

Safeguarding Religion

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 servant and messenger.

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

عمران: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 People:

All praise is due to Allah and we do not worship except Him, sincere to Him in religion. His Prophet Mohammad ﷺ safeguarded the tawhid (oneness of Allah) and closed off every path leading to association with Allah. And through him ﷺ , Allah manifested His religion.

When man goes astray from the path of Allah, he flounders in the chaos and drowns in the seas of ignorance and association with Allah. Allah said:

وَلَا تَكُونُوا مِنَ الْمُشْرِكِينَ [31] مِنَ الَّذِينَ فَرَّقُوا دِينَهُمْ وَكَانُوا شِيعًا كُلُّ حِزْبٍ بِمَا لَدَيْهِمْ
فَرِحُونَ-الروم:32

Ar Room (30) 31-32: (31) **And do not be of those who associate others with Allah (32) [Or] of those who have divided their religion and become sects, every faction rejoicing in what it has.**

And human minds are incapable of perceiving the path of righteousness on their own. Or finding the way to guidance by themselves. Misery is not lifted from the souls, and turbulence does not leave the minds and unease is not removed from the chest until the insights have the conviction of faith. And the minds accept that He, Glory be to Him, is Allah, the One, the Only, the Self-Sufficient, the Mighty, the Rectifier, the Superior and to Him is the dominion entirely. And in His hand is the whole matter. And to Him return all affairs. Allah said:

بَلَىٰ مَنْ أَسْلَمَ وَجْهَهُ لِلَّهِ وَهُوَ مُحْسِنٌ فَلَهُ أَجْرُهُ عِنْدَ رَبِّهِ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ-
البقرة:112

Al Baqarah (2) 112: **Yes, whoever submits his face [i.e., self] in Islam to Allah while being a doer of good will have his reward with his Lord. And no fear will there be concerning them, nor will they grieve.**

Indeed submitting to Allah and singling Him out for worship elevates the manners and thinking of the believer. And saves him from the deviation of the heart, the misguidance of desires, the darkness of ignorance, and the delusions of superstition and saves him from fakes and charlatans.

Pure and sincere tawhid (Oneness of Allah) protects one from uncontrolled and unchecked actions. Tawhid (Oneness of Allah) is complete servitude to Him alone, Glory be to Him. And realization of the phrase of truth:

There is rightly worshipped deity other than Allah Mohammad is the Messenger of Allah ﷺ

Through its utterance, meaning and performing deeds in accordance with it. Upon it, a Muslim lives his whole life - his prayer, his sacrifice, his life and his death.

Tawhid (Oneness of Allah) is the first and the last of religion. And its exterior and interior. The evidences were established for it. And the witnesses called for it. And the verses and signs clarified it. And the proofs have proven it. Upon it, the qibla (prayer direction) was set. And upon it the religion was built. Through it, people are divided into guided and misguided and happy and wretched.

The Quran gives great attention to tawhid (Oneness of Allah) of Allah. For it is the greatest matter. And the primary mission of the messengers. Mankind are commanded to tawhid (Oneness of Allah) so that they know it, believe in it and embrace it. Allah said:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ-البقرة:21

Al Baqarah (2) 21: O mankind, worship your Lord, who created you and those before you, that you may become righteous

And He addressed the believers so that they increase in faith. And to be assured in attaining tawhid (Oneness of Allah). And to beware of deficiencies or flaws in it. Allah said:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا آمِنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ وَالْكِتَابِ الَّذِي نَزَّلَ عَلَىٰ رَسُولِهِ وَالْكِتَابِ الَّذِي

أَنْزَلَ مِنْ قَبْلُ-النساء:136

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An Nisa (4) 136: **O you who have believed, believe in Allah and His Messenger and the Book that He sent down upon His Messenger and the Scripture which He sent down before.**

Rather, Allah addressed His prophets and messengers to shun association with Him and turn away from it. Allah Almighty said:

وَإِذْ بَوَّأْنَا لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ مَكَانَ الْبَيْتِ أَنْ لَا تُشْرِكْ بِي شَيْئًا وَطَهِّرْ بَيْتِيَ لِلطَّائِفِينَ وَالْقَائِمِينَ وَالرُّكَّعِ
السُّجُودِ-الحج:26

Al Hajj (22) 26: **And [mention, O Muḥammad], when We designated for Abraham the site of the House, [saying], "Do not associate anything with Me and purify My House for those who perform tawaf and those who stand [in prayer] and those who bow and prostrate.**

And Allah Almighty said:

