



"By Dawn and the Ten Nights"

The First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, who has blessed upon us the season of goodness. And urged us to honour our time therein. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), is the perfect example of servanthood unto Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe.

To Continue: I advise you, dutiful servants of Allah, and myself, to adhere to a heartfelt consciousness (Taqwa) of Allah. For He, the Most Gloriously

Transcendent, states: **يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ**

نَفْسَ مَا قَدَّمْتُمْ لِعَدِّهِ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ

O you who have believed, fear Allah . And let every soul look to what it has put forth for tomorrow - and fear Allah . Indeed, Allah is Acquainted with what you do. [Qur'an:٥٩:١٨]

O Believers:

Allah, exalted be He, states in His majestic Book:

وَالْفَجْرِ * وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ * وَالشَّفْعِ وَالْوَتْرِ * وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَسْرِ * هَلْ فِي
ذَلِكَ قَسَمٍ لِّدِي حِجْرٍ

By the dawn * And [by] ten nights * And [by] the even [number] and the odd * And [by] the night when it passes * Is there [not] in [all] that an oath [sufficient] for one of perception?

[Qur'an: ٨٩:١-٥]

So in these noble verses, our Lord takes an oath by a specific blessed time. Indicating not just the immensity of the oath, but also the immensity of the time. For the oath is built upon the immensity of the honour of the time and its exalted rank with Allah. It thus should draw the attention of those with perceptive hearts to the necessity of taking care in this time, to invest therein, for its benefits are multiplied both in this life and the

next. As Allah says: **هَلْ فِي ذَلِكَ قَسَمٍ لِّدِي حِجْرٍ**

Is there [not] in [all] that an oath [sufficient] for one of perception? [Qur'an: ٨٩:٥]

So basically Allah is telling us that in these verses is a message for those possessing intellects, calling them to invest themselves in its time and to not waste its opportunity. These moments are what are referred to as 'the gentle breezes (nafahaat) from the Mercy of Allah', that a person should avail by investing himself in and that he strives to not waste. So the time we are talking about is from the 'the gentle breezes from the

Mercy of Allah’, that requires a person to best utilize it and not lose. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said: **افْعَلُوا الْخَيْرَ دَهْرَكُمْ، وَتَعَرَّضُوا لِنَفْحَاتِ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ،**

فَإِنَّ لِلَّهِ نَفْحَاتٍ مِنْ رَحْمَتِهِ، يُصِيبُ بِهَا مَنْ يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ

Do good throughout your time, and open yourselves towards the ‘gentle breezes (nafahaat) from the Mercy of Allah’, for indeed there are for Allah ‘gentle breezes from His Mercy’, which He causes to come down upon those He wishes from His servants. [Tabarani]

So Allah begins His oath with the time of Fajr, so He says: **وَالْفَجْرِ** **By Dawn** [Qur’an: ٨٩:١]

For it is an immense Time. It embodies signs of the omnipotent Power (Qudra) of Allah in how He originates His creation. For after the onset of Dawn, the Sun shines, brightens and illuminates the day, as Allah says: **وَالصُّبْحِ إِذَا أَسْفَرَ**

And [by] the morning when it brightens,
[Qur’an: ٧٤:٣٤]

Then the light of the day appears and soon a breeze would spread, as if the morning begins to breath as its light extends, as Allah says: **وَالصُّبْحِ إِذَا تَنَفَّسَ**

And by the dawn when it breathes [Qur’an: ٨١:١٨]

Then the day would start to unravel and reveal itself in its illumination, heralding its activity as people begin to move towards their going to work. As Allah says:

وَالنَّهَارِ إِذَا تَجَلَّى

And [by] the day when it appears [Qur'an: ۹۲:۰۲]

These are all initial stages of a Day that Allah swears by, all as a way of indicating His all-encompassing Wisdom, His Omnipotent Power, for He is:

فَالِقُ الْإِصْبَاحِ

[He is] the cleaver of daybreak [Qur'an: ۶:۹۶]

He is the One who disposes His creation as He pleases.

