



Love of the Homeland

First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah who has ennobled us with faith and blessed us with contentment, peace, and security. 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 Sayyiduna Muhammad is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. So, 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 slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah as Allah says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَكُونُوا مَعَ الصَّادِقِينَ

O you who have believed, fear Allah and be with those who are true. [Qur'an: ٩:١١٩]

O Believers: Indeed, love for the homeland is from the innate primordial nature of humanity that Allah has facilitated for them and is a sunnah (way) that he has implanted in the hearts of creation. So, the homeland of a person is understood to be the place or land where one is born, wherein they grow up in its spaciousness, enjoys its bounties, and live their most beautiful memories there. Our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) put forward for us examples in demonstrating love for one's homeland. So, the Prophet whenever he returned from a journey, on seeing the high places of Medina would make his camel or whatever riding mount he had go faster. This was a demonstration of the intensity of connection he had to that place and his deep



longing for it, for that it is one of the signs of the love one has for their homeland. So, from the proof that one has love for their homeland is that they hasten to strive for everything that achieves its elevation and enhances its civilization, which entails that each of us strives in their vocation, and are committed to their profession, performing the duties entrusted to him with honesty and sincerity, seeking thereby the pleasure of their Lord and Creator. As Allah says:

وَمَا تَفْعَلُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ بِهِ عَلِيمٌ

And whatever you do of good - indeed, Allah is Knowing of it. [Qur'an: ٢:٢١٥]

From proof of love for the homeland, is loyalty to its leadership, respect for its law and systems, the safeguarding of its unity, work towards preserving and improving its acquisitions, benefits, goodness, and adherence to its traditions and customs by which its grandfathers lived by, all of which its fathers sought to preserve.

Slaves of Allah: One of the ways a person demonstrates his love for their homeland is by praying for it to have goodness, to be exalted, protected, and for its blessings to be preserved. This would be in emulation of the prophets, peace be upon them, such as our master Ibrahim (peace and blessings be upon him) who supplicated for his homeland, saying:

رَبِّ اجْعَلْ هَذَا بَلَدًا آمِنًا وَارْزُقْ أَهْلَهُ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ

And [mention] when Abraham said, "My Lord, make this a secure city and provide its people with fruits [Qur'an: ٢:١٢٦]



Likewise, our Prophet Sayyidina Muhammad also supplicated for his homeland saying: **اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَنَا فِي مَدِينَتِنَا... اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ عَبْدَكَ وَخَلِيلَكَ وَنَبِيَّكَ، وَإِنِّي عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ، وَإِنَّهُ دَعَاكَ لِمَكَّةَ، وَإِنِّي أَدْعُوكَ لِلْمَدِينَةِ بِمِثْلِ مَا دَعَاكَ لِمَكَّةَ وَمِثْلَهُ مَعَهُ**

O Allah, bless us in our fruits; and bless us in our city; O Allah, Ibrahim was Your servant, Your friend, and Your Prophet, and I am Your servant and Your Prophet. He (Ibrahim) made supplication to You for (the showering of blessings upon) Mecca, and I am making supplication to You for Medina just as he made supplication to You for Mecca, and the like of it in addition. [Sahih Muslim]

So, O Allah make us from those who sincerely love their homeland, and who strive for its being elevated. 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, I praise Him with the best of praises, for He is the One who sends down His reward on those

who listen to His speech and follow the best of it. 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 Believers: Indeed, Allah has blessed many of us to live in the Emirates as a homeland, a place whose goodness is evident, whose gifts are many. In so much as we are enjoying its blessings, we are also tasked to be its trustees, hence responsible for it, each from their positions of influence. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ سَائِلٌ كُلِّ رَاعٍ عَمَّا اسْتَرْعَاهُ: أَحْفَظَ أَمْ ضَيَّعَ

Indeed Allah will ask each shepherd as to their flock, did they preserve it or did they waste it. [Sahih ibn Hibban]

Indeed, from the preservation of the homeland is to watch over its protection, making every effort to protect and it; seeking nearness to Allah and a path to the Garden of Goodness. As the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

عَيْنَانِ لَا تَمْسُهُمَا النَّارُ: عَيْنٌ بَكَتْ مِنْ خَشْيَةِ

اللَّهِ، وَعَيْنٌ بَاتَتْ تَحْرُسُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ

There are two eyes that shall not be touched by the Fire: An eye that wept from the fear of Allah, and an eye that spent the night standing on guard in the cause of Allah.

[Tirmidhi]

Among the sayings of Sheikh Zayed (may Allah have mercy on him) is that this nation expects a lot from us, so we must struggle, strive and be avid to advance the march of progress and effort in this nation. We should defend it with the same spirit and courage that our ancestors had. So, from our

responsibility towards this nation is to raise our daughters and sons to love it, and to instill in them the values of loyalty and belonging. We should prepare them with a readiness to defend its lands, and to protect its achievements.

So the wise leadership of the country has put forth for the young people of this nation, both male and female, doors to attain unto honor, elevation, eminence and dignity. This can be achieved by serving one's homeland and joining the ranks of this great school of service that reinforces in them discipline, high determination, patience, resolve and strength, so that the country of the United Arab Emirates remains strong, proud, united and cohesive.

And with this we ask that 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.

