



Remembering the Blessings of Allah

First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, the Most Generous, the Most Noble. The One who has blessed us with innumerable blessings. 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:

وَكُلُوا مِمَّا رَزَقَكُمُ اللَّهُ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي أَنْتُمْ بِهِ مُؤْمِنُونَ

Eat of the good, lawful things provided to you by Allah. And be mindful of Allah in Whom you believe. [Qur'an: ٥:٨٨]

O Worshippers: Allah says:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اذْكُرُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ هَلْ مِنْ خَالِقٍ غَيْرِ اللَّهِ يَرْزُقُكُمْ مِنْ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ

O humanity! Remember Allah's favours upon you. Is there any creator other than Allah who provides for you from the heavens and the earth? There is no god worthy of worship except Him. How can you then be deluded from the truth?

[Qur'an: ٣٥:٣]

Glory be Allah, He provides for us water and other nourishing drinks to drink and nourishes us with all manners of food. The Prophet Ibrahim (peace and blessings be upon him) used to recall these blessings upon him by saying:



الَّذِي خَلَقَنِي فَهُوَ يَهْدِينِ * وَالَّذِي هُوَ يُطْعِمُنِي وَيَسْقِينِ

He is the One Who created me, and He alone guides me. He is the One Who provides me with food and drink. [Qur'an: ٢٦:٧٨-٧٩]

So, the blessing of having access to proper nutrition is from the greatest of blessings and from the most manifest in its effects. Allah loves that His slaves know the degree of His blessings upon them and that they thank and praise Him accordingly. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَيَرْضَى عَنِ الْعَبْدِ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ الْأَكْلَةَ فَيَحْمَدُهُ عَلَيْهَا، أَوْ يَشْرِبَ الشَّرْبَةَ فَيَحْمَدُهُ عَلَيْهَا

Allah is pleased with a person who eats some food and then praises Him for it, or who drinks some drink and then praises Him for it. [Muslim]

And why should we not be from those who praise Allah and be grateful to our Lord when the Prophets who we are tasked to emulate would hasten to show such gratitude. For Allah describes the Prophet Nuh (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) with the words: إِنَّهُ كَانَ عَبْدًا شَكُورًا

He was indeed a grateful servant. [Qur'an: ١٧:٣]

Similarly, our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to say: اللَّهُمَّ مَا أَصْبَحَ بِي مِنْ نِعْمَةٍ، أَوْ بِأَحَدٍ مِنْ خَلْقِكَ، فَمِنْكَ وَحْدَكَ لَا شَرِيكَ لَكَ، فَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ وَلَكَ الشُّكْرُ

O Allah, whatever blessing I or any of Your creation have risen upon is from You alone, without partner, so for You is all praise and unto You all thanks. [Abu Dawud]

So, for Allah is all praise and thanks, for He has showered us with His blessings and tasked us to show gratitude. For He says:

وَاشْكُرُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ



And be grateful for Allah's favours, if you truly worship Him alone. [Qur'an: ١٦:١١٤]

Similarly, Allah says: **لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ**

If you are grateful, I will certainly give you more.

[Qur'an: ١٤:٧]

From the gratitude for blessings is that a person obeys Allah and adheres to this obedience, abstaining from all that has been prohibited, and not wasting the blessings he has been given, acting in accordance with what Allah has commanded:

وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

Eat and drink, but do not waste. Surely, He does not like the wasteful. [Qur'an: ٧:٣١]

A person would find it hard to waste his blessings when he is aware of them and aware of them being given to him as a responsibility and that he will be taken to account with regards to. This is why when once some food was placed in front of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and his companions he reminded them of its blessing. The food consisted of moist dates, dried dates and some meat, so when the companions had eaten and been satisfied, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

هَذَا وَالَّذِي نَفْسِي بِيَدِهِ؛ مِنَ النِّعَمِ الَّذِي تُسْأَلُونَ عَنْهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

By the One in Whose Hand is my soul, this is of the blessings that you will be asked about on the Day of Resurrection.

[Tirmidhi]

We ask Allah that He bless us in that in which He provides for us, that He continue to provide His blessings to us and make us of those who are grateful and who preserve these blessings. We ask that He bestow on us piety and devotion to Him and obedience and emulation of the Messenger of Allah (peace and

blessings of Allah be upon him), acting in accordance with the verse: **يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ**

O Believers! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. [Qur'an: ٤:٥٩]

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 due to Allah, the One. And may peace and blessings be upon our Sayyid, 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 Believers: We should remember the blessings of Allah upon us and the importance of us preserving them by praising Allah and expressing our gratitude to Him for bestowing them upon us.

This, especially in these blessed days, as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **افْعَلُوا الْخَيْرَ دَهْرَكُمْ**،

وَتَعَرَّضُوا لِنَفْحَاتِ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ، فَإِنَّ لِلَّهِ نَفْحَاتٍ مِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ

Do good throughout your lives, and expose yourselves to the gentle breezes of Allah, for indeed Allah has gentle breezes from His mercy. [Tabarani]

We are now in the blessed month of Sha'ban. In this month blessed deeds are raised up to Allah, this is why in this month, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to fast much, saying:

ذَلِكَ شَهْرٌ يَغْفُلُ النَّاسُ عَنْهُ بَيْنَ رَجَبٍ وَرَمَضَانَ،

وَهُوَ شَهْرٌ تُرْفَعُ فِيهِ الْأَعْمَالُ إِلَى رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، فَأُحِبُّ أَنْ يُرْفَعَ



There is a month which [some] people neglect between Rajab and Ramadan, and it is a month in which deeds are raised to the Lord of all the worlds, and I like that my deeds are raised whilst I am fasting. [Nisai]

In this month is the middle of Sha'ban, this is a blessed night in which Allah chooses whom He wills for His forgiveness, and especially those who themselves forgive others with sound hearts. In this is a portent for the oncoming of Ramadan, such that we can enter into Ramadan with hearts that are loving and caring to one another, open to receiving the month and the blessings that await us therein from our Lord.

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.

