



## Deeds that bring about forgiveness

### First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, the One who is encompassing in His forgiveness and reward. He forgives whomsoever He wills for what sins they may have done and what they may do, for His forgiveness encompasses both their past and their future. O Allah, our Lord, to You belongs all praise. We believe in You, Your Angels, Your Divine Books, Your Messengers, in the Last Day, and in Your Divine decree, both its good and the apparent bad. We testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except You, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. We are content with You as our Lord, Islam as our religion, and our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad, as our Prophet. O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon his family, his companions and 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 إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ

**And have Taqwa of Allah. Indeed, Allah is acquainted with what you do.** [Qur'an: ٥٩:١٨]

**O Believers:** Allah has opened for us in this blessed month of Ramadan, the doors of His forgiveness and the windows of His generosity and His nobility. This He has done through blessing us with the act of fasting and encouraging us to perform acts of righteousness and spiritual excellence



therein. These opportunities to attain forgiveness continue beyond this month, as Allah tells us about Himself:

هُوَ أَهْلُ التَّقْوَى وَأَهْلُ الْمَغْفِرَةِ

**He is worthy of [embodying] Taqwa [for] and adequate for [granting] forgiveness. [Qur'an: ٧٤:٥٦]**

Allah shall continue to forgive His slaves who sincerely seek His forgiveness and who make repentance. These are those who intend to persevere on righteousness as Allah says: **وَإِنِّي لَغَفَّارٌ لِّمَن تَابَ وَآمَنَ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا ثُمَّ اهْتَدَى**

**But indeed, I am the Perpetual Forgiver of whoever repents and believes and does righteousness and then continues in guidance. [Qur'an: ٢٠:٨٢]**

So how do we know if we have had a successful Ramadan? By looking at our hearts and seeing within them a resolve and intention to continue upon righteousness. From the actions of righteousness that we can persevere in and hope to have our sins forgiven is that we ensure that the way we do our wudu' is in the most spiritually excellent of ways. And that such wudu' is followed by praying to Allah with our hearts full of reverential awe (khushu'). For this is how the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to make his wudu' and pray, and it was after one such occasion that he said: **مَنْ تَوَضَّأَ نَحْوَ وُضُوئِي هَذَا، ثُمَّ صَلَّى**

**رَكَعَتَيْنِ لَا يُحَدِّثُ فِيهِمَا نَفْسَهُ، غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ**

**Whoever performs ablution as I have done, then prays two rak'ahs without allowing his egoic thoughts to distract him in them, his past sins will be forgiven for him. [Bukhari and Muslim]**



Similarly, the devotional act of a person going to the Masjid and waiting for the congregational prayer is also a means by which our past sins can be forgiven and our ranks are raised, as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) reminded us that the act of taking steps to the Masjid and waiting for the prayers are a means of forgiveness when he said: **مَنْ فَعَلَ ذَلِكَ عَاشَ بِخَيْرٍ، وَمَاتَ بِخَيْرٍ، وَكَانَ مِنْ خَطِيئَتِهِ كَيَوْمِ وَلَدَتْهُ أُمُّهُ**

**Whoever does that [walking to the Masjid and waiting for prayer] will live and die righteously, and as far as their sins are concerned, they will be as they were on the day their mother gave birth to them. [Tirmidhi]**

The beauty of these acts is that they are acts of everyday worship, and so we are being pointed to excellence in the very things we are tasked with continuously engaging in. It is often the very things that we take as being simple or mundane that have within them the promise of Allah's forgiveness if we can approach them the proper way. Beyond making our wudu' beautiful, praying in congregation in our masjid, the act of following the Imam of the Masjid in our prayers and saying "ameen" with sincerity in our hearts, this is something in which we can hope that Allah will bless us with His forgiveness and His gifts, for the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: **إِذَا أَمَّنَ الْإِمَامُ، فَأَمَّنُوا، فَإِنَّهُ مَنْ وَاَفَقَ تَأْمِينَهُ تَأْمِينًا**

**الْمَلَائِكَةُ؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ**



**Say *Ameen* when the imam says it, for if anyone's utterance of *Ameen* coincides with that of the Angels, he will be forgiven his past sins.** [Bukhari and Muslim]

And when a believer finishes his prayer and busies himself with the remembrance of Allah and glorifying Him (saying SubhanAllah), praising Him (saying Alhamdulillah), and exalting Him (saying Allahu Akbar), then this too is a means by which their sins are forgiven. For the Prophet

(peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: مَنْ سَبَّحَ

اللَّهِ فِي ذُبُرِ كُلِّ صَلَاةٍ ثَلَاثًا وَثَلَاثِينَ، وَحَمِدَ اللَّهَ ثَلَاثًا وَثَلَاثِينَ،

وَكَبَّرَ اللَّهَ ثَلَاثًا وَثَلَاثِينَ، فَتِلْكَ تِسْعَةٌ وَتِسْعُونَ، وَقَالَ تَمَامَ

الْمِائَةِ: لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ،

وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ؛ غُفِرَتْ خَطَايَاهُ وَإِنْ كَانَتْ مِثْلَ زَبَدِ

الْبَحْرِ

**If anyone says 'Glory be to God' after every prayer thirty-three times, 'Praise be to God' thirty-three times, and 'God is most great' thirty-three times, ninety-nine times in all, and says to complete a hundred, 'There is no god but God alone who has no partner; to Him belongs the kingdom, to Him all praise is due, and He is over all things omnipotent,' shall have their sins forgiven, even if they be as abundant as the foam of the sea.** [Muslim]

O Allah, guide us to deeds that You love and which bring about Your acceptance. And bless us with devotion to You, 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 uniquely 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, so have Taqwa of Him.

**O You seeking the forgiveness of Allah:** As we have seen with the past examples, Allah forgives our sins when we bring attention, intention and sincerity to acts of worship such as ablution, prayers and remembrance. In fact, Allah's forgiving our sins extends to us whenever we are grateful for the blessings we have been given, and when we praise Him for the gifts He gives to us freely and without account. Let us not underestimate any of these gifts, for even the simplest of foods or the ability to wear clothes assumes countless blessings that we should be grateful for. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:



مَنْ أَكَلَ طَعَامًا ثُمَّ قَالَ: الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَطْعَمَنِي هَذَا الطَّعَامَ،  
 وَرَزَقَنِيهِ مِنْ غَيْرِ حَوْلٍ مِنِّي وَلَا قُوَّةَ، غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ،  
 وَمَنْ لَبَسَ ثَوْبًا فَقَالَ: الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي كَسَانِي هَذَا الثَّوْبَ  
 وَرَزَقَنِيهِ مِنْ غَيْرِ حَوْلٍ مِنِّي وَلَا قُوَّةَ؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِهِ

**If anyone eats food and then says, “Praise be to Allah who has fed me with this food and provided me with it through no might or power on my part,” he will be forgiven his former sins. And if anyone puts on a garment and says, “Praise be to God who has clothed me with this and provided me with it through no might or power on my part,” he will be forgiven his former sins. [Abu Dawud]**

So, O Allah, You are the One who is all encompassing in His forgiveness, the One who is immense in forgiving, the One who is noble in His pardoning us, the One who has outstretched His mercy. O Allah we ask You by Your mercy and Your merciful, forgiving nature, that You forgive us our sins and that You bestow upon us true and sound faith and that You bless us with the performance of righteous deeds through Your grace and bounty, O Lord of all the worlds. O Allah we ask You for continued Taqwa in all of our affairs, and continued guidance, that You bless us with morality and chastity and freedom from being in need from others. And with this we ask that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, especially on the seal of them, our master, our



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.

