



Indeed, the Prophet saw the greatest sign of His Lord

First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah who took his Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to the Highest of Heavens, and who showed him from the Divine signs of God, the greatest. 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:

فَأْمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَإِنْ تُؤْمِنُوا وَتَتَّقُوا فَلَكُمْ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ

So, believe in Allah and His messengers. And if you believe and fear Him, then for you is a great reward.

[Qur'an: ١٧٩: ٠٣]

O Believers: Allah says: سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي أَسْرَى بِعَبْدِهِ لَيْلًا مِّنَ

الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ الْأَقْصَى الَّذِي بَارَكْنَا حَوْلَهُ لِنُرِيَهُ مِّنَ

آيَاتِنَا

Exalted is He who took His Servant by night from al-Masjid al-haram to al-Masjid al-Aqsa, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him of Our signs. Indeed, He is the Hearing, the Seeing. [Qur'an: ١٧: ١]



In the journey of the Isra and Miraj the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) ascended unto the Heavens and saw its most wondrous signs. Hence Allah says:

لَقَدْ رَأَى مِنْ آيَاتِ رَبِّهِ الْكُبْرَى

He certainly saw of the greatest signs of his Lord. [Qur'an:

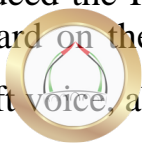
٥٣:١٨]

So, when the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) ascended unto the Heavens, he met therein the different Prophets (peace and blessings of Allah be upon them all). So, he met the Prophet Ibrahim (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who in a narration conveyed his salaams to the Ummah of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and advised that they engage in the remembrance of Allah when he said, "Paradise has pure soil and delicious water, and that it is a flat treeless plain, and that its seeds are (saying), Subhan Allah (Glory be to Allah), Alhamdulillah (All praise belongs to Allah), La ilaaha ill-Allah (There is no god but Allah), and Allahu Akbar (Allah is the Greatest)" [Tirmidhi]. How easy is it to make such dhikr and yet how great is it in terms of attaining reward.

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was blessed with more than just being given these words for his Ummah, for he was given the gift of the prayers; which Allah made obligatory upon us in this blessed journey – wherein five prayers have the reward of fifty prayers.

So, when the Believer performs his prayers in their time, and moreover when he adds to them the extra prayers, he becomes of those who have their actions precede them to Paradise. For indeed the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) heard on the night when he was taken on the Night Journey a

soft voice, about which he said: يَا جِبْرِيلُ، مَا هَذَا؟



O Jibril. What is this? So, he [Jibril] said:

هَذَا بِلَالُ الْمُؤَدِّنِ

This is Bilal. The Muadhlin. [Ahmad]

This was because Bilal (Allah be pleased with him) whenever he used to make wudhu, whether it be the day or the night, used to pray whatever Allah destined for him to pray straight after doing this wudhu. It was this action that preceded him to Paradise and became a means of the glad tidings of his being from the people of Paradise. So, Allah says:

مَثَلُ الْجَنَّةِ الَّتِي وُعِدَ الْمُتَّقُونَ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ

The example of Paradise, which the righteous have been promised, is [that] beneath it rivers flow. [Qur'an: ۱۳:۳۵]

From the greatest of its rivers are the River of Kawthar, which the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) saw during his ascension unto the Heavens, when he said:

بَيْنَمَا أَنَا أُسِيرُ فِي الْجَنَّةِ، إِذَا أَنَا بِنَهْرٍ حَافَتَاهُ قِبَابُ الدَّرِّ الْمَجُوفِ،

قُلْتُ: مَا هَذَا يَا جِبْرِيْلُ؟ قَالَ: هَذَا الْكَوْثَرُ، الَّذِي أَعْطَاكَ رَبُّكَ

"While I was walking in Paradise (on the night of Mi'raj), I saw a river, on the two banks of which there were tents made of hollow pearls. I asked, "What is this, O Gabriel?" He said, 'That is the Kawthar which Your Lord has given to you.' Behold! Its scent or its mud is as sharp smelling musk!" [Bukhari]

This River of Kawthar (abundance) will be a source of quenching thirst for whoever follows the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and who takes on the responsibility and faithfulness of bearing the Truth therein. Such people guard their limbs and tongues from the haram, and they do not engage in backbiting or slander, for the Prophet (peace and blessings of

Allah be upon him) in the Journey of the ascension saw the outcome of people who engage in transgressions, including those not guarding their tongues. O Allah bless us with the ability to emulate your Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and make us from the people of Your Paradise. I say this and I seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness, indeed He is the most forgiving, most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah and may peace and blessings be upon our leader, Sayyiduna Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and upon all of his companions. I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah.

O Lovers of the Life of the Prophet: The Journey of the Isra and the Miraj was a clear miracle. It has been mentioned in the Book of Allah, wherein the state of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was described:

مَا زَاغَ الْبَصَرُ وَمَا طَغَى

The heart did not lie [about] what it saw. [Qur'an: ٥٣:١١]

When the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) informed his companions (Allah be pleased with them) with regards to what he saw of signs, and the miracles that had occurred to him, firm faith was embedded into their hearts. So, when Abu Bakr al-Siddiq (Allah be pleased with him) was approached by people from Quraysh who said: "Do you believe that he travelled in the night to the Sacred Mosque in Jerusalem and came back even before morning?". On hearing this query, Abu Bakr Siddiq (Allah be pleased with him) responded by saying: "Yes. Indeed, I testify to his Truth in what may appear even more miraculous than this, for I believe in the revelation from the Heavens that come to him in the morning and the evening." For this reason, Abu Bakr was given the title al-Siddiq, the Truthful one. We too are also tasked to testify to the truths

our Prophet brought, so we are believers in the Qur'an and are certain in whatever the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) brought, believing in the Isra and Mi'raj. O Allah make us from those who attain unto the intimate companionship of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and those who are proficient in sending peace and blessings upon him in responding to Your saying: **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. [Qur'an: ٣٣:٥٦]

So, O Allah we ask 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.

