

The Honoring of Humankind

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 Believers:

Be conscious of Allah - the Exalted - and obey Him; for it is Allah's - the Exalted - instruction to His servants, and the instruction of the messengers to their followers. It is the provision in times of hardship, the escape from difficulties, and salvation on the Day of Resurrection.

وَيُنَجِّي اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ اتَّقَوْا بِمَفَازَتِهِمْ لَا يَمَسُّهُمُ السُّوءُ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ-الزُّمَرِ 61

Az-Zumar (39) 61: **And Allāh will save those who feared Him by their attainment; no evil will touch them, nor will they grieve.**

Allah, the Exalted, created humankind to worship Him. And He the Almighty honored them in a way that He did not honor any other creation. Among the ways that Allah the Exalted honored humankind is that He honored their father, Adam, peace be upon him, by creating him with His own hands and instructed the angels to prostrate to him. So what honor could be greater than this? If only humans reflected about it and comprehended this.

إِذْ قَالَ رَبُّكَ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ إِنِّي خَالِقٌ بَشَرًا مِنْ طِينٍ * فَإِذَا سَوَّيْتُهُ وَنَفَخْتُ فِيهِ مِنْ رُوحِي فَقَعُوا لَهُ سَاجِدِينَ * فَسَجَدَ الْمَلَائِكَةُ كُلُّهُمْ أَجْمَعُونَ * إِلَّا إِبْلِيسَ اسْتَكْبَرَ وَكَانَ مِنَ الْكَافِرِينَ * قَالَ يَا إِبْلِيسُ مَا مَنَعَكَ أَنْ تَسْجُدَ لِمَا خَلَقْتُ بِإِيْدِي أَسْتَكْبَرْتَ أَمْ كُنْتَ مِنَ الْعَالِينَ * قَالَ أَنَا خَيْرٌ مِنْهُ خَلَقْتَنِي مِنْ نَارٍ وَخَلَقْتَهُ مِنْ طِينٍ * قَالَ فَاخْرُجْ مِنْهَا فَإِنَّكَ رَجِيمٌ * وَإِنَّ عَلَيْكَ لَعْنَتِي إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ - ص 71-78

Sad: 71-78: (71) [So mention] when your Lord said to the angels, "Indeed, I am going to create a human being from clay. (72) So when I have proportioned him and breathed into him of My [created] soul, then fall down to him in prostration." (73) So the angels prostrated - all of them entirely, (74) Except Iblees; he was arrogant and became among the disbelievers. (75) [Allāh] said, "O Iblees, what prevented you from prostrating to that which I created with My hands? Were you arrogant [then], or were you [already] among the haughty?" (76) He said, "I am better than him. You created me from fire and created him from clay." (77) [Allāh] said, "Then get out of it [i.e., Paradise], for indeed, you are expelled. (78) And indeed, upon you is My curse until the Day of Recompense."

Another honor that Allah the Exalted bestowed upon humankind is making them stewards, owners and builders of the earth.

هُوَ الَّذِي جَعَلَكُمْ خَلَائِفَ فِي الْأَرْضِ - فَاطِرٍ 39

Fatir (35) 39: It is He who has made you successors upon the earth.

And from among the ways that Allah Almighty honored humankind is that He subjected what He created to them, although they are bigger and stronger than humans. Allah Almighty said:

هُوَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا-البَقَرَةُ 29

Al-Baqarah (2) 29: **It is He who created for you all of that which is on the earth.**

And Allah Almighty said:

وَسَخَّرَ لَكُمْ مَا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مِنْهُ-الجَاثِيَةِ 13

Al-Jathiyah (45) 13: **And He has subjected to you whatever is in the heavens and whatever is on the earth - all from Him.**

Also, from Allah's honoring of humans is that He instilled in them the tools of knowledge and understanding, which are the intellect, eyes, and ears. Thus, through them they dominated other creatures.

وَاللَّهُ أَخْرَجَكُمْ مِنْ بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ شَيْئًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمُ السَّمْعَ وَالْأَبْصَارَ
وَالْأَفْئِدَةَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ-النَّحْلِ 78

An-Nahl (16) 78: **And Allāh has extracted you from the wombs of your mothers not knowing a thing, and He made for you hearing and vision and hearts [i.e., intellect] that perhaps you would be grateful.**

Among the honors that Allah Almighty bestowed upon humankind is making them the focal point for His messengers, His books, and His ordainments. For He Almighty sent messengers only to them.

رُسُلًا مُبَشِّرِينَ وَمُنْذِرِينَ لِئَلَّا يَكُونَ لِلنَّاسِ عَلَى اللَّهِ حُجَّةٌ بَعْدَ الرُّسُلِ-النِّسَاءِ 165

An-Nisa (4) 165: **[We sent] messengers as bringers of good tidings and warners so that mankind will have no argument against Allāh after the messengers. And ever is Allāh Exalted in Might and Wise.**

Allah Almighty revealed books only to them.

وَأَنْزَلَ التَّوْرَةَ وَالْإِنْجِيلَ * مِنْ قَبْلُ هُدًى لِلنَّاسِ وَأَنْزَلَ الْفُرْقَانَ-آلِ عِمْرَانَ 3-4

Al-Imran (3) 3-4: **(3) And He revealed the Torah and the Gospel (4) Before, as guidance for the people. And He revealed the Criterion [i.e., the Qur'ān].**

لِكُلِّ جَعَلْنَا مِنْكُمْ شِرْعَةً وَمِنْهَاجًا-الْمَائِدَةِ 48

Al-Ma'idah (5) 48: **To each of you We prescribed a law and a method.**

Allah Almighty honored humankind by exclusively sending them His messengers, Books and Divine laws for their guidance, rectification and happiness in this world and the hereafter.

