

“Did you look at the water that you drink? ...”

(Qur'an ٥٦:٦٨)

First Sermon

All Praise be to Allah, the Disperser of clouds, He Who made water as a sign for the People of Profound Perception and Deep Discernment. I bear witness that there is no deity but Allah Alone, Who has no partner, Who encompasses all of His creation with His Generosity, Who provides them with water from the abundance of His Bounty.

And I bear witness that our Master and Prophet, Muhammad, is the Servant and Messenger of Allah. O Allah, send blessings, salutations and benedictions on our Master and Prophet, his family, all of his Companions, as well as those who follow them in goodness until the Day of Reckoning.

As to what follows, I counsel you, O Servants of Allah, and myself to have Taqwā of Allah (i.e. consciousness and self-restraining fear of Allah). Allah Almighty says:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ
لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ* الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمُ الْأَرْضَ فِرَاشًا وَالسَّمَاءَ بِنَاءً
وَأَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَخْرَجَ بِهِ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ رِزْقًا لَكُمْ

O Humankind, worship and serve your Lord Who created you and those who were before you; in order that you may learn Taqwa (i.e. consciousness and self-restraining fear of Allah). He who made the earth a habitat for you, and the sky a structure, and sends water down from the sky, and brings out fruits thereby, as a sustenance for you.

O Believers: Allah Most High says: (أَفَرَأَيْتُمُ الْمَاءَ الَّذِي تَشْرَبُونَ* أَأَنْتُمْ أَنْزَلْتُمُوهُ مِنْ الْمُزْنِ أَمْ نَحْنُ الْمُنزِلُونَ* لَوْ نَشَاءُ جَعَلْنَاهُ أُجَاجًا فَلَوْلَا تَشْكُرُونَ)

(Did you look at the water that you drink? Is it you who brought it down from the clouds or is it We Who brought it down? If We had so pleased, We could have made it salt (and unpalatable). So why would you not give thanks?)

In these noble verses, our Lord reminds of a great blessing, namely, the blessing of sweet and fresh water, whose saltiness and acidity Allah has removed and made it pure and palatable to those who drink it. Through water all things live, and from it originates all living beings. Allah Almighty says: (وَاللَّهُ خَلَقَ كُلَّ دَابَّةٍ مِنْ مَاءٍ)

(And Allah created every creature from water)

Allah Most High also says: **وَجَعَلْنَا مِنَ الْمَاءِ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ حَيٍّ**

(حي)

(and We made from water every living being)

No one knows the value and worth of water except he who lacks it. Lady Hajar, Mother of Prophet Isma‘il, (peace be upon both of them), when the little water she had with her had all been used up, she became thirsty and her son also became thirsty. She started looking at him (i.e. Ishmael) tossing in agony; She found that Mount Safa was the nearest mountain to her and ascended it. and did so seven times started looking at the valley keenly so that she might see somebody, but she could not see anybody. Then she descended from Safa and ran overcome by tiredness and fatigue until she reached Mount Marwa and ascended it. She repeated that (running between Safa and Marwa) seven times until Allah Most High honoured her with a spring of water, and she started scooping water from it into her water-skin, joyful with the sustenance of her Lord, and thankful to her Creator Who made the water a source of nourishment for her and her son, and a source of drinking for the pilgrims

(hujjaj) after them and Who has written for whosoever gives it in charity a great reward and recompense.

What also demonstrates the value of water is that Allah Almighty made it a cause for curing and healing Prophet Ayyub (peace be upon him). Allah Most High says:

(ارْكُضْ بِرِجْلِكَ هَذَا مُغْتَسَلٌ بَارِدٌ وَشَرَابٌ)

(We commanded him saying): “Stamp with your foot: here is (water) wherein to wash, cool and refreshing, and (water) to drink.)

So Ayyub (peace be upon him) struck with his foot on the ground, and a spring of water gushed forth from it. He washed himself with it, and the disease disappeared from him externally, and then he drank from it, and the disease disappeared from him internally.

