



The Intellect is a Blessing and Responsibility

First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, the immense in favor to His creation. He created Man and endowed him with the nobility of an intellect. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His oneness. And I testify that our Sayyid, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. O Allah, send Your 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, for verily Allah says:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ نَفْسٌ مَّا قَدَّمَتْ لِغَدٍ 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 tells us: وَلَقَدْ كَرَّمْنَا بَنِي آدَمَ

And We have certainly honored the children of Adam

[Qur'an: ١٧:٧٠]

Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) narrates “Allah has honored human beings through bestowing them with intellects.” This nobility is clear since intellects are from the greatest of blessings in terms of honor and of the most precious in terms of



benefit, as Allah says: **وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ**

And Allah has extracted you from the wombs of your mothers not knowing a thing, and He made for you hearing and vision and intellect that perhaps you would be grateful.

[Qur'an: ١٦:٧٨]

Hence, some scholars have said that a person is not given a more blessed thing after being given faith than being given the blessings of an intellect. **So how do we show our gratitude for being given the blessings of an intellect?** We should show thanks by using the intellect for what it has been ordered to be used for by Allah and what He has encouraged us to do with it. From this is to contemplate upon the origins of His creation, so that a person can feel the blessings of his Lord and the expansiveness of His wisdom. As Allah says: **إِنَّ فِي خَلْقِ**

السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ وَاخْتِلَافِ اللَّيْلِ وَالنَّهَارِ لآيَاتٍ لِأُولِي الْأَبْصَارِ

Indeed, in the creation of the heavens and the earth and the alternation of the night and the day are signs for those of understanding. [Qur'an: ٣:١٩٠]

Through the intellect the believer is able to diligently contemplate upon the words of his Lord, so he understands what is meant by them, acts up their commands and abstains from their prohibitions. As Allah says:

كِتَابٌ أَنْزَلْنَاهُ إِلَيْكَ مُبَارَكٌ لِيَدَّبَّرُوا آيَاتِهِ وَلِيَتَذَكَّرَ أُولُو الْأَبْصَارِ

[This is] a blessed Book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], that they might reflect upon its verses and



that those of understanding would be reminded. [Qur'an:

٣٨:٢٩]

The people of understanding are the people of intellects who thank Allah for the blessings they have received, especially the blessing of the intellect. Hence, they nourish it with beneficial knowledge and cause it to grow through valuable and useful understanding. Allah says praising the people of intellect :

وَمَا يَعْقِلُهَا إِلَّا الْعَالِمُونَ

[And these examples We present to the people, but] none will understand them except those of knowledge.

[Qur'an: ٢٩:٤٣]

So what will the status of a person of intellect be when they become possessed and conjoined of the highest of affairs and the best of characters. As one of the poets said: “If the Most Merciful perfects a person's intellect, then his morals and ambitions become from the select.”

So let us invest the blessing of our intellects in what enables us to return back to Allah and through that which brings benefits back to us and to our communities through goodness, prosperity, coexistence and peace. O Allah make us of those who show gratitude for Your blessings 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 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.

O Believers: Indeed the intellect is a trust given to us which bears a weighty responsibility as Allah says:

إِنَّ السَّمْعَ وَالْبَصَرَ وَالْفُؤَادَ كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ مَسْئُولًا

Indeed, the hearing, the sight and the heart - about all those [one] will be questioned. [Qur'an: ١٧:٣٦]

So the human being who has been honored with an intellect is distinguished and is in turn able to distinguish between right and wrong, between goodness and evil, and between benefit and harm. Hence he abstains from all that which is detrimental to and harmful to his intellect such as drugs. For this reason the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

كُلُّ مُسْكِرٍ حَرَامٌ، وَمَا أَسْكَرَ كَثِيرُهُ فَقَلِيلُهُ حَرَامٌ

Every intoxicant is haram and that which intoxicates in large amounts is prohibited in small amounts. [Abu Dawud and Tirmidhi]

How great is the danger of drugs! For the harm they bring to the intellects are immense and the effects they have on people is so dangerous and pernicious. This is because drugs ultimately cause loss to wealth, health, maybe leading to the breakup of families and eventually resulting in a kind of moral, spiritual bankruptcy that causes one to despair of life itself. For these reasons the UAE has been engaged and continues to be involved in striving in preventing the harms of such drugs to protect



people from them. So let all parents, father and mothers, teachers and all those entrusted with looking after children also feel this sense of responsibility towards their children and students by monitoring their activities and involvements, knowing their friends and the company they keep, and increasing their own awareness about the harms of drugs, warning them of the means by which such drugs can be given to them. Nowadays these dangerous connections and means include all sorts of modern communication such as through social media, through messages and speaking on the phone as well as other modern means of communication whereby children can be entrapped through forms of temptation and deception. So let us be aware and cognizant of what our children are doing with the means of communication they have at their disposal.

And with this we ask 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. O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan 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 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.

