

### 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 ﴿١٠٢﴾ [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 Believers:

Be conscious of Allāh and obey Him, and attach your hearts to Him, and supplicate to Him plentifully and get closer to Him through righteous deeds. For we are living in blessed days in which the bestowals of Allāh Almighty abound, and His mercy descends. So race to the gifts of your Lord in the Masjeds, and seek them in the last third of the night. And purify your outsides and insides. For in these nights you are in the presence of the King of Kings. You are standing before Him in your places of prayer. You call Him through your Quranic recitations and prayers. And nothing stands

between you and triumphing with His rewards, glory be to Him, except acceptance. So hang on to His door and repeatedly supplicate to Him. For the triumph is an eternal triumph that is not equaled by any worldly triumph, whatever it is. Allāh Almighty said:

فَمَنْ زُحِرِحَ عَنِ النَّارِ وَأُدْخِلَ الْجَنَّةَ فَقَدْ فَازَ وَمَا الْحَيَاةُ الدُّنْيَا إِلَّا مَتَاعُ الْعُرُورِ-آل عمران

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Al Imran (3) 185: **So he who is drawn away from the Fire and admitted to Paradise has attained [his desire]. And what is the life of this world except the enjoyment of delusion.**

It is befitting to call these blessed nights, Nights of Hope for what servants of Allāh hope for of forgiveness, mercy and emancipation from the fire, and for their keenness to observe Laylatul Qadr with iman (faith) and anticipating the reward. For observing night prayers on that night is superior to observing it for 1000 months. It is hope in the promise of Allāh Almighty, that was revealed in the Noble Quran. And in several hadiths, the Prophet ﷺ provided details about the blessed ten days and about Laylat al-Qadr, promising great rewards that are beyond imagination. So it is only hoped for by a believer. And only a loser is deprived of it.

Hope is a word that touches hearts and captivates the souls. For hope leads the hearts to the Beloved and it is the closeness of the heart to the kindness of the Lord, and it is the vision of majesty with the eye of beauty. It is rejoicing in the kindness of Allāh Almighty and delighting in His generosity, Glory be to Him. It is trust in the promise of Allāh Almighty. And there is no hope without righteous deeds. As for hope with laziness in doing acts of worship and transgressing into the forbidden, this is wishful

thinking and delusion. And it will be said to such people on the Day of Resurrection:

وَعَرَّثَكُمْ الْأَمَانِيَّ حَتَّى جَاءَ أَمْرُ اللَّهِ وَعَرَّكُم بِاللَّهِ الْغُرُورُ-الحديد

Al Hadid 14: **And wishful thinking deluded you until there came the command of Allāh. And the Deceiver [i.e., Satan] deceived you concerning Allāh.**

And Saeed bin Jubayr, may Allāh have mercy on him, said, it is that a person performs a sin and hopes for forgiveness.

The people of hope are the people of worship and humbleness before Allāh and they check their hearts and they purify themselves through righteous deeds and they persevere in the obedience of their Lord, and their hearts rejoice with the Quran, and they shiver from the fear of their Lord, and their hearts shed tears from reverence of their Lord. They notice Allāh Almighty's blessings upon them in all their affairs and they see their negligence in His rights no matter what they do. So gratitude is their motto and seeking forgiveness is their companion. For gratitude and remembrance do not leave their tongues. And contemplate Allāh's description of the Companions, may Allāh be pleased with them; people of genuine hope, true to Him in their words and actions:

وَجَاهِدُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أُولَئِكَ يَرْجُونَ رَحْمَةَ اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ-البقرة:218

Al Baqarah (2) 218: **Indeed, those who have believed and those who have emigrated and strived in the way of Allāh - those expect the mercy of Allāh. And Allāh is Forgiving and Merciful.**

As for the hope of those devoted to praying at night, Allāh Almighty said:

أَمَّنْ هُوَ قَانِتٌ آنَاءَ اللَّيْلِ سَاجِداً وَقَائِماً يَحْذَرُ الْآخِرَةَ وَيَرْجُو رَحْمَةَ رَبِّهِ-الزمر 9

Az Zumar (39) 9: **Is one who is devoutly obedient during periods of the night, prostrating and standing [in prayer], fearing the Hereafter and hoping for the mercy of his Lord, [like one who does not]?**

And regarding their supplicating, Allāh Almighty said:

تَتَجَافَى جُنُوبُهُمْ عَنِ الْمَضَاجِعِ يَدْعُونَ رَبَّهُمْ خَوْفاً وَطَمَعاً-السجدة 16

As Sajdah (32) 16: **Their sides part [i.e., they arise] from [their] beds; they supplicate their Lord in fear and aspiration, and from what We have provided them, they spend.**

So in their night prayer is hope and in their supplication is hope and they do not have hope without deeds. And they do not perform deeds without hope.

