



The Home is the Foundation of Education

First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. To You is all praise. We believe in Him and His Angels, His Books, His Messengers, the Last Day and in Destiny its good and apparent bad. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. We are content with Allah as our Lord, Islam as our religion, 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 أَرْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ 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: ٢٤:٧٤]

O Believers: Allah says: **وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ بُيُوتِكُمْ سَكَنًا**

And Allah has made for you from your homes a place of rest. [Qur'an: ١٦:٨٠]

So, the home is a huge blessing for in it the family is able to abide in a state of mutual affection, love, peace and contentment. The home is the first nursery for the children and from it entire generations are raised. So, it is in effect the first school and the first teacher, it is the school before the children formally go to school. In the school of the home, it is the parents



who are responsible for providing the first instructions, the first education. This is their responsibility and obligation, a trust they have been tasked to fulfill by Allah. Hence, the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **وَإِنَّ لَوْلَدِكَ عَلَيْكَ حَقًّا**

Your son [child] has a right upon you. [Muslim]

From the greatest of the rights our children have upon as parents, is that we help instill in them faith in their Lord, and devotion and obedience to Allah. This was the way of Yaqub (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to his children when

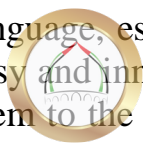
he said to them: **مَا تَعْبُدُونَ مِنْ بَعْدِي قَالُوا نَعْبُدُ إِلَهَكَ وَإِلَهَ آبَائِكَ**

إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ وَإِسْحَاقَ إِلَهًا وَاحِدًا وَنَحْنُ لَهُ مُسْلِمُونَ

"What will you worship after me?" They said, "We will worship your God and the God of your fathers, Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac - one God. And we are Muslims [in submission] to Him". [Qur'an: ٢:١٣٣]

It is in the home that we raise our children to hold firm to the values and morals of good character, and we instill in them the values of loyalty and a sense of commitment and allegiance to their homeland and its leadership. We seek to instill this in them from a young age, to let them feel a connection that their homeland is their abode, that they have a special connection to its soil upon which they are raised and that it is between its borders that they grow up. Let them be proud of it, let them hold firm to their identity as its citizens, and its culture. As a poet once said: **Children amongst us will be brought up to do, whatever their parents habituated themselves to.**

It is in the home that children can come to learn the use of language, especially when young, when language acquisition is easy and innate. Hence, we should take special care to exposing them to the language of Arabic, for it is the language of Divine



revelation, the language of our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and the language of the Qur'an, as Allah says: **إِنَّا أَنْزَلْنَاهُ قُرْآنًا عَرَبِيًّا لَعَلَّكُمْ تَعْقِلُونَ**

Indeed, We have sent it down as an Arabic Qur'an that you might understand. [Qur'an: ١٢:٢]

With regards to teaching Arabic, Sayyidina Umar bin al Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him) states: "Teach your children Arabic, for it strengthens the intellect and increases them in chivalry". So, in this manner, we want our children to be exposed in the home to a love of knowledge, and for them to be raised with a sense of honoring and esteeming knowledge and its value. Hence Allah says: **يَرْفَعِ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنْكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ**

أَوْتُوا الْعِلْمَ دَرَجَاتٍ

Allah will raise those who have believed among you and those who were given knowledge. [Qur'an: ٥٨:١١]

O Allah bless us with the ability of following the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) 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:

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 Noble Parents: Indeed, the honoring of family relationships and societal connections is from the highest of values that we can embed into our homes and raise our children upon. So, we should honor each member of the family and instill in them respect and honor for their parents, and respect for siblings. One of the companions asked the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) about filial piety by saying: **يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، مَنْ أَبْرُّ؟ قَالَ:**

«أُمِّكَ، ثُمَّ أُمَّكَ، ثُمَّ أَبَاكَ، ثُمَّ الْأَقْرَبَ فَلِأَقْرَبَ»

'O Messenger of Allah, to whom should I be dutiful?' 'Your mother,' he replied. I asked, 'Then whom?' 'Your mother,' he replied. I asked, 'Then whom?' 'Your mother,' he replied. I asked, 'Then to whom should I be dutiful?' 'Your father,' he replied, 'and then the next closest relative and then the next.' [Abu Dawud]

So, let us be avid O slaves of Allah to instill such respect and piety in our children, let us keep company with them in visiting relatives so we can habituate them towards moral and religious values, such that they attain unto its merit. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have said:

تَعَلَّمُوا مِنْ أَنْسَابِكُمْ مَا تَصِلُونَ بِهِ أَرْحَامَكُمْ، فَإِنَّ صِلَةَ الرَّحِمِ مَحَبَّةٌ

فِي الْأَهْلِ، مَثْرَاءٌ فِي الْمَالِ، مَنَسَاءٌ فِي الْأَثَرِ

Learn enough about your lineage to facilitate keeping your ties of kinship. For indeed keeping the ties of kinship encourages affection among the relatives, increases the wealth, and increases the lifespan. [Tirmidhi]



So, through these values parents can raise a generation firmly established in their faith, balanced in their behavior, affectionate and kind amongst their families, integrated with their society, upright in their morals, and proud of their homeland.

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. And send your blessings upon the righteous and rightly guided Khulafa: Sayyiduna Abu Bakr, Sayyiduna Umar, Sayyiduna Uthman and Sayyiduna Ali, and upon all of the companions and those of the righteous who come after them, may Allah be pleased with them all.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President 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.

