



Contemplation in the Heavens and the Earth

First Khutbah

All praise is due to Allah, who has commanded us to contemplate the immensity of His creation and the constant renewal of His creation. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One who has no partners in His one-ness. And I testify that our Sayyid, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon whomsoever follows him in guidance until the Last Day.

To Continue: I advise you, O slaves of Allah and myself, with the Taqwa of Allah, for verily Allah says: **إِنَّ فِي اخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ**

وَالنَّهَارِ وَمَا خَلَقَ اللَّهُ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ لآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يَتَّقُونَ

Indeed, in the alternation of the night and the day and [in] what Allah has created in the heavens and the earth are signs for a people who fear Allah [Qur'an: ٩:١١٩]

O Believers: It was said to the mother of Believers, Aisha, may Allah be pleased with her: "Tell us of the most wondrous thing you saw from the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)? She said: "When it was a night from amongst other nights, he (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "O Aisha, let me devote this night to worshipping my Lord." So, I said: " I swear by Allah I love to be close to you and I love to see your happiness." So, he stood up, ~~did his~~ ritual cleansing and stood to perform his prayer, and he then continued to cry until he wet the ground and Bilal came to call the Adhan for prayer. So, when Bilal saw him

crying, he said: "O Messenger of Allah, why do you cry when Allah has forgiven you and whatsoever you have done in the past or will do in the future?" The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "Should I not be a grateful slave? Indeed, a verse was revealed to me last night, and woe be to whoever recites it and does not reflect upon it:

إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لآيَاتٍ
لِّأُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ

Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of the night and the day are signs for those of understanding. [Qur'an: ٣:١٩٠]

Yes, indeed. This is a noble verse which deserves our reflection and necessitates for us to contemplate the cosmos. For with this verse Allah makes clear that He has put into place in the cosmos clear signs and manifest proofs, so that we can contemplate upon them on the immensity of His omnipotence and His perfect wisdom. Such signs include the fact that Allah has made the Earth a cradle and a place for settlement, and the heavens as a protective roof. As Allah says:

اللَّهُ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ الْأَرْضَ قَرَارًا وَالسَّمَاءَ بِنَاءً

It is Allah who made for you the earth a place of settlement and the sky a ceiling. [Qur'an: ٤٠: ٦٤]

Allah has also facilitated between the heavens and the earth an atmosphere of air, wherein clouds move and carry rain which itself descends and revives life on Earth. Allah says:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ يُرْسِلَ الرِّيَّاحَ مُبَشِّرَاتٍ وَلِيُذِيقَكُمْ مِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ

And of His signs is that He sends the winds as bringers of good tidings and to let you taste His mercy. [Qur'an: ٣٠:٤٦]

So, rainfall is a mercy from Allah, by it the Earth comes back to life and through it creation benefits immensely. Allah says:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنَّكَ تَرَى الْأَرْضَ خَاشِعَةً فَإِذَا أَنْزَلْنَا عَلَيْهَا الْمَاءَ اهْتَزَّتْ

وَرَبَّتْ

And of His signs is that you see the earth stilled, but when We send down upon it rain, it quivers and grows. [Qur'an:

٤١:٣٩]

Through rain, the land and earth becomes full of greenery, being full of His sustenance, and in all of that there are clear signs that can be ascertained by whoever reflects on His creation. As Allah says:

صُنِعَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي أَتَقَنَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ إِنَّهُ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَفْعَلُونَ

[It is] the work of Allah, who perfected all things. Indeed, He is Acquainted with that which you do. [Qur'an: ٢٧:٨٨]

I say this and seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness for He is the most-forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, the One, and may peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, and upon his family and companions, and whomsoever follows them in the best of ways.

O Worshippers: Indeed, from the signs of Allah, is that He created men from a single source, then He caused them to be settled in the far corners of the Earth. As Allah says:



وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ تُرَابٍ ثُمَّ إِذَا أَنْتُمْ بَشَرٌ تَنْتَشِرُونَ

And of His signs is that He created you from soil; then, suddenly you were human beings dispersing [throughout the earth]. [Qur'an: ٣٠:٢٠]

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him said:

أَنْتُمْ بَنُو آدَمَ، وَآدَمُ مِنْ تُرَابٍ

You are sons of Adam, and Adam came from soil.

[Sunan Abi Dawud]

Allah In His Glory made mankind differ in their races and languages with a wisdom. As He says:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافَ أَلْسِنَتِكُمْ وَأَلْوَانِكُمْ

And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your languages and your colors.

[Qur'an: ٣٠:٢٢]

In our diversity, Allah calls us unto connection and bonding in order that we know one another, so He says: يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا

خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا

O Mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. [Qur'an: ٤٩:١٣]

This knowing entails that acquaintance and relationship happens between people, wherein their hearts converge, and their life experiences complement each other. In this manner they can collectively build their civilizations, advance their lives, and create their joint future which is good for humanity at large.



And with this we ask You Allah that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, and especially on the seal of them, our master, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon him, and upon his family, his companions, all of them.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates. and guide them to all that is good and what pleases You. O Allah: Bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to Your mercy. We ask you to admit them into Paradise by Your grace. O Allah have mercy on those martyred for Your sake, and grant their families with patience and a great reward.

And have mercy, our Lord, upon our fathers and mothers, and upon whoever has a right upon us. Please continue sending Your blessings and bounties upon this nation the UAE, and upon all the Muslims and the entire Ummah wheresoever they may be. O Allah, confer upon us Your blessings upon us and do not make us from those who despair. O Allah: aid us, help us, and bless us. O Allah: bless us in this life with that which is good and in the next life that which is good, and save us from the hellfire. Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Let us align ourselves towards Him sincerely, and align our hearts. So, stand up for prayer.

