



## Volunteer Work First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, who has increased the reward for those who engage in voluntary work. And 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 our Sayyid, our Prophet, Muhammad is the slave of Allah and His Messenger, may the 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, as Allah says:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ مُحْسِنُونَ

**Indeed, Allah is with those who fear Him and those who are doers of good.** [Qur'an: ١٦:١٢٨]

**O Believers:** It has been narrated on the authority of Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) once came upon some people who volunteered to give people water, in that they would draw water from the wells and then pour it into their containers. Seeing this the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

اعْمَلُوا، فَإِنَّكُمْ عَلَىٰ عَمَلٍ صَالِحٍ

**Keep working, for you are engaged in good work.**

Then he said to the people: **“Were it not that you would be overpowered** (by which he meant that he feared that if joined them, the people would overcrowd them) - **I would**

**go down and put the rope on this** (and he pointed to his blessed shoulder as a means of drawing the water up).”

[Bukhari]

In this immense Hadith, our Prophet set an example and encouraged us to participate in voluntary work, as a means of seeking the bounty and reward from Allah therein. For voluntary work is rewarded and brings about gratitude and thankfulness from people and appreciation from Allah. For

Allah says: **وَمَنْ تَطَوَّعَ خَيْرًا فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ شَاكِرٌ عَلِيمٌ**

**And whoever volunteers good - then indeed, Allah is appreciative and Knowing.** [Qur'an: ٢:١٥٨]

Voluntary work involves the spirit of service wherein people aid one another, bringing about benefit to their communities and mankind. This was the spirit and way that the companions of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) would hasten towards, each of them serving the community with whatever gifts Allah had given them. This was the way for the women amongst the Sahaba, the Sahabiyaat, for amongst them were those who learnt medicine and healing of the sick, helping to benefit people with their expertise. These and other skills were put to use as a means of saving lives, a deed that brings about the pleasure of Allah, about which Allah says:

**وَمَنْ أَحْيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَا أَحْيَا النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا**

**And whoever saves one [life] - it is as if he had saved mankind entirely.** [Qur'an: ٥:٣٢]

Hence if one of us finds the path to voluntary work being facilitated for them, then this truly is a blessing to rejoice for, for it represents the means by which we can serve people and bring benefit to others – and draw near to Allah.

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

## Second Khutbah

All praises are for Allah, the One, and may peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, and upon his family and companions, and whomsoever follows them in the best of ways.

**O Believers:** The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) recounted for us the story of a man who removed thorns from a road that people would travel upon. He mentioned how Allah appreciated him for the goodness of his deeds and then granted forgiveness to him,

as the Prophet said: **بَيْنَمَا رَجُلٌ يَمْشِي فِي طَرِيقٍ؛ إِذْ وَجَدَ**

**غُصْنَ شَوْكٍ، فَأَخْرَهُ، فَشَكَرَ اللَّهُ لَهُ، فَغَفَرَ لَهُ**

**"Whilst a man was walking on the road, he found a thorny branch and removed it. Allah appreciated his action so he forgave him [his sins]." [Bukhari and Muslim]**

So, in similar spirit whosoever is able to perform good deeds or master a skill to benefit people thereby, and is able to serve his community through these means, then let him or her hasten to do it in the spirit of service and sacrifice. For these are the means by which one draws near to Allah, earning reward, and serving his nation. It these people who volunteer for the sake of Allah who are akin to the first row of worshippers of prayer, in that they have a reward and closeness to Allah, and also attain unto an esteem and rank with people. They are those who receive the pleasure and appreciation of Allah as well as the gratitude and thankfulness of people, all in recognition and

appreciation for their effort. So, let us encourage one another to voluntary work by which we can serve one another and greater humanity.

And with this, let us send our prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, and especially on the seal of them, our master, our Prophet, Muhammad. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon him, and upon his family, his companions, all of them.

**O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates. and guide them to all that is good and what pleases You. O Allah: Bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum 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 the martyrs, and grant their families with patience and a great reward.** And have mercy, our Lord, upon our fathers and mothers, and upon whoever has a right upon us. And continue perpetuating blessings and bounties upon the UAE. O Allah, confer upon us Your blessings and do not make us from those who despair. O Allah, bless us, bless us, bless us. O Allah: Give us in this life that which is beautiful and in the next life that which is beautiful, and save us from the fire. Remember Allah and He will remember you, Stand up for prayer.