



Give thanks for the Blessings of Allah

The First Sermon

All praises are due to Allah for His countless favors, abundant grace, and immense bounty. I bear witness that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, who is alone without any partner, and I bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the servant and Messenger of Allah. He used to supplicate to his Lord, saying: '**O my Lord, make me among those who are grateful.**' So O Allah, bestow Your blessings, peace, and mercy upon him, and upon his family, his companions, and those who follow him in the best of ways until the Last Day.

To Continue: I advise you, O servants of Allah, and myself to have taqwa of Allah and to be grateful to Him. It is through Taqwa that can we can attain unto the rank of our Lord being pleased with us, and through gratitude, we given an increase from His bounty. As Allah says:

فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

So have Taqwa Allah that you may be grateful.

[Qur'an: 3:123]

O Worshippers: The greatest values of faith and human ethics revolve around the embodiment of gratitude towards our Creator. An indication of such gratitude is contentment, purification of the soul, vitality of hearts, and a sincere acknowledgment of Allah's blessings in one's self, health and wellbeing, provision, intellect, morals, family and all of the affairs of a servant. This state of perpetual acknowledgement of being given to freely by our Noble

Lord and without any state of innate deservedness on our part, is the essence of gratitude and a demonstration of true worship. As our Lord says: **وَاشْكُرُوا لِلَّهِ إِنَّ كُنتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ**

And be grateful to Allah if it is Him you worship.

[Qur'an: 2:172]

Indeed, gratitude is the means by which we attain unto the pleasure of our Lord who says: **وَإِنْ تَشْكُرُوا يَرْضَهُ لَكُمْ**

And if you are grateful, He is pleased with you.

[Qur'an: 39:7]

Because gratitude is the spirit with which we are tasked to imbue our worship, there is no prophet except that he was grateful to his Lord. So the Qur'an describes the Prophet Noah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) by saying: **كَانَ عَبْدًا شَكُورًا**

He was a grateful servant [Qur'an: 17:3]

And describes Abraham (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) by saying: **شَاكِرًا لِأَنْعَمِهِ**

Grateful for His favors [Qur'an: 16:121]

Similarly Our Prophet (peace be upon him) said:

أَفَلَا أَكُونُ عَبْدًا شَكُورًا؟

Should I not be a grateful servant? [Bukhari and Muslim]

How great it is for the disposition of gratitude to settle in the souls and hearts of believing worshippers, with their embodying such gratitude in both prosperity and adversity, in ease and hardship, in motion and stillness. These are the believers who speak of the blessings of their Lord with

gratitude, and who work in gratitude towards their Creator. How could they not be grateful to their Lord while they are cognizant of enjoying and availing His bounties, knowing that indeed they have been blessed by His goodness.

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ
السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

And Allah brought you out of the wombs of your mothers not knowing a thing, and He gave you hearing and vision and hearts that perhaps you would be grateful. [Qur'an: 16:78]

These are the believers who start their day with gratitude to their Lord, following the example of their Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) who said:

مَنْ قَالَ حِينَ يُصْبِحُ: اللَّهُمَّ مَا أَصْبَحَ بِي مِنْ نِعْمَةٍ، أَوْ بِأَحَدٍ مِنْ
خَلْقِكَ، فَمِنْكَ وَحْدَكَ لَا شَرِيكَ لَكَ، فَلَكَ الْحَمْدُ وَلَكَ
الشُّكْرُ، فَقَدْ أَدَّى شُكْرَ ذَلِكَ الْيَوْمِ

Whoever says when he wakes up in the morning: 'O Allah, whatever blessing has come to me or to any of Your creation is from You alone, You have no partner, to You belongs all praise and thanks', then he has indeed expressed gratitude for that day.' [Abu Dawud] Thus is the state of the believer throughout their day, remembering the blessings of their Lord. And why should this not be the case? When whatever their gazes fall upon, they witness blessings being manifested, wherever they turn their face, they see favors from their Lord.

وَإِنْ تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا

And if you should count the favors of Allah, you could not enumerate them. [Qur'an: 16:18]

So their hearts are assured that there is no bestower except Allah, and no giver besides Him. وَمَا بِكُمْ مِنْ نِعْمَةٍ فَمِنَ اللَّهِ

And whatever you have of favor - it is from Allah. [Qur'an: 16:53]

So O Allah, assist us in 'remembering You, being grateful to You, and worshiping You excellently.' O you who believe, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you'

I say this, and I seek forgiveness from Allah for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness for He is the most forgiving and the most Merciful.