And reflect upon the hope of Yacob regarding Yusuf, peace be upon them. For he lost Yusuf as a boy and the most likely assumption is that he met doom. Yacob lost his sight from crying out of grief over Yusuf. And he did not, for an instant, let go from having hope in Allāh Almighty, that he would find Yusuf. To the point that his sons blamed him saying:

تَاللَّهِ تَفْتَأُ تَذْكُرُ يُوسُفَ حَتَّى تَكُونَ حَرَضاً أَوْ تَكُونَ مِنَ الْهَالِكِينَ-يوسف 85

Yusuf (12) 85: **By Allāh, you will not cease remembering Joseph until you become fatally ill or become of those who perish.**

Then his answer was the response of the hopeful in Allāh Almighty alone and not in any of His creation:

قَالَ إِنَّمَا أَشْكُو بَثِّي وَحُزْنِي إِلَى اللَّهِ وَأَعْلَمُ مِنَ اللَّهِ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ-يوسف 86

Yusuf (12) 86: **He said, I only complain of my suffering and my grief to Allāh, and I know from Allāh that which you do not know.**

Indeed, it was great hope in Allāh Almighty. Yacoob was rewarded for it in this world by being reunited with his son and the restoration of his sight and being united with his loved ones and the removal of ill feelings that some of them had. In addition to what he attained of glory in this world and the advancement of Yusuf, peace be upon him. And the reward of the hereafter is greater and more lasting.

So how much we are in need in the nights of hope to have hope like the hope of Yaboob, peace be upon him.

If someone anticipates meeting the greatest of the kings of this world, to sit with him alone, to talk to him alone, and to obtain his greatest rewards, they would forgo food and sleep out of their extreme joy. And they would have counted down the days, minutes and seconds to the time of meeting the king and talking to him. And in these blessed nights, our Lord has promised us a special connection unlike the rest of year. And the rewards are unlike the rewards the rest the year.

We hope that our Lord Almighty grants us the blessing of these blessed nights. The blessing of fasting in its day, and the blessing of praying in its night. Because our Prophet ﷺ informed us that whoever fasts Ramadan out of faith and in anticipation of the reward will have his previous sins forgiven. And whoever prays during the nights out of faith and in anticipation of the reward will have his previous sins forgiven. And whoever observes the night of Laylatul Qadr out of faith and in anticipation of the reward will have his previous sins forgiven. And that Allāh Almighty emancipates people from

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the fire each of the nights of Ramadan. So what about the virtuous last ten nights?!

Just as our Prophet ﷺ informed us that our Lord, Glory be to Him, descends during the last third of the night and says:

من يدعوني فأستجيب له؟! من يسألني فأعطيه؟! من يستغفرني فأغفر له

**Who will ask of Me, that I may give him? Who will call upon Me, that I may answer him? Who will ask My forgiveness, that I may forgive him?**

[Bukhari 1145, Muslim 758a]

So what about during the best nights of the whole year?!

Indeed, this great generosity from our Lord, Glory be to Him, in the month of generosity and giving necessitates that our hearts be filled with hope in Him. So perform night prayers while you have your hopes in Him, and recite His Book while you while have your hopes in Him, and seeking His forgiveness while you have your hopes in Him, and ask Him while you have your hopes in Him and supplicate to Him while you have your hopes in Him. For you are addressing The Most Rich, Generous, Beneficent, Bestowing and Merciful. Allāh Almighty is more merciful to you than you are with yourselves. Allāh Almighty said:

مَا يَفْتَحُ اللَّهُ لِلنَّاسِ مِنْ رَحْمَةٍ فَلَا مُمْسِكَ لَهَا وَمَا يُمْسِكُ فَلَا مُرْسِلَ لَهُ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ وَهُوَ الْعَزِيزُ

الْحَكِيمُ-فاطر 2

**Fatir (35) 2: Whatever Allāh grants to people of mercy - none can withhold it; and whatever He withholds - none can release it thereafter. And He is the Exalted in Might, the Wise.**

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 forgiveness 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 people:

Let us make the most out of the latter part of this Noble month. For perhaps some of us may not reach the next Ramadan. So let us make the most out of what remains of its nights. And as the month concludes, let us plentifully seek forgiveness and repeatedly ask Allāh Almighty for acceptance.