He is One who brings renews life and breath after He

causes some to die. He is the One who awakens after

He causes some to sleep, so that there can be striving

and work in the Earth. For the Prophet (peace and

blessings be upon him) when he would wake up would

say: **الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَمَا أَمَاتَنَا، وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ**

‘Praise be to Allah Who restored unto us life, after having caused us to die and unto Him shall be the Resurrection’

[Muslim]

So a person should really make the most of this time,

by which a new day begins. And the best way to do

this is to busy oneself with the dhikr of Allah, as a way

of acknowledging His Majesty and Immensity. So such

a person offers and does not slacken in his prayers, and

finds his resolve continuing thereafter throughout the day. So the day becomes a means not only by which he earns his livelihood, but also the means by which he increases in knowledge, through which he performs or initiates great work. Hence it was from the supplication of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him), whenever he would pray Fajr:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ عِلْمًا نَافِعًا، وَرِزْقًا طَيِّبًا، وَعَمَلًا مُتَقَبَّلًا

O Allah, I ask You for beneficial knowledge, goodly provision and acceptable deeds. [Ibn Majah]

O Contemplators of the words of God:

Indeed Allah swears in these verses by the first Ten

Days of Dhul Hijjah, so He says: **وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ**

And by the Ten Nights [Qur'an: ٨٩:٢]

For these are blessed days, that Allah has blessed over and above other days of the year. As the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

أَفْضَلُ أَيَّامِ الدُّنْيَا أَيَّامُ الْعَشْرِ

"The best days in this world are the (first) ten days (of Dhul Hijja)." [Musnad Bazzar]

By the 'ten days' the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) meant, the first ten days of Dhul Hijja. The Scholars say the reason why Dhul Hijja has been singled out is the joining of all the major forms of worship therein. For in it is Hajj, fasting, praying, charity, recitation of Qur'an, remembrance of Allah

and all manners of excellent spiritual conduct. Indeed worship in these days is from the most beloved acts of worship to Allah, being of the highest level of reward, as the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

مَا مِنْ أَيَّامِ الْعَمَلِ الصَّالِحِ أَحَبُّ إِلَى اللَّهِ مِنْ هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامِ

There is no virtue more to the liking of Allah in any day than in these days (i.e. the first ten days of Dhul Hijja) [Bukhari]

The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) also

said: مَا مِنْ عَمَلٍ أَزْكَى عِنْدَ اللَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ وَلَا أَعْظَمَ أَجْرًا مِنْ

خَيْرِ يَعْمَلُهُ فِي عَشْرِ الْأَضْحَى

There are no actions purer and more wholesome with Allah, and none greater in their reward than the good that one does in the Ten [days of] of Dhul Hijja. [Darami]

Then Allah swears by His Names the Shaf' ('even')

and the Witr ('odd'), saying: وَالشَّفَعِ وَالْوَتْرِ

And [by] the even [number] and the odd

[Qur'an: ٨٩:٣]

This oath includes the five daily prayers, for in them is the 'even' (being Fajr, Dhuhr, Asr and Isha) and in them is the 'odd' (being Maghrib). In this oath is also a possible allusion to the two (i.e. even) rakats before the one (i.e. odd) rakat of the prayer of Witr. So let the Muslim adhere to the performing of his obligatory

prayers and its supererogatory, so he avails the great reward there is therein.

O servants of Allah:

In this noble verse, Allah swears by the night saying:

وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَسْرِ

And [by] the night when it passes [Qur'an: ٨٩:٤]

In other words it comes and goes. In this is an indication of the pace with which the night passes and ends. So the one who is cognizant, is the one who makes the most of it, such as dhikr, such as reflection on His creation, whilst also using it as a time of rest and rejuvenation for body and spirit, that too done for Allah. As Allah says:

وَهُوَ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ اللَّيْلَ لِبَاسًا وَالنَّوْمَ سُبَاتًا

And it is He who has made the night for you as clothing and sleep [a means for] rest and has made the day a resurrection. [Qur'an: ٢٥:٤٧]

So O Allah bless us in our time, and overlook our faults, and make us from those who are successful. And may He assist us all in the way of piety and obedience. Piety towards Your trustworthy Messenger, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), the ability to be dutiful towards those You have commanded us to be dutiful towards, in accordance with Your words: **O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. [Qur'an: ٤:٥٩]**

May Allah bless me and bless you with the Noble Qur'an and with the Way (Sunnah) of His Noble Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him). I say this, and I seek forgiveness for me and for you, so seek His forgiveness, for He is the All-Forgiving and the All-Merciful.

The Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, abundant and proficient praises as we are commanded to. We thank Him, for He rewards those who thank Him. And I bear witness, with every facet of my being, that there is nothing worthy of absolute love and adoration, except Allah, the Uniquely One, having no competing second in that One-ness. And I bear witness that our Leader and Master, our Prophet, Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon his name), is the perfect example of dutiful servanthood towards Allah, and is His sent Messenger unto the entirety of the created universe. O Allah: We ask you to bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon him; his family; all of his companions; and whomsoever follows and seeks to emulate him in the best of ways till the Last Day. I advise you, O servants of Allah, and myself, with Taqwa of Allah (glorified be He).

O Worshippers:

Indeed from the nature of a sound person is that he pays attention when His Lord takes an oath on this time. So he makes the most therein by investing Himself in worship and devotion, so that He may attain

with Allah, the highest degrees in Paradise. For Allah says: **أَمَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ فَلَهُمْ جَنَّاتُ الْمَأْوَىٰ نُزُلًا بِمَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ**

As for those who believed and did righteous deeds, for them will be the Gardens of Refuge as accommodation for what they used to do.

[Qur'an: ٣٢:١٩]

So let us be from those who make the most of their time, starting from the Baraka of the moments of Fajr. Renewing our connection to our Lord in these Ten Days. For these time are a trust given to us, that we are commanded to preserve. Let us also orient the energies of our children such that they too can use it for the good and be from those who are successful in this life and the next, as Allah says:

وَالْعَصْرِ * إِنَّ الْإِنْسَانَ لَفِي خُسْرٍ * إِلَّا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ وَتَوَّصَوْا بِالْحَقِّ وَتَوَّصَوْا بِالصَّبْرِ

By time * Indeed, mankind is in loss, * Except for those who have believed and done righteous deeds and advised each other to truth and advised each other to patience. [Qur'an: ١٠٣:١-٣]

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the one we have been commanded to send our peace and blessings upon, as Allah says: **Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [**

Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace. [Qur'an: ٣٣:٥٦]. So, O Allah, bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon our Master, our Prophet and upon his family and all of his companions. And may Allah be pleased with the Righteous Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, Ali; and the noble companions of the Prophet, the Sahaba, may Allah be pleased with all of them. O Allah, we ask You for soundness in our faith, and trust in good character, and a true success that will be followed by eternal bliss. O Allah, we ask You for Your mercy, for true prosperity, for Your redemptive forgiveness and Your pleasure. O Allah, make us from those who are obedient, respectful, those who venerate their parents, honoring their mothers and their fathers, embodying excellent character towards their families and wider societies.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good. O Allah, we seek Your favour in granting him continued good health and care. O Allah, we also ask You to grant success to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, we ask You to forgive all of the Muslims, both the men and women, the living and dead. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to the mercy of their Lord. O Lord, grant

them from your abundant mercy and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction. O Allah, we ask you to admit them into Paradise, being given bounties therein without being taken to account. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whosoever may have a right upon us.

O Allah, we ask You, from your loving kindness, for the immensity of your forgiveness, for the reward of all righteousness, for the safety and protection from all sin. O Allah, we ask you for the ultimate success in attaining Paradise, and the ultimate respite in being saved from the Fire. O Allah, do not allow us to sin except that You forgive us, nor to have any worry except that you relieve us therein, nor for any debt to come upon us except that You see it compensated, nor for there to be any sick amongst us except that You see them healed. Let there be no dead, except that You have covered them in Your mercy, and let there be no pressing need, amongst any of us, except that You see it met and fulfilled. O most Noble of the Noble, You are capable over all things, and You are the most generous in responding to those who call upon You. We ask You, O Allah, the Lord of all domains, to continue blessing the UAE with stability, welfare, increase in its bounties, knowledge, civilization, happiness, beauty and tolerance. O Allah, please continue blessing it with safety and security. O Allah, have mercy on the honorable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has

bestowed favour of the Prophets. O Allah, make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You are ever-responsive to those who call upon You. O Allah, grant to the people of Yemen that which is good, and unite them upon that which is True and Sacred, and provide for them all manners of prosperity, O most Noble of the Noble.

O Allah, spread peace and security amongst all the Muslim nations, and the entirety of the world. O our Lord, we ask You for the best of this World, the best of the Hereafter, that You will protect us from the punishment of the Fire, and that You enter us into Your paradise with the righteous. Indeed You are the Most Generous and Most Forgiving.

O Servants of Allah: Remember Allah, the Majestic, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His blessings and He will increase you therein. And establish the prayer.

So stand up for prayer.