



The Adhan: The Call to Prayer

The First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. Who has legislated the Adhan as a call to those who pray, summoning the worshippers. 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: ﴿

أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

O mankind, worship your Lord, who created you and those before you, that you may become righteous -

[Qur'an: ٢:٢١]

O Worshippers:

Indeed the Adhan is from the great signs of Islam. It is a call heard every day, five times a day, heralding the entering of the time for the prayer and calling towards it: إِذَا

حَضَرَتِ الصَّلَاةُ فَلْيُؤَدِّ لَكُمْ أَحَدُكُمْ

When the stated time for the prayer becomes due, then one of you should perform its call (i.e. the Adhan)

[Bukhari and Muslim]

The Adhan is termed a ‘complete call’ because it incorporates blessed words of tremendous meaning, being from the most perfect and most beautiful forms of remembrance. For Allah says: وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ قَوْلًا مِمَّنْ دَعَا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَعَمِلَ

صَالِحًا وَقَالَ إِنِّي مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

And who is better in speech than one who invites to Allah and does righteousness and says, "Indeed, I am of the Muslims." [Qur'an: ٤١:٣٣]

Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with her) narrates that the above verse was revealed concerning the people who call to prayer (the Mu'adhin). This is because the Mu'adhin begins the Adhan with the words “Allahu Akbar” raising the dhikr of Allah, saying: “Allahu Akbar - Allahu Akbar”. In other words Allah is greater than anything else besides and there is nothing the likes of Him. So the believer is the one who is not busied away from the call of Allah and nothing delays him from answering the call. The profound meanings of the Adhan find resonance in the natural disposition (Fitrah) of the believer for the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) once heard a man saying the Adhan stating: “Allahu Akbar - Allahu Akbar” so he (peace and blessings be upon him) said: “[He is] Upon his Fitrah.” In the calling of the Adhan there is a recognition of the greatness of Allah, then the Mu'adhin says: “I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah”, affirming the one-ness of Allah and whoever repeats this phrase attains the forgiveness of Allah as the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

مَنْ قَالَ حِينَ يَسْمَعُ الْمُؤَذِّنَ: أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، رَضِيَتْ بِاللَّهِ رَبًّا، وَمُحَمَّدٍ رَسُولًا، وَبِالْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا؛ غُفِرَ لَهُ ذَنْبُهُ

"Whoever says, when they hear the Mu'adhin: (Wa ana ashadu an La Ilaha Illa Allah, Wahdahu La Sharika Lahu, Wa anna Muhammadan Abduhu Wa Rasuluhu, Radhittu billahi Rabban wa bil-Islam Dinan, Wa bi Muhammadin Rasulan) "I testify that none has the right to be worshiped but Allah, Alone without partners, and that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger, I am pleased with Allah as my Lord, with Islam as my religion and Muhammad as a Messenger.' - Allah will forgive their sins." [Muslim]

So the testification of the Shahada is a testification of tremendous rank, it is the best of remembrance and greatest of it. The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

أَفْضَلُ الذِّكْرِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

'The best of remembrance is La ilaha illallah (None has the right to be worshipped but Allah)' [Ibn Majah]

Allah Himself testifies this for His own essence, as do the Angels, and those who possess knowledge, for Allah says:

شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ وَأُولُو الْعِلْمِ قَانِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ

Allah witnesses that there is no god except Him, and [so do] the angels and those of knowledge - [that He is] maintaining [creation] in justice. There is no god except Him, the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

[Qur'an: ٣: ١٨]

The believer testify collectively to this Shahada, so their hearts are filled with honouring their Lord and contentment with His command. This then becomes a means of their salvation from the Fire, so when the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) heard the Mu'adhin saying: "I testify that there is no god except Allah [twice]", he (peace

be upon him) responded by saying: “You have departed from the Fire.” [Muslim]. The believer repeats this whilst being certain of it, so Allah honours him by its rank and enters him into His paradise. As the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said: مَنْ قَالَ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ

Whoever says ‘La ilaha ila Allah’ enters unto Paradise.
[Ibn Hiban]

The Mu'adhin then says twice: أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

In this he is testifying to the Prophethood of our Messenger and Prophet, Muhammad ((peace and blessings be upon him). A Prophethood that Allah Himself and His Angels have testified to when He states: مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ

Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah [Qur'an: ٤٨:٢٩]

وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يَشْهَدُ بِمَا أَنْزَلَ إِلَيْكَ أَنْزَلَهُ بِعِلْمِهِ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ يَشْهَدُونَ وَكَفَى بِاللَّهِ شَهِيدًا

But Allah bears witness to that which He has revealed to you. He has sent it down with His knowledge, and the angels bear witness [as well].

[Qur'an: ٤:١٦٦]

O Slaves of Allah:

When the Mu'adhin says: “Hasten unto prayer, hasten unto success.” He reminds the people of the rank of prayer and invites them to make haste towards it, at that point the believer is encouraged to say: “La hawla wa la quwwata illa billah (There is no power and no strength except with Allah).”, which is a treasure from the treasures of Paradise. What this means is that the Muslim is someone who seeks his aid through the power of Allah, for he knows this is the most beloved action to Allah at this moment. This is evidenced by the Hadith narrated by Abdallah bin Masud (may Allah be pleased with him) who stated: I asked the

Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) "Which deed is the dearest to Allah?" He replied: **الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى وَفْتِهَا**

"To offer the prayers at their stated fixed times."

