

The Virtues of Ibrahim (ﷺ)

First Khutbah

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ , نَحْمَدُهُ , وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ , وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا , مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ , وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

Verily, all praise is for Allah. We praise Him, we seek His assistance and we ask for His forgiveness. And we seek refuge in Him from the evils of our selves. Whoever Allah guides, none can misguide. Whoever He misguides, none can guide. And I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and I bear witness that Mohammad is His slave and messenger.

(يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ) [آل

عمران:102]

Al Imran 102 : O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam.

Oh People:

Allah the Exalted said in His Great Book:

إِنَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ كَانَ أُمَّةً [النحل:120].

[An Nahl 120] Verily, Ibrahim was an Ummah, or a nation

In this verse, Allah the Exalted described the Prophet Ibrahim (ﷺ) as an ummah. Let us look at some of the virtues of this Prophet whom Allah the Exalted called a nation on to himself.

Ibrahim (ﷺ) was born, most likely, in the land of Babel and it is the land of the Chaldeans as mentioned by the Muslim historians. His father's name was Aazar as Allah said:

وَإِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ لِأَبِيهِ آزَرَ [الأنعام:74]

Al Anam (74)- And when Abraham said to his father Azar"

Al Tabari (may Allah have mercy on him) said: the majority of the scholars among the predecessors said: Ibrahim was born in the era of Nimrood, a king who was an unjust and very oppressive tyrant. He depicted himself as a god to be worshipped and compelled the people in this regard. Ibrahim was born and lived within this corrupt environment in which shrines, idols and even people were worshipped. There were no traces of monotheism or tawhid because people had deviated at that time. Ibrahim was sent to pull them out of the darkness of ignorance and clutches of shirk into the light of the truth, justice, tawhid and Islam.

He was the first to be granted Rush'd (sound judgement) by Allah to help him bear the consequences of calling others to Allah.

وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ رُشْدَهُ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَكُنَّا بِهِ عَالِمِينَ [الأنبياء:51]

Al Anbiya 51- And We had certainly given Abraham his sound judgement before, and We were of him well-Knowing.

What does Rush'd mean? It is guiding the mind to the complete righteousness and the maximum goodness to the extent that it is righteousness that is not followed by corruption and goodness that is not followed by evil. This characterized all of Ibrahim's behaviors after that.

It is enough that Allah witnessed for him that he fulfilled his pact as in surah An Najm:

وإِبْرَاهِيمَ الَّذِي وَفَّى [سورة النجم 37]

An Najm 37 - And of Abraham, who fulfilled his obligations

That is, he fulfilled all that Allah commanded him patiently and accounting for the reward. And Allah described him:

إِنَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ لَحَلِيمٌ أَوَّاهٌ مُنِيبٌ [هود 75]

Hud 75 – Verily, Ibrahim was forbearing, used to invoke Allah with humility, and was repentant

And He the Exalted witnessed for him in another verse:

وَإِذِ ابْتَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ رَبُّهُ بِكَلِمَاتٍ فَأَتَمَّهُنَّ

And [mention, O Muhammad], when Abraham was tried by his Lord with commands that he fulfilled. [Al Baqarah 124]

This verse indicates that he did not hesitate and did not slacken in bearing the trial. Rather he fulfilled the responsibility given to him by his Lord in the best possible fashion as indicated in the verse:

قَالَ إِنِّي جَاعِلُكَ لِلنَّاسِ إِمَامًا [البقرة:124]

[Allah] said, "Indeed, I will make you a leader for the people." [Al Baqarah 124]

In this manner, high levels are only attained by striving. So whomsoever wishes to be a role model for people to follow, must strive to obey Allah and comply with His commands.

And an indication of his high rank is that Allah took him as a close friend as Allah said:

وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ دِينًا مِّمَّنْ أَسْلَمَ وَجْهَهُ لِلَّهِ وَهُوَ مُحْسِنٌ وَاتَّبَعَ مِلَّةَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ حَنِيفًا ۚ وَاتَّخَذَ اللَّهُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلًا النساء [125]

An Nisa 125- And who is better in religion than one who submits himself to Allah while being a doer of good and follows the religion of Abraham, inclining toward truth? And Allah took Abraham as an close friend.

And no other creation shared this attribute with him except our Prophet Mohammad (ﷺ)

فعن جُنْدُب بن عَبْدِ اللَّهِ الْبَجَلِي رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ قَالَ: سَمِعْتُ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَبْلَ أَنْ يَمُوتَ بِخَمْسٍ وَهُوَ يَقُولُ: إِنِّي أَبْرَأُ إِلَى اللَّهِ أَنْ يَكُونَ لِي مِنْكُمْ خَلِيلٌ , فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى قَدْ اتَّخَذَنِي خَلِيلًا , كَمَا اتَّخَذَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلًا , وَلَوْ كُنْتُ مُتَّخِذًا مِنْ أُمَّتِي خَلِيلًا لَاتَّخَذْتُ أَبَا بَكْرٍ خَلِيلًا [رواه مسلم]

Jundub reported: I heard from the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) five days before his death and he said: I stand acquitted before Allah that I took any one of you as friend, for Allah has taken me as His friend, as he took Ibrahim as His friend. Had I taken any one of my Ummah as a friend, I would have taken Abu Bakr as a friend. [Muslim]

Next, Ibrahim attained a high praise from Allah when He decreed that he is an Ummah onto himself:

إِنَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ كَانَ أُمَّةً قَانِتًا لِلَّهِ حَنِيفًا وَلَمْ يَكُ مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ . شَاكِرًا لِأَنْعُمِهِ اجْتَبَاهُ
وَهَدَاهُ إِلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ . وَآتَيْنَاهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَإِنَّهُ فِي الْآخِرَةِ لَمِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ
[النحل: 120-122].

