#### Lifting Calamities and Misfortunes

#### First Khutbah

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.

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:

The trials and tribulations and various calamities that befall and afflict Muslims, are caused by the disobedience of Allah Almighty.

O Allah, Your forgiveness is broader than our sins, so forgive us. Your mercy is more hopeful to us than our deeds, so have mercy on us. Our Lord, we have wronged ourselves and confessed our sins, so forgive all our sins, O Most Merciful of the Merciful.

Calamities cannot be repelled, and misfortunes cannot be lifted except by taking the appropriate means. Among the means for repelling and lifting calamities is returning to Allah Almighty. Allah, the Exalted, said:

Ar-Rum (30) 41-43: **(41)** Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by [reason of] what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste part of [the consequence of] what they have done that perhaps they will return [to righteousness]. **(42)** Say, 'Travel through the land and observe how was the end of those before. Most of them were associators [of others with Allah]. **(43)** So direct your face (self) towards the correct religion before a Day comes from Allah of which there is no repelling. That Day, they will be divided.

And He, the Sublime, said:

Al-A'raf (7) 168: And We tested them with good [times] and bad that perhaps they would return [to obedience].

And He, the Exalted, said:

Az-Zukhruf (43) 48: **And We seized them with a severe punishment that perhaps they would return to faith.** 

And He, the Exalted, said:

As-Sajdah (32) 21: And We will surely let them taste the nearer punishment short of the greater punishment that perhaps they will repent.

So, O Muslims, return to the obedience of Allah and avoid disobedience of Him. Then Allah Almighty, will defend you and lift calamities and misfortunes from you. Among the reasons for lifting misfortunes is knowing Allah Almighty in times of ease. At-Tirmidhi and others narrated from Ibn Abbas that the Prophet

Safeguard [the commands of] Allah, [and then] He will protect you. Safeguard [the commands of] Allah; you will find Him before you. And in another narration:

Safeguard [the commands of] Allah; you will find Him in front of you. Know Allah in times of prosperity, He will remember you in times of adversity. [Tirmithi 2516, Grade: Sahih]

And for this reason, some of the righteous predecessors, may Allah have mercy on them, said: Whoever knows Allah in times of ease will be remembered in times of adversity.

Among the causes of repelling calamities and misfortunes is humbling oneself to Allah Almighty, when calamity strikes. Allah, the Exalted, said:

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا إِلَى أُمَمِ مِن قَبْلِكَ فَأَخَذْنَاهُمْ بِالْبَأْسَاء وَالضَّرَّاء لَعَلَّهُمْ يَتَضَرَّعُونَ \* فَلَوْلا إِذْ جَاءهُمْ بَأْسُنَا تَضَرَّعُواْ وَلَكِن قَسَتْ قُلُوبُهُمْ وَزَيَّنَ لَهُمُ الشَّيْطَانُ مَا كَانُواْ يَعْمَلُونَ-الأنعام 43-42

Al-An'am (6) 42-43: (42) And We certainly sent [messengers] to nations before you, [O Muhammad], and We seized them with poverty and hardship that perhaps they might humble themselves [to Us]. (43) Then why, when Our punishment came to them, did they not humble themselves? But their hearts became hardened, and Satan made attractive to them that which they were doing.

And He, the Sublime, said:

Al-Mu'minun (23) 76: **And We seized them with punishment, but they did not humble themselves to their Lord, nor did they invoke [Him] with submission to His will.** 

And He, the Sublime, said:

Al-A'raf (7) 94: And We sent to no city a prophet [who was denied] except that We seized its people with poverty and hardship that they might humble themselves [to Allah].

And He, the Sublime, said:

Al-A'raf (7) 56: And cause not corruption upon the earth after its reformation. And invoke Him in fear and aspiration. Indeed, the mercy of Allah is near to the doers of good.

Among the reasons for lifting misfortunes is supplicating to Allah Almighty, to relieve distress. For Allah does not turn away those supplicating to Him, nor does He disappoint those who place hope in Him. So supplicate Allah Almighty, and humble yourselves before Him.