[Bukhari and Muslim]

For in prayer there is success in this life and the next, until the Last Day, as Allah says:

قَدْ أَفْلَحَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ * الَّذِينَ هُمْ فِي صَلَاتِهِمْ خَاشِعُونَ

Certainly will the believers have succeeded: They who are during their prayer humbly submissive

[Qur'an: ٢٣: ١-٢]

The meaning of 'hasten unto success' means 'hasten unto the way of guidance, the way towards Paradise, the way of everlasting bliss'. As Allah says:

وَالَّذِينَ هُمْ عَلَى صَلَوَاتِهِمْ يُحَافِظُونَ * أُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْوَارِثُونَ * الَّذِينَ يَرِثُونَ الْفِرْدَوْسَ هُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ

And they who carefully maintain their prayers - Those are the inheritors - Who will inherit al-Firdaus. They will abide therein eternally.

[Qur'an: ٢٣: ٩-١١]

At which point the Mu'adhin ends the Adhan by glorifying Allah through takbir and testifying to His oneness, saying:

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

So the believer repeats these phrases in a state of reverence and certainty, bringing to his heart the deep meaning of the Adhan. In such a manner he makes himself from the people of Paradise, for it is narrated by Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) who states:

"We were with the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) and Bilal stood up and gave the

call. When he fell silent the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

مَنْ قَالَ مِثْلَ هَذَا يَقِينًا دَخَلَ الْجَنَّةَ

'Whoever says the same as this with certainty, will enter Paradise.' [al-Nisai]

So O Allah make us of your 'call' lovers, and make us people who preserve and safeguard their prayers and bless us with your worship. 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, Lord of all the Worlds. 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 Oneness. 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, The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) is reported to have said:

قُلْ كَمَا يَقُولُونَ، فَإِذَا انْتَهَيْتَ فَسَلْ تُعْطَهُ

Say the same as they (the Mu'adhins) say, and when you come to the end, make a petition and that will be granted to you. [Sunan Abi Dawud]

In other words, ask for the best from this life and the next, for the doors of the Heavens are opened during the Adhan, as the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

فِيهِمَا الدُّعَاءُ وَذَكَرَ مِنْهُمَا عِنْدَ الْأَذَانِ سَاعَتَانِ تَفْتَحُ فِيهِمَا أَبْوَابُ السَّمَاءِ، وَيُسْتَجَابُ
بِالصَّلَاةِ

There are two times when the doors of Heavens are opened during which supplications are answered ... and he mentioned one of these two times as being ... During the Adhan for the prayer. [al-Tabarani]

Indeed, the believer who responds to the Mu'adhin and then asks Allah that He grant the 'Waslia (interceding privilege) and al-Fadhila (corresponding rank and eminence)' to His Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him), shall attain unto the intercession of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) thereby. For the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) himself stated: مَنْ قَالَ حِينَ

يَسْمَعُ النِّدَاءَ: اللَّهُمَّ رَبِّ هَذِهِ الدَّعْوَةُ التَّامَّةُ، وَالصَّلَاةُ الْقَائِمَةُ آتِ مُحَمَّدًا الْوَسِيلَةَ وَالْفَضِيلَةَ،
وَابْعَثْهُ مَقَامًا مَحْمُودًا الَّذِي وَعَدْتَهُ؛ حَلَّتْ لَهُ شَفَاعَتِي يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

**'Whoever says when he hears the call to the prayer:
"Allahumma Rabba hadhihid-da'watit-tammah was-
salatil-qa'imah, ati Muhammadanil-wasilata wal-
fadilah, wab'athhu maqaman mahmudanilladhi
wa'adtah (O Allah, Lord of this perfect call and the
prayer to be offered, grant Muhammad the privilege (of
intercession) and also the eminence, and resurrect him
to the praised position that You have promised)," my
intercession for him will be permitted on the Day of
Resurrection.'** [Bukhari]

From the way of the Prophet is that whenever he would hear the Adhan, he would hasten to the prayer. Ayesha (may Allah be pleased with her) narrates:

كَانَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ إِذَا سَمِعَ الْأَذَانَ خَرَجَ

**The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him)
whenever he would hear the adhan would head out
straight away (i.e. for prayer). [Bukhari]**

So what a blessing there is for someone who starts hastening to the congregational prayer as soon as he hears the Adhan and then sends his salutations upon the seal of the Prophets upon its completion, for he (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

إِذَا سَمِعْتُمُ الْمُؤَذِّنَ فَقُولُوا مِثْلَ مَا يَقُولُ ثُمَّ صَلُّوا عَلَيَّ، فَإِنَّهُ مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ بِهَا عَشْرًا

“If you hear the Mu'adhin then say as he says. Then send Salat upon me, because whoever sends Salat upon

me, Allah will send Salat upon him ten times due to it.”

[Muslim]

So let us be avid to pray in the first row, avid to get the great reward there is therein as the Prophet (peace and

blessings be upon him) said: **لَوْ يَعْلَمُ النَّاسُ مَا فِي النِّدَاءِ وَالصَّفِّ الْأَوَّلِ، ثُمَّ**

لَمْ يَجِدُوا إِلَّا أَنْ يَسْتَهْمُوا عَلَيْهِ لَأَسْتَهَمُوا

If the people were to know what excellence is there in the Adhan and in the first row, and they could not (get these opportunities) except by drawing lots, they would have definitely done that.

[Bukhari and Muslim]

In other words, if people know what is there in the reward of repeating and honouring the Adhan and being in the first row, from its goodness and Baraka, then they would hasten towards responding to the call of the Mu'adhin and go as early they can to the Masjid. 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.