وَوَصَّى بِهَا إِبْرَاهِيمُ بَنِيهِ وَيَعْقُوبُ يَا بَنِيَّ إِنَّ اللَّهَ اصْطَفَى لَكُمُ الدِّينَ فَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ
مُسْلِمُونَ [132] أَمْ كُنْتُمْ شُهَدَاءَ إِذْ حَضَرَ يَعْقُوبَ الْمَوْتُ إِذْ قَالَ لِبَنِيهِ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ مِن بَعْدِي
قَالُوا نَعْبُدُ إِلَهَكَ وَإِلَهَ آبَائِكَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَإِسْمَاعِيلَ وَإِسْحَاقَ إِلَهًا وَاحِدًا وَنَحْنُ لَهُ
مُسْلِمُونَ-البقرة:133

Al Baqarah (2) 132-133: **(132) And Abraham instructed his sons [to do the same] and [so did] Jacob, [saying], "O my sons, indeed Allah has chosen for you this religion, so do not die except while you are Muslims." (133) Or were you witnesses when death approached Jacob, when he said to his sons, "What will you worship after me?" They said, "We will worship your God and the God of your fathers, Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac - one God. And we are Muslims [in submission] to Him."**

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As for the sunnah, the mission of the Messenger of Allah ﷺ and his message and his biography from its beginning to its end, while in Makkah and in while Madinah, while in residency and while traveling was all in tawhid (Oneness of Allah) from the time that he was commanded to warn all in Surat Al-Muddathir:

قُمْ فَأَنْذِرْ ﴿٢﴾

Al Mudathir (74) 2: **Arise and warn**

To when he was commanded to warn his clan:

فَلَا تَدْعُ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ فَتَكُونَ مِنَ الْمُعَذَّبِينَ [213] وَأَنْذِرْ عَشِيرَتَكَ الْأَقْرَبِينَ

[الشعراء: 214]

Al Shurah (26) 213-214: **(213) So do not invoke with Allah another deity and [thus] be among the punished. (214) And warn, [O Muhammad], your closest kindred.**

To when he was commanded to proclaim the call:

إِلَى الْأَمْرِ بِالصِّدْقِ بِالذِّعْوَةِ (فَاصْدَعْ بِمَا تُؤْمَرُ وَأَعْرِضْ عَنِ الْمُشْرِكِينَ) [الحجر: 94]

Al Hija (15) 94: **Then declare what you are commanded and turn away from those who ascribe partners to Allah.**

Then after the command to emigrate:

لَا تَحْزَنْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَنَا-التوبة: 40

At Tawbah (9) 40: **Do not grieve; indeed Allah is with us.**

Till he was given permission to strive:

Al Hajj (22) 40: **They are those who have been expelled from their homes for no reason other than proclaiming: "Our Lord is Allah."**

To the liberation of Makkah:

وَقُلْ جَاءَ الْحَقُّ وَزَهَقَ الْبَاطِلُ -الإسراء: 81

Al Isra 81: **And say, "Truth has come, and falsehood has departed.**

Until the notification that his term was near:

فَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ وَاسْتَغْفِرْهُ -النصر: 3

An Nasr (110) 3: **Then exalt [Him] with praise of your Lord and ask forgiveness of Him.**

And the Prophet ﷺ informed in the last moments of his life that the previous nations were cursed for taking the graves of their prophets as places of worship.

Not a single period of those periods was devoid of declaring tawhid (Oneness of Allah) and its proofs and opposing association with Allah and its manifestations. And nearly the entire mission was limited to that. For he ﷺ did not stop affirming tawhid (Divine Oneness) while he was alone, nor did he while his call was discreet, nor did he turn away from it while he was in the path of emigration and the enemy was intensely pursuing him, nor did he stop talking about it and commanding to it visibly in Madinah among his supporters and aides, nor did he close the doors of talking about it after the liberation of Makkah. This is his based on his biography and authentic hadiths. And the Quran supports all of that.

With great regret, for many people, deficiencies and shortcomings in tawhid (Oneness of Allah) are the most subtle of sins, even though tawhid is the most important matter. And if rulings are made clear, common

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Muslims disavow these deficiencies in tawhid and become completely angry if they are attributed to them. And they have a right to become angry. But due to its subtlety, they fall into deficiencies in tawhid unknowingly.