[An Nahl 120-122] 120 Verily, Ibrahim was an Ummah, or a nation, obedient to Allah, Hanifa, and he was not one of those who associate others with Allah. 121 He was grateful for His favors. Allah chose him and guided him to a straight path. 122 And We gave him good in this world, and indeed, in the Hereafter he will be among the righteous.

In these verses, Allah the Exalted described Ibrahim having all types of good righteous qualities, praiseworthy traits and virtuous attributes. Allah described him as an ummah, meaning an aggregate of good and a leader who is followed and emulated in obedience of Allah. And Allah described him as devoutly obedient to Him. Safeguarding His commands and prohibitions. Allah described him as Hanifah, that is turning away from the incorrect beliefs to the true religion. Also, Allah described him as free from shirk. Additionally, Allah described him as acknowledging and being thankful for His favors. And Allah described him as among those whom He selected to carry His message. And Allah described him as among those whom were guided to the straight path. And Allah described him as among those who are pleased in this life and the next.

Likewise, Allah the Exalted made him among the Messengers with firm resolve so that he could bear the difficulty that he encountered in the way of calling to Allah as stated in the Quran:

وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِنَ النَّبِيِّينَ مِيثَاقَهُمْ وَمِنْكَ وَمِنْ نُوحٍ وَإِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمُوسَى وَعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ
وَأَخَذْنَا مِنْهُم مِّيثَاقًا غَلِيظًا [الأحزاب 7]

Al Ahzab 7 - And [mention, O Muhammad], when We took from the prophets their covenant and from you and from Noah and Abraham and Moses and Jesus, the son of Mary; and We took from them a solemn covenant.

And the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) informed us of Prophet Ibrahim's virtues in a number of Hadith:

حَكَى أَنَسُ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَنَّ رَجُلًا جَاءَ إِلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَ: يَا خَيْرَ
الْبَرِيَّةِ

Anas bin Malik narrated that: A man said to the Prophet (ﷺ): "O best of creation!" So he (ﷺ) said: "That is Ibrahim."

Meaning this description of "best of creation" is for Ibrahim. The Prophet (ﷺ) said this in humbleness to his Lord and in respect for Ibrahim. Otherwise, our Prophet (ﷺ) is superior as he (ﷺ) said: "أَنَا سَيِّدُ وَلَدِ آدَمَ":

I am the leader of the sons of Adam

He (ﷺ) did not say it out of pride or to disrespect those who came before him. Rather, he (ﷺ) said it to explain as he (ﷺ) was commanded to clarify and inform. For this reason he (ﷺ) said "no bragging" to dispel any misunderstandings.

It related in Al Bukhari and Muslim that Ibn Abbas narrated that the Prophet (ﷺ) said: "The first one to be clothed on the Day of Judgement will be Ibrahim." The scholars mentioned that Ibrahim being the first one to be clothed on the Day of Judgement is because there is no one from those before or after who were more fearful of Allah than him. Accordingly, he will be clothed to reassure his heart. And it could possibly be because he was the first to wear pants when he prayed out of modesty. He did as he was commanded and he was rewarded for that by being the first person to be clothed on the day of judgement. And it could possibly be because the ones who threw him in the fire removed his clothing in front of the people. For this, he was recompensed by being the first to be clothed on the day of judgement in front of all.

And during the trip of Al Isra and Al Miraj the Prophet (ﷺ) met Ibrahim in the seventh heaven and he was reclining his back against the Bait-ul-Ma'mur (the Frequent House) as Narrated by Anas that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

ثُمَّ عَرَجَ إِلَى السَّمَاءِ السَّابِعَةِ فَاسْتَفْتَحَ جِبْرِيلُ فَقِيلَ: مَنْ هَذَا ، قَالَ: جِبْرِيلُ ، قِيلَ: وَمَنْ مَعَكَ، قَالَ: مُحَمَّدٌ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ، قِيلَ: وَقَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ، قَالَ: قَدْ بُعِثَ إِلَيْهِ. فَفُتِحَ لَنَا فَإِذَا أَنَا بِإِبْرَاهِيمَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مُسْنِدًا ظَهْرَهُ إِلَى الْبَيْتِ الْمَعْمُورِ وَإِذَا هُوَ يَدْخُلُهُ كُلُّ يَوْمٍ سَبْعُونَ أَلْفَ مَلَكٍ لَا يَعُودُونَ إِلَيْهِ [رواه مسلم].

