Believe in Allah and be Steadfast

First Khutbah

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ , نَحْمَدُهُ , وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ , وَنَعُوذُ بِاللهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا , مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ , وَمَنْ يُضْلِلْ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَه إِلَا اللهُ 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 servant and messenger.

(يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ) [آل عمر ان:102]

Al Imran(3) 102 : O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam.

Oh Believers:

الحَمْدُ لله الَّذِي لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الأَرْضِ وَلَهُ الحَمْدُ فِي الآخِرَةِ وَهُوَ الحَكِيمُ الخَبِيرُ * يَعْلَمُ مَا يَلِجُ فِي الأَرْضِ وَمَا يَخْرُجُ مِنْهَا وَمَا يَنْزِلُ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ وَمَا يَعْرُجُ فِيهَا وَهُوَ الرَّحِيمُ الغَفُورُ

Saba (32) 1-2: (1) [All] praise is [due] to Allah, to whom belongs whatever is in the heavens and whatever is in the earth, and to Him belongs [all] praise in the Hereafter. And He is the Wise, the Aware. (2) He knows what penetrates into the earth and what emerges from it and what

descends from the heaven and what ascends therein. And He is the Merciful, the Forgiving.

We praise Him for His abundant blessings and great gifts. He created us from a despised water. Then he honored us and He guided us and made us Muslims.

Allah said:

هُوَ سَمَّاكُمُ المُسْلِمِينَ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَفِي هَذَا لِيَكُونَ الرَّسُولُ شَهِيدًا عَلَيْكُمْ وَتَكُونُوا شُهَدَاءَ عَلَى النَّاسِ

Al Hajj (22) 78: He [i.e., Allah] named you "Muslims" before [in former scriptures] and in this [revelation] that the Messenger may be a witness over you and you may be witnesses over the people.

The Prophet ﷺ was commanded by Allah to be steadfast in spite of his steadfastness. As a means of confirming and urging towards it. And calling to its necessity and adhering to it and persisting in it:

فَاسْتَقِمْ كَمَا أُمِرْتَ وَمَنْ تَابَ مَعَكَ وَلَا تَطْغَوْا

Hud (11) 112: So remain on a right course as you have been commanded, [you] and those who have turned back with you [to Allah], and do not transgress. Indeed, He is Seeing of what you do.

I advise you and myself to be conscious of Allah the Exalted for in it is blessing and it is good in this world and the next:

تلك الجنة التي نورث من عبادنا من كان تقيا

Maryam (19) 63: That is Paradise, which We give as inheritance to those of Our servants who were conscious of Allah.

Oh people:

This is a great Hadith from the comprehensiveness and conciseness of speech. And from the important knowledge. And from the great advice because the one giving the advice is the most knowledgeable about Allah the Exalted and the most genuine and sincere in advising His servants. And

the advice came in the form of a question and answer. And it was not like other questions. It was related in the Hadith of Sufyaan bin Abdallah Athaqafee (may Allah be pleased with him) who said I stated:

قُلْ لِي فِي الْإِسْلَامِ قَوْلًا لَا أَسْأَلُ عنه أَحَدًا بَعْدَكَ -وفِي رواية: غَيْرَكَ- قال: "قُلْ: آمَنْتُ بِالله فَاسْتَقِمْ". وفي رواية: "ثم استقم

O Messenger of Allah, tell me something about al-Islam which I can ask of no one after you" and in another narration "no one but you". He said, "Say I believe in Allah — and be steadfast." And in another narration "then be steadfast". [Muslim 38]

So reflect on his exceptional question. And the strength of his eloquence. When he asked for something that he could hold on to and adhere to. And suffice from asking after him . And this is from the strength of firmness and determination. And adhering to what benefits and staying on it. So the Prophet advised him with the Iman (faith) and Steadfastness. He said:

"Say: I believe in Allah — and be steadfast." And in a narration for adDaaramee he said:

اتَّقِ الله ثُمَّ اسْتَقِمْ

"Be conscious of Allah then be steadfast"