And reflect upon the words of the Prophet ﷺ:

الشرك في أمّتي أخفى من ديب النمل-الأدب المفرد

Shirk (associating with Allah) is more hidden in my ummah (nation) than the movement of the ants. [Al-Adab Al-Mufrad 716]

Rather, he ﷺ informed:

لا تقوم الساعة حتى تلحق قبائل من أمّتي بالمشركين ، و حتى تُعبَد الأوثانُ

The Hour will not be established until people from my ummah (nation) follow the polytheists, and until idols are worshiped. [Sahih Jami' 7418]

How can there not be fear, when the Messenger ﷺ addressed his companions, may Allah be pleased with them, the chosen elite of the nation:

أخوف ما أخاف عليكم الشرك الأصغر

What I fear most for you is the minor shirk (association with Allah)
[Ahmed 23680]

This matter is dangerous and precise. Hidden shirk (association with Allah) in love, deification, submission and humility. How can the one giving his love, humility, submission and obedience to other than Allah realize tawhid (oneness of Allah) ?

Allah Almighty said:

وَإِنْ أَطَعْتُمُوهُمْ إِنَّكُمْ لَمُشْرِكُونَ [الأنعام:121]

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Al Anam (6) 121: : **And if you were to obey them, indeed, you would be associators [of others with Him].**

And Allah said:

اتَّخَذُوا أَحْبَارَهُمْ وَرُهَبَانَهُمْ أَرْبَابًا مِّن دُونِ اللَّهِ-التوبة:31

At Tawbah (9) 31: **They have taken their scholars and monks as lords besides Allah**

And there is association in hope and fear. And association in striving and sacrifice. And association in attributing causes. And association in benefit and harm.

The blessing of tawhid (Oneness of Allah) takes the heart out the darkness of shirk (association with Allah) and its ignorance to the light of Iman (faith) in Allah and worshipping Him alone. A person emerges from loss, confusion, misguidance, and straying to knowledge, certainty, tranquility, contentment, and guidance. Allah said:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ كُلُّ شَيْءٍ هَالِكٌ إِلَّا وَجْهَهُ لَهُ الْحُكْمُ وَإِلَيْهِ تُرْجَعُونَ-القصص:88

Al Qassas (28) 88: **And do not invoke with Allah another deity. There is no deity except Him. Everything will be destroyed except His Face. His is the judgement, and to Him you will be returned.**

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، وَ أَشْهَدُ 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 people:

Realizing tawhid (Oneness of Allah) requires constant, continuous, heartfelt vigilance, that dispels every thought diminishing one's servitude to his Lord. And repels every satanic whisper in every movement and action, so that they are purely for the sake of Allah alone, without all besides Him.

And from the daily remembrances as authenticated from the Prophet ﷺ :

أصبحنا على فطرة الإسلام وكلمة الإخلاص ودين نبينا محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم وملة أبينا إبراهيم حنيفاً مسلماً وما كان من المشركين) (مسند الإمام أحمد

We have entered a new day upon the natural religion of Islam, the word of sincere devotion, the religion of our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and the faith of our father Ibrahim. He was upright (in worshipping Allah), and a Muslim. He was not of those who associate others besides Allah. [Ahmad 3/406-7, 5/123,]

And from the Prophetic supplications:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ أَنْ أَشْرِكَ بِكَ وَأَنَا أَعْلَمُ، وَأَسْتَغْفِرُكَ لِمَا لَا أَعْلَمُ

O Allah, I seek refuge in You lest I associate anything with You knowingly, and I seek Your forgiveness for what I know not. [Ahmad 4/403]

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So be conscious of Allah, may Allah have mercy on you, and be sincere in your religion to Allah, and realize tawhid (Oneness of Allah), and worship your Lord, and do good, so that you may succeed.

We ask Allah to grant us success in realizing tawhid, performing all types of good deeds and attaining His pleasure. Indeed Allah is All Hearing, Answering.

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى نَبِيِّكُمْ كَمَا أَمَرَكُمْ بِذَلِكَ رَبُّكُمْ , فَقَالَ

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

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ 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 اهْدِنَا فِيمَنْ هَدَيْتَ وَعَافِنَا فِيمَنْ عَافَيْتَ وَتَوَلَّنَا فِيمَنْ تَوَلَّيْتَ وَبَارِكْ لَنَا فِيمَا
أَعْطَيْتَ وَقِنَا شَرَّ مَا قَضَيْتَ إِنَّكَ تَقْضِي وَلَا يُقْضَى عَلَيْكَ وَإِنَّهُ لَا يَذُلُّ 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 عَلِمْنَا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الشَّرِّ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنَا 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 الْجَنَّةَ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَسْأَلُكَ أَنْ تَجْعَلَ كُلَّ قَضَاءٍ قَضَيْتَهُ لَنَا خَيْرًا

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 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.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعْظُمُ لِعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ

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.

أذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُواهُ يَزِدْكُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا لَهُ يُغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاتَّقُواهُ يَجْعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَمْرِكُمْ مَخْرَجًا ، وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ

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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.