Then I was taken up to the seventh heaven. Gabriel asked the (gate) to be opened. It was said: Who is he? He said: Gabriel It was said. Who is with thee? He replied: Muhammad (ﷺ) It was

said: Has he been sent for? He replied: He has indeed been sent for. (The gate) was opened for us and there I found Ibrahim reclining against the Bait-ul-Ma'mur and there enter into it seventy thousand angels every day, never to visit again. [Muslim] Also, he is the only Prophet that we mention in the tashahud of every prayer when we say:

اللهم صل على محمد وعلى آل محمد كما صليت على إبراهيم وعلى آل إبراهيم إنك حميد مجيد، اللهم بارك على محمد وعلى آل محمد كما باركت على إبراهيم وعلى آل إبراهيم إنك حميد مجيد

O Allah, exalt the mention of Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as you exalted the mention of Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are Praised and Glorious. O Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as You blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim. You are Praised and Glorious

It is said that is because he was the only Prophet to convey a greeting and an important message to the ummah of Mohammad (ﷺ) during the trip of Isra and Miraj. The Prophet (ﷺ) said:

لقيت إبراهيم ليلة أسرى بي فقال: يا محمد! أقرئ أمتك مني السلام وأخبرهم أن الجنة طيبة التربة عذبة الماء، وأنها قيعان، وأن غراسها سبحان الله والحمد لله ولا إله إلا الله والله أكبر

"I met Ibrahim (ﷺ) on the Night of Ascension (Al-Asra), and he said to me: 'O Muhammad, convey my greetings to your Ummah, and tell them that Jannah has a vast plain of pure soil and sweet

water. It is a plain levelled land. The plants grow there by uttering: Subhan-Allah, Al-hamdu lillah, La ilaha illallah and Allahu Akbar."

The Prophet (ﷺ) used to love Ibrahim greatly to the point that he named his son after him:

إنه ولد لي الليلة غلام فسميته باسم أبي إبراهيم

A boy was born to me at night and I named him with the name of his father Ibrahim.

And Ibrahim (ﷺ) was the closest in resemblance to the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) as Jabir bin Abdallah (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said:

عُرِضَ عَلَيَّ الْأَنْبِيَاءُ فَإِذَا مُوسَى ضَرْبُ مَنْ الرِّجَالِ كَأَنَّهُ مِنْ رِجَالِ شَنْوَعَةٍ وَرَأَيْتُ عِيسَى ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فَإِذَا أَقْرَبُ مَنْ رَأَيْتُ بِهِ شَبَهًا عُرْوَةُ بْنُ مَسْعُودٍ، وَرَأَيْتُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ صَلَوَاتُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ فَإِذَا أَقْرَبُ مَنْ رَأَيْتُ بِهِ شَبَهًا صَاحِبُكُمْ -يَعْنِي نَفْسَهُ-، وَرَأَيْتُ جِبْرِيلَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ فَإِذَا أَقْرَبُ مَنْ رَأَيْتُ بِهِ شَبَهًا دَحِيَّةُ

"The Prophets were shown to me. I saw Musa (ﷺ), he resembles the people from the tribe of Shanu'ah. I saw Esa (ﷺ). From among all those whom I have seen, he somewhat resembled Urwah bin Masud. I saw Ibrahim (ﷺ). From among all those that I have seen, I resemble him. In the same manner I saw Jibreel (Alahi asalaam). From among all those whom I have seen, he most resembles Dahyah."

, or a fifth, or a third, or a half is recorded for him. [Abu Dawood]

أَقُولُ مَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ
الرَّحِيمُ

I say what you have heard and I seek forgiveness from Allah for me and you from every sin. So seek forgives from Him, Verily He is Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ , وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

All praise is to Allah, and peace and blessings upon the Messenger of Allah, and I bear witness that there is no deity other than Allah and I bear witness that Mohammad is His slave and messenger.

Oh Muslims:

After we highlighted some of the virtues of the father of the Prophets, the leader of those with pure faith, the Prophet Ibrahim (عليه السلام) it is necessary for us to know that the high status and rank that he attained was because of the great effort that he exerted in spreading the message of tawhid, the perfect sincerity in conveying the message from his Lord and his full submission to the commands of his Creator.

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى نَبِيِّكُمْ

We ask Allah to bestow upon us the love of our Prophet (ﷺ) and the love of Ibrahim (عليه السلام) and the love of all the Prophets and Messengers and the righteous people and to resurrect us with them and to make our place close to them in the everlasting gardens of paradise.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ
وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ
أَذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا يَزِدْكُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا يُغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا يَجْعَلْ
لَكُمْ مِنْ أَمْرِكُمْ مَخْرَجًا ، وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ

Servants of Allah. Indeed, Allah orders justice and good conduct and giving to relatives and forbids immorality and bad conduct and oppression. He admonishes you that perhaps you will be reminded. Remember Allah, the Great - He will remember you. Thank Him for His favors - He will increase you therein. And seek forgiveness from Him - He will forgive you. And be conscious of Him - He will provide you a way out of difficult matters. And, establish the prayer.