O You who value the blessing of water: Indeed, people have a great need for water, which is why they are in competition with one another over it, and endure great suffering and hardship to have access to it. Here is Prophet Musa (peace be upon him), when he departed from Egypt and headed towards the watering (place) in Madyan, he found there a great multitude of different sorts of people,

each one of them wanting to access the water first before everyone else.

Allah Most High says: **وَلَمَّا وَرَدَ مَاءَ مَدْيَنَ وَجَدَ عَلَيْهِ أُمَّةً مِّنَ**

النَّاسِ يَسْقُونَ وَوَجَدَ مِنْ دُونِهِمُ امْرَأَتَيْنِ تَذُودَانِ قَالَ مَا خَطْبُكُمَا

قَالَتَا لَا نَسْقِي حَتَّى يُصْدِرَ الرِّعَاءُ وَأَبُونَا شَيْخٌ كَبِيرٌ

(When he arrived at the watering (place) in Midian, he found there a crowd of people watering their flocks, and he found apart from them two women holding their flocks back. He asked the women: "What is it that troubles you?" They said: "We cannot water our flocks until the shepherds take their flocks away, and our father is a very old man.)

So, Prophet Musa (peace be upon him) watered the flocks for the two women, and one of them attested to Prophet's Musa's strength and trustworthiness. Our sincere and true faith made the act of providing and giving water among the best of charitable acts. It was narrated that Sa'd ibn 'Ubadah said: "I said: 'O Messenger of Allah, what kind of charity is

best?' He said: «سَقِي الْمَاءِ»

('Providing drinking water.')

Allah Almighty appreciated and valued the man who gave a dog a drink of water, and so He forgave him and entered him into the Garden of Paradise.

O Believers: Our Lord has called upon us to reflect on the greatness and magnificence of the creation of water, how He sends down from the skies and the good and wholesome impact it has on the earth, on its inhabitants and all creatures on it. Allah Almighty says:

(هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً لَكُمْ مِنْهُ شَرَابٌ وَمِنْهُ شَجَرٌ فِيهِ تُسِيمُونَ* يُنْبِتُ لَكُمْ بِهِ الزَّرْعَ وَالزَّيْتُونَ وَالنَّخِيلَ وَالْأَعْنَابَ وَمِنْ كُلِّ الثَّمَرَاتِ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَةً لِقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ)

(He it is Who sends down water for you from the sky out of which you drink and out of which grow the plants on which you graze your cattle, and by virtue of which He causes crops and olives and date-palms and grapes and all kinds of fruit to grow for you. Surely in this there is a great Sign for those who reflect.)

Indeed, how water is formed and created and descends (to the earth) requires us to reflect and ponder, in order to realize the fine control, precise governing and perfect measuring that it points towards. Allah, the All-Knowing

and All-Aware, says: **وَهُوَ الَّذِي يُرْسِلُ الرِّيَّاحَ بُشْرًا بَيْنَ يَدَيْهِ**
رَحْمَتِهِ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا أَقْلَتِ سَحَابًا ثِقَالًا سُقْنَاهُ لِبَلَدٍ مَّيِّتٍ فَأَنْزَلْنَا بِهِ
الْمَاءَ

(And it is He Who sends forth winds as glad tidings in advance of His Mercy, and when they have carried a heavy-laden cloud We drive it to a dead land, then We send down rain from it.)

Allah Most High, uses what He has created such as the sun, seas, air, clouds amassing in the sky, for sending down water, such that He sends it to us as sweet and palatable water.

Allah Almighty says: **(وَأَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ الْمُعْصِرَاتِ مَاءً ثَجَّاجًا)**
(and We sent down from the rain-laden clouds abundant water)

so that valleys and river-beds flow with it and waste regions and barren lands benefit from it. Allah Almighty says:

(أَلَمْ تَرَ أَنَّ اللَّهَ أَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَسَلَكَهُ يَنَابِيعَ فِي
الْأَرْضِ)

(Do you not see that Allah sent down water from the sky, then made it flow on earth as springs and streams and rivers)

People are happy with the rain and rejoice at it, their hearts jubilant and their spirits cheerful. Allah Most High says:

(فَإِذَا أَصَابَ بِهِ مَنْ يَشَاءُ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ إِذَا هُمْ يَسْتَبْشِرُونَ)

(When He then causes the rain to fall on whomsoever of His servants He pleases, lo, they rejoice at it.)