Among the reasons for lifting misfortunes is placing trust in Allah, the Almighty. The essence of this is entrusting matters to Him while undertaking the lawful and permissible means, with certainty that Allah is over all things able. The One who has the power of creation and command, and the One who says "Be," and it is, and the One for whom what He wills happens, and what He does not will does not happen. So the Muslim should always and forever attach their heart to Allah Almighty, with longing and fear, hope and love. For whoever places their trust in Allah, He will suffice them in their religious and worldly matters. Allah Almighty, said:

At-Talaq (65) 3: And whoever relies upon Allah - then He is sufficient for him. Indeed, Allah will accomplish His purpose. Allah has already set for everything a [decreed] extent.

And the Almighty said:

Al-Anfal (8) 49: But whoever relies upon Allāh - then indeed, Allāh is Exalted in Might and Wise.

Some scholars said: I am astonished at four types of people being heedless of four verses.

I am astonished at how those afflicted with harm, can be heedless of the words of Allah, the Exalted:

Al-Anbiya (21) 83-84: **(83) And [mention] Job, when he called to his Lord, 'Indeed, adversity has touched me, and you are the Most Merciful of the merciful. (84) So We responded to him and removed what afflicted him of adversity. And We gave him [back] his family, twice [as many], as a mercy from Us and a reminder for the worshippers.** 

I am astonished at how those afflicted with sadness and sorrow, can be heedless of the words of Allah, the Exalted:

Al-Anbiya (21) 87-88: (87) And [mention] the man of the fish, when he went off in anger and thought that We would not decree [anything] upon him. And he called out within the darknesses, 'There is no deity except You; exalted are You. Indeed, I have been of the wrongdoers. (88) So We responded to him and saved him from the distress. And thus do We save the believers.

I am astonished at how those whom people plot against, can be heedless of the words of Allah, the Exalted:

Ghafir (40) 44-45: **(44) And I entrust my affair to Allah. Indeed, Allah is Seeing of [His] servants. (45) So Allah protected him from the evils they plotted.** 

I am astonished at how those who are fearful, can be heedless of the words of Allah, the Exalted:

Al Imran (3) 173-173: **(173) Sufficient for us is Allah, and [He is] the best** Disposer of affairs. **(174) So they returned with favor from Allah and bounty, no harm having touched them.** 

Placing trust in Allah is a means of protection from evil. The Prophet عليوسلة said, as reported by Tirmidhi and others:

Whoever says - that is: when he leaves his house '-In the Name of Allah, I place my trust in Allah, there is no might or power except by Allah (Bismillāh, tawakkaltu `alallāh, lā ḥawla wa lā quwwata illā billāh) 'it will be said to him: 'You have been sufficed and protected, 'and satan will become distant from him

Among the means of averting calamities and tribulations is be conscious of Allah. Allah says:

At-Talaq (65) 2-3: **(2)** And whoever is conscious of Allah - He will make for him a way out. **(3)** And will provide for him from where he does not expect. And whoever relies upon Allah - then He is sufficient for him.

Ibn Al-Jawzi (may Allah have mercy on him) said that whoever desires continuous well-being shall attach themselves to Allah. And Abu Sulayman Al-Draani (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Whoever excels (in acts of obedience) at night, will be sufficed during the day. So be conscious of Allah, O Muslims, and advise one another in that regard. It was said to a man from the Tabi'een (those who came after the companions) at the time of his death: "Advise us." He said: "I advise you with the last part of Surah An-Nahl:

An-Nahl (16) 128: Indeed, Allah is with those who fear Him and those who are doers of good.

Among the means of lifting calamities and misfortunes is doing good towards others. For doing good wards off bad incidents, and secret charity extinguishes the wrath of the Lord. The Prophet عياد said:

And charity extinguishes the Lord's wrath [Sahih Al Jami' 3766, Grade: Sahih]

Also the Prophet ملي الله said:

Charity extinguishes sin just as water extinguishes fire. [Sunan Ibn Majah 3973, Grade: Hasan]

Doing good comes in many forms such giving gifts, offering charity, helping others, meeting needs, being kind or bearing a debt or part of it, or other acts of goodness. Allah says:

Ar-Rahman (55) 60: **Is the reward for good [anything] but good?**And Allah says:

Al-A'raf (7) 56: **Indeed, the mercy of Allah is near to the doers of good.**And Allah says:

At-Tawba (9) 91: There is not upon the doers of good any cause [for blame]. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.

