



Belonging to one's Homeland

First Khutbah

All praise is due to Allah, most generous, most noble, who has encouraged us to develop and build our homelands. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One who has no partners in His oneness. 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:

وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

And fear Allah that you may be successful. [Qur'an: ٣:٢٠٠]

O Believers: Developing our homeland is from the things that we have been enjoined to do by Allah, for He says in the words of the Prophet Saleh (peace and blessings be upon him):

هُوَ أَنشَأَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَرْضِ وَاسْتَعْمَرَكُمْ فِيهَا:

He has produced you from the earth and settled you in it. [Qur'an: ١١:٦١]

In other words, Allah enjoins upon people to develop and cultivate their lands. This entails not just building homes, but cultivating the soil of the land, ensuring there is sustainable agriculture and that there is the implantation of sufficient trees which supports the ecosystem. This also includes paving of roads and pathways that facilitate means



of transport between people, helping serve and provide for the means of supporting the necessities of life.

Our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) put forward for us a paradigm, serving as an exemplar in how to build, develop and cultivate the places in which we live. This includes not just the material, also the spiritual, psychological and social bonds that make up societies and communities. In effect, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) illustrated for us a model in how to build and develop human beings. So, when he entered Madina, he demonstrated how successful societies function in enabling human beings to reach their potential, by instilling the foundations of peace inwardly and outwardly between its members. Hence, amongst the very first things he called to and spoke about was peace, when he said:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، أَفْشُوا السَّلَامَ

"O people, spread peace amongst yourselves" [Tirmidhi]

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) hastened to instill love and affection in the hearts of the people of Madina and he emphasized the important of solidarity and cooperation, when he said:

خَيْرُ النَّاسِ أَنْفَعُهُمْ لِلنَّاسِ

The best of people are those who are most beneficial to the people [Al-Tabarani]

So, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) reinforced a sense of cohesion and togetherness, for in this manner societies are constructed and nations are built. Hence, he (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) drafted a constitution or charter detailing the nature of



societal conduct between Muslims and others in Madina that ensured coexistence and societal justice by stipulating aid for those who are oppressed. In addition to this charter he built mosques as the center of spiritual activity, having built the foundations for the mosque of Quba before he entered Madina, before building the Masjid al Nabawi in Madina. He then developed and built the city further, establishing their market for fair and just trade, organizing the city and outlining its roads and streets, instituting a system and model of development for us to emulate. Importantly, he urged the people of Madina to cooperate and take part in this development, as he urged them to work, each to the best of their ability, investing their wealth and labor in the development of the land. So, when he saw a woman with a garden, he said:

لَا يَغْرِسُ مُسْلِمٌ غَرْسًا، وَلَا يَزْرَعُ زَرْعًا، فَيَأْكُلُ مِنْهُ إِنْسَانٌ وَلَا دَابَّةٌ وَلَا شَيْءٌ؛ إِلَّا كَانَتْ لَهُ صَدَقَةٌ

A Muslim does not plant or cultivate land, except that whenever a person, animal or anything eats from it - this becomes charity on their (planter's) behalf.

[Muslim]

In such a manner Madina's economy grew and its production increased, until it became an oasis of goodness, and a place of grace and prosperity for all. So, O Allah, increase the dignity of the Emirates in honor and dignity, and make us people who honor each other's rights, and those who help facilitate its construction and development. I say this and I ask Allah's forgiveness for me and you, so



seek His forgiveness for He is the most Forgiving, the most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, who ennobled the martyrs and raised their ranks such that they be in the company of the Prophets. And may peace and blessings be upon our leader, Sayyidina Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) and upon all of his companions. I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah.

O Believers: The sense of belonging to the soil of one's homeland or nation that one feels, is an honorable and noble belonging. Through it arises the sense of a willingness to protect it, and even to sacrifice one's self if necessary as a means of ensuring its safety and stability. Figuratively speaking when one sacrifices for the sake of Allah in protecting one's homeland, then it is as if the names of such martyrs are recorded in a register of honor. This is so that future generations can be informed about them and how they sought to sacrifice themselves for the sake of Allah. All of this in accordance with the saying of

Allah: **هَلْ جَزَاءُ الْإِحْسَانِ إِلَّا الْإِحْسَانُ**

Is the reward for good [anything] but good? [Qur'an: ٥٥:٦٠]

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 them intercession for their people, and grant their families 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.