This is because of their neediness for it and their inability to do without it. Therefore, it is only right that they should look after it, conserve and sustain it, because they are accountable to Allah for it. Allah Most High says:

(ثُمَّ لَتَسْأَلُنَّ يَوْمَئِذٍ عَنِ النَّعِيمِ)

(Then, on that Day, you will be called to account for all the enjoyment and pleasure (that you delighted in).)

The scholars say that water is of the enjoyment and pleasure that people will be called to account for on the Day of Resurrection. In this respect, the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) says: «إِنَّ أَوَّلَ مَا يُسْأَلُ عَنْهُ الْعَبْدُ

يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مِنَ النَّعِيمِ أَنْ يُقَالَ لَهُ: أَلَمْ نُصِحَّ لَكَ جِسْمَكَ وَنُرْوِيكَ مِنَ الْمَاءِ الْبَارِدِ»

(Indeed, the first of the enjoyment and pleasure that the servant will be asked about on the Day of

Judgment is that it will be said to him: ‘Did We not make your body healthy, and give you cool water to drink?’)

How beautiful it would be to thank Allah Almighty for the blessing of water, and praise Him for. The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) says:

«إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَيَرْضَى عَنِ الْعَبْدِ أَنْ يَأْكُلَ الْأَكْلَةَ فَيَحْمَدُهُ عَلَيْهَا، أَوْ يَشْرَبَ الشَّرْبَةَ فَيَحْمَدُهُ عَلَيْهَا»

(Indeed, Allah is pleased with the servant who eats a morsel of food, and thanks Him for it or sips a drink of water, and thanks Him for it.)

One of the supplications that the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) would make is:

«الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَطْعَمَنَا وَسَقَانَا»

(Praise be to Allah who has given us food and drink)

Part of showing gratitude for the blessing of water, is using it economically, consuming it wisely and rationing its use. Allah Most High says:

(وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ)

(and eat and drink without going to excesses. For Allah does not like those who go to excess and are wasteful.)

‘Abdullah ibn ‘Abbas (may Allah be pleased with both of them) says: Allah made lawful in this verse eating and drinking, as long as it is not wasteful and boastful.”

The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) provides us with a practical example in limiting ourselves only to the amount needed with respect to water. On the authority of Jabir ibn Abdullah (may Allah be pleased with him): The Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) used to take a bath with a sa‘ (of water) and perform ablution with a mudd (of water). A sa‘ equals two liters and a mudd half a liter. Let us ask ourselves how much water each of us consumes during taking a bath (ghusl) and ablution (wudu’)? Where are we in relation to the Guidance of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) who directed his Companions to rationalizing water usage, even if it is abundant and plentiful, for the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) one day passed by Sa’d (may Allah be pleased with him) and he was performing ablution, and said to him:

«مَا هَذَا السَّرْفُ؟»

‘What is this extravagance and wastefulness?’

Sa'd said: 'Can there be any extravagance and wastefulness in ablution?' He said: «نَعَمْ، وَإِنْ كُنْتَ عَلَى نَهْرٍ جَارٍ»

'Yes, even if you are on the bank of a flowing river.'

Therefore, we should be careful to waste even drops of water and conserve them (instead). You might be able to give a person water or water a plant or save an animal, for which we will have an immense reward and great recompense.

So O Allah make us from those who are grateful, value and appreciate the blessing of water, and who acknowledge Your Bounteous Beneficence, and guide us all to be obedient to You, to be obedient to Your Trustworthy Messenger, and to be obedient to those whom You have ordered us to be obedient to in Your Clear Book when You speak to us saying, and You are the Most Truthful of Speakers: (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.

I utter these words of mine and I seek Allah's Forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek his forgiveness, for He is the Oft-Forgiving, the Most-Merciful.

Second Sermon

All Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds, We praise Him for His Bounties and Tank Him for His Generosity and Beneficence. I bear witness that there is no deity but Allah Alone, Who has no partner, Who encompasses all of His creation with His Generosity, Who provides them with water from the abundance of His Bounty.

