Virtue of the Ten Days of Dhul Hijjah

First Khutbah

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَهِ , نَحْمَدُه , وَنَسْتَعِينُه وَنَسْتَعْفِرُه , وَنَعُوذُ بِاللهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا , مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ , وَمَنْ يُضْلِلْ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ , وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَه إِلَه إِلَه الله 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:

Be conscious of Allah Almighty and know that consciousness of Allah is the best provision for attaining the pleasure of Allah.

وَتَزَوَّدُوا فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَى وَاتَّقُونِ يَا أُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ -البقرة:197

Al Baqarah (2) 197: And take provisions, but indeed, the best provision is consciousness of Allāh. And be conscious of Me, O you of understanding.

We are living in an honored period and a blessed season. And soon the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah will arrive. And they are blessed days and the best time to gain goodness and righteous deeds. Allah Almighty singled them out with characteristics and distinguished them with virtues.

When a believer reflects on the virtues of these ten days, it reinvigorates his heart and soul towards the obedience of Allah, the Exalted and Most High, worshipping Him in the best fashion, and turning to Him in the best possible way.

From the virtues of the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah is that Allah Almighty selected them as the best days of the year as indicated in authentic hadeeths. Just as the last ten nights of Ramadan are the best nights of the year. And Allah creates what He wills and chooses. So He made the first ten days of the month of Dhul Hijjah the best days.

And from the characteristics and virtues of these days is that Allah took an oath by them to honor them and elevate their importance. Allah Almighty said:

وَالْفَجْرِ * وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرِ -الفجر: 1-2

Al Fajr (89) 1-2: (1) By the dawn (2) And by ten nights

Ibn Abbas and other commentators of the Quran said that the ten nights mentioned in the verse are the first ten days of the month of Dhul Hijjah.

And from the virtues of these days is that they are the best days for the righteous deeds. For there is no better time to draw closer to Allah through acts of worship like these honored virtuous days. Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them) narrated that the Prophet said:

ما الْعَمَلُ في أَيّامِ العشرِ أَفْضَلُ من العمل في هذه, قالوا: ولا الجِهَادُ, قال: ولا الجِهَادُ إلا رَجُلُ خَرَجَ يُخَاطِرُ بِنَفْسِهِ وَمَالِهِ فلم يَرْجِعْ بِشَيْءٍ.

There are no ten days during which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these days (meaning the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah) They said: Not even striving in the cause of Allah? He said: Not even striving in the cause of Allah, unless a man goes out with himself and his wealth and does not return with anything. [Bukhari 969]

And from the virtues of these ten days, is that the principal acts of obedience come together on these days and they do not come together on any of the other days of the year. In these days are prayer, fasting, hajj, zakat and other great worships, acts of obedience and deeds for drawing closer to Allah. And these acts of worship do not occur at the same time except during this honorable and virtuous time.

And from their virtue, is that Allah Almighty made it a season for Hajj to His sacred house. And He made distinguished days within them. In these ten days is the Day of Tarwiya which is the eighth day of Dhul Hijjah. And it is the day when pilgrims go from Makkah to Mina proclaiming the call of hajj:

لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَّيْكَ، لَبَّيْكَ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَكَ لَبَّيْكَ، إِنَّ الْحُمْدَ والنِّعْمَة لَكَ والمُلْكُ،

لًا شَرِيكَ لَكَ

Here I am, O Allah, here I am. Here I am, You have no partner, here I am. Verily all praise and blessings are Yours, and all sovereignty, You have no partner. [Muslim 1184a]

And during these ten days is the Day of Arafat. And it is the best day on which the sun rises. And for those not performing Hajj there is great

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reward in fasting it as was narrated by Abu Qatadah that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

صِيَامُ يَوْمِ عَرَفَةَ، إِنِّي أَحْتَسِبُ عَلَى اللَّهِ أَنْ يُكَفِّرَ السَّنَةَ الَّتِي قَبْلَهُ وَالَّتِي بَعْدَهُ

Fasting on the Day of 'Arafah, I hope from Allah, expiates for the sins of the year before and the year after. [Sunan Ibn Majah 1730]

And in these ten days is the Day of Sacrifice. And it is the best day in the sight of Allah as the Prophet **sight** said:

أَعْظَمُ الْأَيَّامِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ يَوْمُ النَّحْرِ

The best day in the sight of Allah is the Day of Sacrifice. [Sahih Jami' 1064]

These are some of the virtues of these great and virtuous days. So what will we put worth? Will our condition on these days be like the other days of the year? Have we realized the value of these days and their place and virtue? Or are they and the rest of the days of the year equal? Will our hearts be moved in these days to repenting, turning to Allah and eagerness to obey Him?

