they held firm to His devotion, and made beautiful their worship. It was a family that was avid to support and be united in their striving for the upbringing of their children. And so Allah in turn took care of them with His special care, singling them out for His grace and concern. Thus this family's benefit spread, and its effects became manifest and widespread, whilst their reputation grew in esteem. Hence Allah made them an example for the entirety of mankind, and the template of a successful family for those seeking guidance.

ذُرِّيَّةً بَعْضُهَا مِنْ بَعْضِ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ

#### Descendants, some of them from others. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing.

So if parents were to raise their children with the Taqwa of Allah and his reverential fear, making this the defining point of the family. They would help produce children who preserve and steadfast upon their religion, and of the most upright characters. Being respectful and reverential of their parents, and honoring their family bonds. Being of those persistent and committed to their devotion and prayers, always being part of the good wherever they go in society.

**So O Parents:** Allah. Allah. make the Taqwa of Allah and putting Him first be what defines your families. Be avid to place of Allah in their hearts, to stabilize them through this connection, and strive to make this the foundation of their upbringing. And have Taqwa of Allah concerning your children and their upbringing. Look after them, and make sure they have the best of company around them at all times. And commit yourselves to their correct education, to their proper upbringing, that you be of them an aid. That they in turn can be a cause of raising the banner of good in society and an asset and honor to their countries.

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

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 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 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.