Part of perfecting the conclusion of the month is to pay Zakatul-Fitr. To address the defects in our fasting and benefit our needy brothers. And it is obligatory for us. It is a purification for our bodies just as Ibn Abbas, may Allāh be pleased with him, said:

فَرَضَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ - صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ - زَكَاةَ الْفِطْرِ طُهْرَةً لِلصَّائِمِ مِنَ اللَّغْوِ وَالرَّفَثِ وَطُعْمَةً  
لِلْمَسَاكِينِ فَمَنْ أَدَّاهَا قَبْلَ الصَّلَاةِ فَهِيَ زَكَاةٌ مَقْبُولَةٌ وَمَنْ أَدَّاهَا بَعْدَ الصَّلَاةِ فَهِيَ صَدَقَةٌ مِنَ  
الصَّدَقَاتِ .

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ enjoined Zakatul-Fitr as a purification for the fasting person from idle talk and obscenities, and to feed the poor. Whoever pays it before the (Eid) prayer, it is an accepted Zakah, and whoever pays it after the prayer, it is (ordinary) charity." [Sunan Abu Dawood 1609, Sunan Ibn Majah 1827, Grade: Hasan]

Its amount is a Sā' (unit of measure) of food, which is given before the Eid prayer. And it is possible to give it one or two days before Eid as the companions, may Allāh be pleased with them, did. And Ibn Omar, may Allāh be pleased with him, said:

فَرَضَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ زَكَاةَ الْفِطْرِ صَاعًا مِنْ تَمْرٍ، أَوْ صَاعًا مِنْ شَعِيرٍ عَلَى الْعَبْدِ وَالْحُرِّ، وَالذَّكَرِ وَالْأُنْثَى، وَالصَّغِيرِ وَالْكَبِيرِ مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَمَرَ بِهَا أَنْ تُؤَدَّى قَبْلَ خُرُوجِ النَّاسِ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ.

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ enjoined Zakatul-Fitr at the end of Ramadan upon the people; a Sa' of dates or a Sa' of barley, upon everyone, free or bonded, male or female, of the Muslims. And he commanded that it is given before the people go out to the prayer. [Bukhari 1503, Muslim 984]

And in a version from Al Bukhari, Nafi', may Allāh have mercy on him, said:

فَكَانَ ابْنُ عُمَرَ يُعْطِي عَنِ الصَّغِيرِ وَالْكَبِيرِ، حَتَّىٰ إِنْ كَانَ يُعْطِي عَنِ بَنِيٍّ، وَكَانَ ابْنُ عُمَرَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا - يُعْطِيهَا الَّذِينَ يَقْبَلُونَهَا، وَكَانُوا يُعْطُونَ قَبْلَ الْفِطْرِ بِيَوْمٍ أَوْ يَوْمَيْنِ.

So Ibn Omar used to give on the behalf of the young and old. He even used to give on behalf of my children. And Ibn Omar used to give to



those who accept it. And they used to offer it one or two days before Eid al Fitr. [Bukhari 1511]

So purify your fasting by paying it, desiring to follow the Prophet ﷺ and to obtain the great reward. And perfect it, and pay it from the best of your wealth. For Allāh Almighty said:

لَنْ تَنَالُوا الْبِرَّ حَتَّى تُنْفِقُوا مِمَّا تُحِبُّونَ-آل عمران 92

Al Imran 92: **Never will you attain the good [reward] until you spend [in the way of Allāh] from that which you love.**

Oh Allāh attach our hearts to You. Oh Allāh help us in doing what pleases You and avoiding what displeases you. Oh Allāh accept our deeds and forgive us our sins. Indeed Allāh is All Hearing, Answering.

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، 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.

أذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا يَزِدْكُمْ وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا يُغْفِرْ لَكُمْ وَاتَّقُوا يَجْعَلْ  
لَكُمْ مِنْ أَمْرِكُمْ مَخْرَجًا ، وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ

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.