And I bear witness that our Master and Prophet, Muhammad, is the Servant and Messenger of Allah. O Allah, send blessings, salutations and benedictions on our Master and Prophet, his family, all of his Companions, as well as those who follow them in goodness until the Day of Reckoning.

As to what follows, I counsel you, O Servants of Allah, and myself to have Taqwā of Allah (i.e. consciousness and self-restraining fear of Allah) and I remind you that the average daily consumption of water per capita in the UAE has reached ๑๑. liters, which is much higher than the global average. The astute UAE leadership go to great lengths in saving and conserving fresh water, by desalinating it from the sea, extracting it from underground, constructing dams to preserve it and then conveying and then delivering it pure and clean to our homes and buildings without any effort, at

a nominal cost, do not compare the real cost. The purpose of which is for our society enjoy the blessing of water, and that water conservation and preservation is a shared responsibility among all members of society, for it is incumbent upon us to bear by rationalized consumption, economic use and utilizing modern means and technology to save and conserve it, whether in industry, agriculture, home amenities and facilities, personal and domestic use in our homes. Water is everyone's right, and in wasting it there is great harm to society. The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) said: «لَا ضَرَرَ وَلَا ضِرَارَ»

(Let there be no harm nor reciprocating harm)

So let us teach our sons and daughters the importance of water in our lives, and the best practices in using and consuming it, for that is part of showing gratitude to the blessings of Allah Most High Who says:

(وَأَشْكُرُوا نِعْمَتَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ كُنْتُمْ إِيَّاهُ تَعْبُدُونَ)

(and thank Allah for His bounteous blessing, if it is Him that you worship and serve.)

And with this, let us send our peace and blessings upon the seal of the Prophets and Messengers, as we have been commanded to by the Lord of all the Worlds for He states in His Manifest Book: **إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا**

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.

O Allah, bestow Your peace, blessings and grace upon our Master Muhammad, And upon his family and all of his companions, and be pleased with the Righteous Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, and with all the noble companions.

O Allah, we ask You of the good things the most abundant thereof, of knowledge the most beneficial thereof, and of good morals the most perfect thereof. We ask You to grant us happiness in this life and success in the Afterlife.

O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good, and grant success to the Vice-

President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, Forgive all of the Muslims, men and women, those of them who are alive and those of them who have passed away. O Allah, forgive our parents and their parents, and all our next of kin, as well as those who enjoy rights over us.

Bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed and Sheikh Maktoum, the UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to Your Gracious Mercy, and admit them out of Your Abundant Mercy into Your Spacious and Expansive Gardens of Paradise. O Allah, continue to bless the UAE with Your Bounties, Your Grace and Your Generosity, and bless its resources, good assets and its people, and let them always live in true happiness and in ever-increasing goodness.

O Allah we ask You Forgiveness and Reward for whoever built this mosque and for their parents, and for whomsoever performs righteousness and benevolence therein. O Allah forgive him who build a mosque for Your Sake, in which Your Hallowed Name is mentioned, or who pledged for Your Sake an endowment whose benefit returns back to an orphan, a sick. Person, a student of knowledge, or a poor person, and safeguard him, his family and his wealth, and

bless him in all that You have granted him and provided him with, and admit him into the Garden of Paradise, O You Who are the Most Merciful of those who show mercy.

O Allah, have mercy on the righteous martyrs and coalition forces, and admit them into Paradise with your elect, and bless their families with the reward for those who are patient, for You are the Most Gracious of the gracious.

O Allah, Aid the Arab coalition forces and spread peace and stability in the lands of the Muslims, and the entire world.

O Allah: Send us down rain and do not make us from those who despair.

O Allah, send down upon us abundant, wholesome rain, productive, plentiful and all encompassing.

O Allah, grant us rain from the blessings and bounties of the skies, and cultivate for us from the blessings and bounties of the earth.

O Allah: Give us in this life what is good; and in the next life what is good, and save us from the Fire, and admit us into the Gardens of Paradise with the righteous, O Most Majestic, Most Forgiving.

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

So stand up (inwardly and outwardly) for the prayer.