Traders of this worldly life do not let a profitable season pass by just like that. Rather they prepare for it in the best possible fashion by buying goods, displaying merchandise, spending time and exerting great efforts. And this is a profitable season for traders of the hereafter. So what will our state be within these ten days?

Indeed the weakness of a person's iman (faith), and his accumulated sins deprive him of goodness. So we should receive these ten days with repentance to Allah. And make the most of these ten days by being

diligent and striving in worship. And turning to Allah in the best fashion and making plenty of supplication.

And making much remembrance of Allah the Almighty. For these ten days are a great season for the remembrance of Allah, as Allah Almighty said:

وَيَذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللهِ فِي أَيَّامٍ مَعْلُومَاتٍ-الحج:28

Al Hajj (22) 28: And mention the name of Allāh on known [i.e., specific] days.

Ibn Abbas and others said that the known days are the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah.

It is incumbent upon us to safeguard these virtuous times with much remembrance of Allah - the Exalted and Most High - and plentiful supplications and seeking forgiveness. And adherence to acts of obedience and worship, especially the obligations. For Allah Almighty said:

وَمَا تَقَرّبَ إِلَيّ عَبْدِي بِشَيْءٍ أَحَبّ إِلَيّ مِمّا افْتَرَضْتُهُ عَلَيْهِ

And My servant does not draw near to Me with anything more beloved to Me than what I have mandated upon him. [Bukhari 6502]

For this reason, the Muslim should give particular attention on these ten days to going to the congregation early for the five daily prayers and offer them on time, with devotion and humility, with tranquility and remembrance of Allah, hoping for the mercy of his Lord and fearing His torment.

أَقُولُ مَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الغَفُورُ الرّحِيمُ

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.

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Second Khutbah

الحَمْدُ لِلَهِ, وَالصَلَاةُ وَالسَلَامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللهِ , وَ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلاْ الله وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلاَ الله وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لا إِلَهَ إِلاَ الله وَحْدَهُ لا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ

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:

Be conscious of Allah Almighty. And be mindful of Him in public and private, and while seen and while unseen. Be mindful of Him like the one knowing that his Lord hears him and sees him.

Allah Almighty has made Eid the conclusion and ending of these ten days. It is a celebration for Muslims to rejoice with great joy for what Allah has facilitated for them in these ten days of acts of obedience, worships and deeds to draw nearer to Him.

For that reason, Muslims meet on the day of Eid, whether they performed Hajj or not, and congratulate one other with what the noble companions said:

تَقَبَّلَ اللهُ مِنَّا وَمِنْكَ

May Allah accept from us and you. [Tamam Al Minna (Albani) page 354]

And this is a phrase that has impact, weight, and standing among those who competed in worship and acts of obedience.

And as for the one who comes on the day of Eid, lost and neglectful, overwhelmed by sins and misdeeds, then on what is he congratulating? And on what basis is it said to him: may Allah accept from us and you?

For that reason, we should take the day of Eid into account by preparing righteous deeds and acts of obedience. So that we rejoice on the day of Eid for having performed them seeking to draw closer to Allah in the best possible fashion.

The wise person is the one who controls himself, and works for what is after death. And the heedless person is the one who follows his desires and has wishful hopes of Allah.

We ask Allah Almighty through His Most Beautiful Names and His Lofty Attributes, to extend us assistance and success. And to help us capitalize and profit from these ten virtuous days. Indeed Allah is All Hearing, Answering.

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى نَبِيِّكُم كَمَا أَمَرَكُمْ بِذلِكَ رَبُّكُمْ ، فَقَالَ

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

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَابٍكَتَهُ 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

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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 الْجَنَّةَ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ اللَّهُ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ عَمْ لَكَ مِنْ قَوْلِ أَوْ

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 اللهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ 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.

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.