



The close-knit family is a protection for its children

First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, the Lord of the Heavens and the Earth. The One who has made the institution of the family a form of protection and safety for its children. 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: **وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا**

هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَوَدْرِيَاتِنَا فِرَّةً أَعْيُنٍ 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." [Qur'an: ٢٥:٧٤]

O You who believe: Indeed, the family is a tremendous blessing, Allah has mentioned the importance of its elements when He said: **وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ**
مِنْ أَزْوَاجِكُمْ بَنِينَ وَحَفَدَةً

And Allah has made for you from yourselves mates and has made for you from your mates children and grandchildren



and has provided for you from the good things. [Qur'an: ١٦:٧٢]

Allah has highlighted the importance of love and affection between the spouses as a means of ensuring the foundation and basis for a happy, blissful and content family life. This love entails that the spouses be together in mutual affection, interdependence, and that they be cohesive and interconnected in their spirit and in what they are ultimately seeking to achieve

together for the sake of Allah. As Allah says: **وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ**

And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquility in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed, in that are signs for a people who give thought. [Qur'an: ٣٠:٢١]

It is when such a relationship is functioning and working as it should work that the children of such a family find themselves in the shade of love, tenderness, care and affection. Within such a marriage the spouses display mercy to each other, through mutually strengthening their connection to their Lord, and their observance of themselves in front of their Creator. And it is through this Taqwa, their consciousness of Allah in their relationship that they find themselves not only more connected to Allah, but in turn to each other. So, they do *Muraqaba* (the diligent observation and monitoring of themselves) for the sake of their Creator and they reinforce this attribute in the souls of their children, knowing that this is one of the most important things parents can teach their children. This is evidenced by how the Qur'an details the story of Luqman the Wise, when he



instructed his son: **يَا بُنَيَّ إِنَّهَا إِنْ تَكُ مِثْقَالَ حَبَّةٍ مِنْ خَرْدَلٍ فَتَكُنْ فِي صَخْرَةٍ أَوْ فِي السَّمَوَاتِ أَوْ فِي الْأَرْضِ يَأْتِ بِهَا اللَّهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَطِيفٌ خَبِيرٌ**

[And Luqman said], "O my son, indeed if wrong should be the weight of a mustard seed and should be within a rock or [anywhere] in the heavens or in the earth, Allah will bring it forth. Indeed, Allah is Subtle and Acquainted. [Qur'an:

٣١:١٦]

O Noble Parents: Indeed, the successful family is one in which parents are cognizant and aware of their responsibilities, especially those with regards to how they raise their children. So, they ensure that they are emotionally connected to their children and that this affection is manifest in a deep relationship of mutual love and care. So, for example, you find such parents often hugging their children, spending time to know their interests and dedicating their own time to help educate their children. They take advantage of any opportunity they have to spend quality time with them, such that they earn their trust, being like close friends and confidantes to their children. Such parents talk to their children kindly, listen carefully to their opinions, share their hopes, and help solve their problems. They direct their children to choose the best of friends and to use social media in the best of ways avoiding its addictive vices and the destructive use of the technologies of the digital age. As one of the wise scholars of our religion once told his son: **يَا بُنَيَّ مَنْ**

يَجْتَنِبُ مَدَاخِلَ الشُّوْءِ يَأْمَنُ، وَمَنْ يَصْحَبِ الصَّاحِبَ الصَّالِحَ يَغْنَمُ



O my son, whoever abstains from the entry points of evil remains safe, and whoever keeps the company of a righteous companion reaps benefit.

So, O Allah, protect our children and bless us in our offspring and accept all of us for Your obedience and bless us with obedience towards Your Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and obedience towards those whom You have ordered us to show obedience towards, in accordance with

Your saying: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي

الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ

O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. [Qur'an: 4:59]

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 You who pray: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **إِنَّ لِرَبِّكَ عَلَيْكَ حَقًّا**

Indeed, your son has a right over you. [Muslim]

Indeed, from the rights that our children have over us is that they live and be raised up in a family that is serene, tranquil, calm and peaceful. Such families are keen to protect their children from all forms of harm and danger, whether they be physical dangers, or spiritual and moral dangers, which includes not only physical addictive vices such as drugs and intoxicants,



but also the addictive patterns and vices of digital technology in the virtual world. Just as one would not leave their children unsupervised in the physical world, these parents do not leave their children unsupervised in the digital world, for the virtual world has its dangers akin to the physical one. So just as a devoted parent would not let someone to physically enter their house who may potentially harm their children, they make sure that no one suspicious or evil is communicating with their children in the digital world. For an evil companion if he enters the home of the family physically or virtually has the capacity to destroy the tranquility of the family. Likewise, destructive and addictive habits like drugs can completely destroy the lives of our children. They can completely corrupt the religious and spiritual morality of our children as well as destroying their physical health. This destroys their future even before they have had a chance to grasp the opportunities they have in front of them. Hence it is the parents role to safeguard their children when they are at their most vulnerable to the predatory forces of evil that seek to entrap them. And if the parents do their role well, they can hope that their children will flower into their full potential and be an asset to their communities, contributing to the progress of their nations and the Muslim ummah at large. Our children have been given to us as a trust from Allah, let us fulfill our trusts in the best of ways.

And with this we ask You O Allah that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, 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 Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan 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 which is good and what pleases You. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed 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 all of the believers, the living and the dead. Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Be grateful for your blessings and you will be increased therein. So, stand up for prayer.