The Second Sermon

All praise is due to Allah who sends down the rain after people may have lost hope and spreads His mercy thereby, for He is the Guardian of the believers, worthy of all praise. May peace and blessings be upon our master and Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, the seal of all the prophets, and upon his family, companions, and those who follow his guidance until the Last Day.

O those grateful to your Lord: Allah has indeed honored our beloved country, the United Arab Emirates, with the blessing of rain, with which Allah revives the land, quenches the thirst of His servants, purifies the atmosphere, delights his creation, and causes crops and fruits to grow abundantly. It is our duty in the face of this blessing to thank our Lord for it, to praise Him without any

displeasure, asking Allah for its good and seeking refuge with Him from its harm, pondering over how forms the rain through clouds :

أَنَّ اللَّهَ يُزْجِي سَحَابًا ثُمَّ يُؤَلِّفُ بَيْنَهُ ثُمَّ
يَجْعَلُهُ رِكَامًا فَتَرَى الْوَدْقَ يَخْرُجُ مِنْ خِلالِهِ وَيُنزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ
مِنْ جِبَالٍ فِيهَا مِنْ بَرَدٍ فَيُصِيبُ بِهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَصْرِفُهُ عَنِ مَنْ
يَشَاءُ يَكَادُ سَنَا بَرْقِهِ يَذْهَبُ بِالْأَبْصَارِ

Have you not seen how God drives the clouds, then composes them, then piles them up, whereat you see the rain issuing from the midst of them? And He sends down from the heaven out of the mountains that are therein hail, and smites with it whom He will and turns it away from whom He will. The brilliance of its lightning would almost take away the eyes. [Qur'an: 24:43]

Part of our gratitude is thanking those who have alleviated from us the potential dangers the rainstorms carried, for:

مَنْ لَا يَشْكُرُ النَّاسَ لَا يَشْكُرُ اللَّهَ

**Whoever does not thank people, does not thank Allah.
[Tirmidhi]**

So, all thanks are due to our wise leadership for their great efforts, extensive praise, and sincere supplication to the relevant institutions, and to everyone who contributed efforts from all sectors and volunteers for their dedicated efforts in securing people, opening roads, and providing services. It is our duty to adhere to the directives issued by the relevant authorities and to support them, so we ask

Allah Almighty to reward their efforts and reward them for their praiseworthy deeds.

O Allah, perpetuate Your safety, security, stability, prosperity, in the United Arab Emirates and all the Muslim nations, and bestow upon them goodness, mercy, blessings, and favors. O Answerer of prayers, we ask that You send Your prayers, blessings and peace upon our Master Muhammad and upon his family and companions, and all those who follow them altogether. O Allah, be pleased with the rightly guided caliphs and all the noble companions.

O Allah, You say in Your book: **لَئِنْ شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ**

If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favor].

[Qur'an: 14:7]

So all praise is due to You, we are grateful that You are our Lord, that Islam is our religion, that the Qur'an is our revelation, that You send down rain reviving the land and that You continue to bestow upon us well-being, both outwardly and inwardly. All praise is due to You for every blessing You have bestowed upon us, whether past or present, hidden or apparent, specific or general. All praises are due to You until You are pleased, and all praise is due to You when You are pleased, and eternal praise is due to Your ever-existing essence. So we say all praises are due to Allah, Lord of the all the domains of existence.

O Allah, grant success to the President of the country, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed, his deputies, his brothers, the rulers of the Emirates, and his Crown Prince, in what You love and are pleased with.

O Allah, have mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Rashid, the founding leaders, Sheikh Maktoum, and Sheikh

Khalifa bin Zayed, and admit them by Your grace into Your vast gardens, and encompass the martyrs of the nation with Your mercy and forgiveness.

O Allah, have mercy on all the Muslim men and women, the believers, the living and the dead.

Servants of Allah, remember the Allah, and He will remember you, and thank Him for His blessings, for He will increase you therein. And establish prayer, so stand up to pray.