And this Prophetic advice is learned from the words of Allah the Exalted:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا

Fussilat (41) 30: Indeed, those who have said, "Our Lord is Allah" and then remain steadfast

Adorning with Iman and different types of righteous deeds is the pursuit of the Muslims. Some of them do plenty, hastening with the good deeds by safeguarding the obligations and following them with voluntary acts. And performing plenty of deeds seeking to get closer to Allah. And distancing themselves from the prohibitions. And being watchful of the disliked matters. And minimizing the extra allowable matters. And there are those

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who are frugal and limit themselves to the obligatory deeds. And a few voluntary acts. With avoiding the major and destructive sins. And there are those who wrong themselves by neglecting some of the obligatory. And transgressing themselves into the prohibited.

But continuity in Iman (faith) and righteous deeds is a great aim. And a great station that is attained by selected servants of Allah the Exalted. The ones chosen by Allah so he helped them against their devils and their inner selves that command evil.

As the souls change and the hearts alternate and their iman (faith) and righteous deeds increase and decrease. And the waves of change that sweep and afflict people in their religion in these times are too many to be counted. To the point that changing is the slogan that is raised by whoever wishes to divert from the Shariah (Divine Laws). And something that is called to when assailing it or diverting the people from its true nature. And for this reason the Prophet add did not suffice with calling to Iman alone. And indeed he followed it by calling to being steadfast on it. So he said to him: "then be steadfast".

Ibn Rajab (may Allah have mercy on him) said: " And the steadfastness is the way to the straight path. And it is the correct religion without deviations right or left. And that includes performing all acts of obedience apparent and hidden. And leaving all the prohibitions. And this advice combines all the qualities of the religion"

Through the steadfastness of the hearts, the limbs attain steadfastness. And the heart attains steadfastness through the steadfastness of the tongue. Because the tongue is the instrument of remembrance and vain talk. So steadfastness in remembrance is a cause for steadfastness of the heart and limbs. And if it is deviates to vain talk and falsehood the heart corrupts and then the limbs corrupt. And it was related by Anas (may Allah be pleased with him) who said: The Messenger of Allah 🏶 said:

لاَ يَسْتَقِيمُ إِيمَانُ عَبْدٍ حتى يَسْتَقِيمَ قَلْبُهُ، وَلاَ يَسْتَقِيمُ قَلْبُهُ حتى يَسْتَقِيمَ لِسَانُهُ

A servant's Iman (faith) is not steadfast until his heart is steadfast. And his heart is not steadfast until his tongue is steadfast. [Ahmad 13048] And the gravest matter that turns away from steadfastness is the desires that lead to transgression. And for this reason Allah the Exalted paired the command to be steadfast with the prohibition of following the desire:

فَاسْتَقِمْ كَمَا أُمِرْتَ وَمَنْ تَابَ مَعَكَ وَلَا تَطْغَوْا

Hud (11) 112: So remain steadfast as you have been commanded, [you] and those who have turned back with you [to Allah], and do not transgress. Indeed, He is Seeing of what you do.

And in another verse:

فَلِذَلِكَ فَادْعُ وَاسْتَقِمْ كَمَا أُمِرْتَ وَلَا تَتَّبِعْ أَهْوَاءَهُمْ

As-Shurra (42) 15: So to that [religion of Allah] invite, [O Muḥammad], and remain steadfast as you are commanded and do not follow their desires.

And one does not give up steadfastness and follow people's desires and agree with what they want, except for a lapse within himself seeking a worldly gain from it.

And because steadfastness on religion to the end of one's life is heavy on the souls that are wired to love the inclinations and base desires, there is a great reward for the steadfast.