So do good, O Muslims, and do not belittle any act of goodness, for Allah does not let the reward of the doers of good go to waste. Indeed, Allah is with the doers of good.

أَقُولُ مَا تَسْمَعُونَ وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنّهُ 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.

#### Second Khutbah

الحَمْدُ لِللهِ, وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى رَسُولِ اللهِ , وَ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيْكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ

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:

Allah Almighty says:

Al-Hadid (57) 28: O you who have believed, be conscious of Allah and believe in His Messenger; He will [then] give you a double portion of His mercy and make for you a light by which you will walk and forgive you; and Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.

One of the means of lifting calamities and misfortunes is seeking forgiveness. Seeking forgiveness pleases the Lord and is a refuge from His wrath. Allah says:

Al-Anfal (8) 33: But Allah would not punish them while you, [O Muhammad], are among them, and Allah would not punish them while they seek forgiveness.

Whoever is consistent in seeking forgiveness, Allah will make for them a way out of every distress, a relief from every hardship, and provide for them from where they do not expect. Allah says:

An-Naml (27) 46: Why do you not seek forgiveness of Allāh that you may receive mercy?

Among the means of lifting calamities is repenting to Allah. Allah says:

At-Tawba (9) 74: If they repent, it is better for them.

Allah Almighty says:

Al-Baqarah (2) 222: Indeed, Allah loves those who are constantly repentant and loves those who purify themselves.

Ali ibn Abi Talib (may Allah be pleased with him) said: No calamity descends except because of a sin, and it is not lifted except through repentance.

So repent to your Lord and seek His forgiveness, for He says:

Surah Hud (11) 3: And if you turn away, then indeed, I fear for you the punishment of a great Day. To Allah is your return, and He is over all things competent.

We ask Allah Almighty to lift calamities, afflictions and trials from us and from Muslims everywhere. O Allah, protect us from the evils and consequences of our sins, misdeeds and transgressions. Indeed Allah is All Hearing, Answering.

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

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 اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ خَيْرِ مَا مِنْ الشَّرِ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ وَآجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ خَيْرِ مَا سَأَلَكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مَنْ شَرِّ مَا عَاذَ بِهِ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ عَبْدُكَ وَنَبِيُّكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا فَسْأَلُكَ عَمْلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَبُ إِلَيْكُ وَنَهِ اللَّهُ لَلَا لَا عَلَا مَنْ اللَّالِ وَلَا لَكُولُ الْمُؤْلِلُ اللَّهُ لَا عَلَيْهُ اللَّهُ مَا عَلَا لَا اللَّهُ مِنْ اللَّالِ الْمَالِقُ لَلْ الْمَالِيَةُ لَا لَكُولُ اللَّالِ فَا لَكُونُ اللَّهُ مِلْ اللَّهُ لِلْ اللْمَالِي الْمَالَالِكُ أَلْ اللْمَالِ اللَّهُ مِنْ اللْمَالِي الْمَالِقُ اللْمَالِي اللْمَالِ الللْمَالَ اللْمَالِقُ اللْمَالِي الْمَالِمُ اللللْمِ اللْمَالِمُ الللْمَالِي الللْمَالِ الللْمَالِقُولُ الللللْمُولُ اللْمَالِمُ الللللْمُ اللْمُ اللْمُ الللْمُ اللْمِلْمُ اللللْمُ الللْمُ اللْمُ اللْمُ اللَّهُ الللْمَالِمُ اللْمُ الللْمُ اللْمُ الللْمُ الللْمُ الللْمُ اللْمُ اللْمُ الللللللْمُ الللْمُ اللْمُلْمِ الللللْمُ الللللْمُ اللللللْمُ اللللْمُ الللْمُ الللْمُ

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.

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.