And their reward is big. Allah the Exalted secured them from fear on the day of apprehension and gave them tidings of paradise. And made the angels their allies:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا تَتَنَزَّلُ عَلَيْهِمُ المَلَابِكَةُ أَلَّا تَخَافُوا وَلَا تَحْزَنُوا وَأَبْشِرُوا بِالجَنَّةِ الَّتِي كُنْتُمْ تُوعَدُونَ * نَحْنُ أَوْلِيَاؤُكُمْ فِي الحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَفِي الآخِرَةِ وَلَكُمْ فِيهَا مَا تَشْتَهِي أَنْفُسُكُمْ وَلَكُمْ فِيهَا مَا تَدَّعُونَ

Fussilat (41) 30-31: (30) Indeed, those who have said, "Our Lord is Allah" and then remained steadfast - the angels will descend upon them, [saying], "Do not fear and do not grieve but receive good tidings of Paradise, which you were promised. (31) We [angels] were your allies in worldly life and [are so] in the Hereafter. And you will have therein whatever your souls desire, and you will have therein whatever you request [or wish]

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

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 people:

Behavioral experts say that steadfastness is not tolerated except by the outstanding because it involves departing from traditions. And leaving

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formalities and customs. And standing before the hands of Allah on the genuine truth. And for this reason the Prophet ﷺ said:

استقيموا ولن تحصوا

Be steadfast and you will not be able to completely do it [Ahmad 22378, Ibn Majah 226]

And because man weakens and is overcome by his desires and the shaytan, he comes short in carrying out the advice of Allah and the advice of the Messenger to adhere to steadfastness. So he should strive against his inner self. And defeat the shaytan and return to steadfastness. And arm himself with repentance to expiate his shortcomings in this regard.

إِلَهُكُمْ إِلَهُ وَاحِدٌ فَاسْتَقِيمُوا إِلَيْهِ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ

Fussilat (41) 6: Your god is but one God; so take a straight course to Him and seek His forgiveness.

And the Messenger of Allah 🏙 said:

إِنَّه لَيُغَانُ علَى قَلْبِي، وإنِّي لأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ، في اليَومِ مِئَةَ مَرَّةٍ.

Inattentiveness comes to my heart and I repent to Allah one hundred times a day. [Muslim 2702]

We ask Allah to grant us steadfastness on the religion and staying on the truth. And amassing more of the enduring good deeds. Indeed He is the Hearing, Answering.

I conclude with this and send prayers of blessings and peace upon your Prophet as your Lord commanded:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَا بِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيَّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

Al Ahzaab (33) 56: 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.

اللَّهُمَّ اهْدِنا فِيمَنْ هَدَيْتَ وَعَافِنا فِيمَنْ عَافَيْتَ وَتَوَلَّنا فِيمَنْ تَوَلَّيْتَ وَبَارِكْ لنا فِيمَا أَعْطَيْتَ وَقِنا شَرَّ مَا قَضَيْتَ إِنَّكَ تَقْضِى وَلاَ يُقْضَى عَلَيْكَ وَإِنَّهُ لاَ يَذِلُّ مَنْ وَالَيْتَ تَبَارَكْتَ رَبَّنَا وَتَعَالَيْتَ

O Allah, guide us with those whom You have guided, grant us well-being among those You have granted well-being, be an ally to us along with those whom You are an ally to, and bless what You have bestowed upon us, and save us from the evil of what You have decreed. For verily You decree and none can decree over You. He whom You support can never be humiliated. Glory is to You, our Lord, You are Blessed and Exalted.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنَ الْخَيْرِ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الشَّرِ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ خَيْرِ مَا سَأَلَكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ الجُنَّة وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّ عَمَلِ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ عَمْ لَكَ مَنْ الْتَعْرَبِ عَنْهُ مَا لَكَهُ مَنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ

O Allah, We ask You for all that is good, in this world and in the Hereafter, what we know and what we do not know. O Allah, we seek refuge with You from all evil, in this world and in the Hereafter, what we know and what we do not know. O Allah, we ask You for the good that Your servant and Prophet has asked You for, and we seek refuge with You from the evil from which Your servant and Prophet sought refuge. O Allah, we ask You

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for Paradise and for that which brings one closer to it, in word and deed, and we seek refuge in You from Hell and from that which brings one closer to it, in word and deed. And we ask You to make every decree that You decree concerning us good

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.