This Divine preference and honoring of humankind over other creations is encompassed in His Words:

وَلَقَدْ كَرَّمْنَا بَنِي آدَمَ وَحَمَلْنَاهُمْ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ وَرَزَقْنَاهُمْ مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَفَضَّلْنَاهُمْ عَلَى كَثِيرٍ
مِمَّنْ خَلَقْنَا تَفْضِيلًا-الْإِسْرَاءِ 70

Al-Isra (17) 70: **And We have certainly honored the children of Adam and carried them on the land and sea and provided for them of the good things and preferred them over much of what We have created, with [definite] preference.**

In response to this Divine honoring of humankind, people are divided into two groups. A group that accepted it, is honored by it, and is grateful to their Lord for it. So they hastened to worship Him alone without any partners, hastened in servitude to Him and adhered to his religion and established His ordainments. And these people have honor in this world and the Hereafter. In this world, with support, victory and dignity. Allah Almighty said:

وَكَانَ حَقًّا عَلَيْنَا نَصْرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ-الرُّومِ 47

Ar-Rum (30) 47: **And incumbent upon Us was support of the believers.**
And Allah Almighty said:

وَلَقَدْ سَبَقَتْ كَلِمَتُنَا لِعِبَادِنَا الْمُرْسَلِينَ * إِنَّهُمْ لَهُمُ الْمَنْصُورُونَ * وَإِنَّ جُنَدَنَا لَهُمُ الْغَالِبُونَ-
الصَّافَّاتِ 173-171

As-Saffat (37) 171-173: **(171) And Our word [i.e., decree] has already preceded for Our servants, the messengers, (172) [That] indeed, they would be those given victory (173) And [that] indeed, Our soldiers [i.e., the believers] will be those who overcome.**

And Allah Almighty said:

وَلِلَّهِ الْعِزَّةُ وَلِرَسُولِهِ وَلِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ-الْمُنَافِقُونَ 8

Al-Munafiqun (63) 8: **And to Allāh belongs [all] honor, and to His Messenger, and to the believers**

And they will have honor and a great triumph in the Hereafter. Allah Almighty said:

أُولَئِكَ فِي جَنَّاتٍ مُّكْرَمُونَ-الْمَعَارِجِ 35

Al-Ma'arij (70) 35: **Those will be in gardens, honored.**

And Allah Almighty said:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَهُمْ جَنَّاتٌ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ ذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْكَبِيرُ-
الْبُرُوجِ 11

Al-Buruj (85) 11: **Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds will have gardens beneath which rivers flow. That is the great attainment.**

A permanent bliss and a great dominion. No eye has ever seen it before, no ear has ever heard it before and it is unimaginable to any human heart. Allah Almighty said:

فَلَا تَعْلَمُ نَفْسٌ مَّا أُخْفِيَ لَهُمْ مِنْ قُرَّةِ أَعْيُنٍ جَزَاءً بِمَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ-السَّجْدَةِ 17

As-Sajdah (32) 17: **And no soul knows what has been hidden for them of comfort for eyes [i.e., satisfaction] as reward for what they used to do.**

The other group rejected Allah's honoring of them, accepting for themselves humiliation, disgrace, punishment, and debasement. They arrogantly turned away from their Lord, shunned His signs, disdained servitude to Him, rejected obedience to Him, and departed from His guardianship. They followed their desires, obeyed their devils, and

neglected their intellects. For them is humiliation, degradation, belittlement, and punishment.

Allah Almighty said:

وَمَنْ يُهِنِ اللَّهُ فَمَا لَهُ مِنْ مُكْرِمٍ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَفْعَلُ مَا يَشَاءُ-الْحَجَّ 18

Al-Hajj (22) 18: **And he whom Allāh humiliates - for him there is no bestower of honor. Indeed, Allāh does what He wills.**

And Allah Almighty said:

أَمْ تَحْسَبُ أَنَّ أَكْثَرَهُمْ يَسْمَعُونَ أَوْ يَعْقِلُونَ إِنْ هُمْ إِلَّا كَالْأَنْعَامِ بَلْ هُمْ أَضَلُّ سَبِيلًا-الْفُرْقَانِ

44

Al-Furqan (25) 44: **Or do you think that most of them hear or reason? They are not except like livestock. Rather, they are [even] more astray in [their] way.**

And Allah Almighty said:

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا أُولَئِكَ هُمْ شَرُّ الْبَرِيَّةِ-الْبَيِّنَةِ 6

Al-Bayyinah (98) 6: **Indeed, they who disbelieved among the People of the Scripture and the polytheists will be in the fire of Hell, abiding eternally therein. Those are the worst of creatures.**

They disregarded Allah and they disobeyed Him. And had they honored Him, He would have protected them. When a person becomes insignificant to Allah, none will honor them, even if people honor them outwardly due to their need for them or fear of their evil, they are considered the most contemptible and insignificant in their hearts.

Sins have not descended upon places except that they have destroyed them, nor have they entered upon hearts except that they have blinded them, nor have they entered upon bodies except that they have tormented them, nor have they entered upon any community except that they have humiliated them, nor have they entered upon any soul except that they corrupts them. If sins resulted in nothing but causing the person

to be insignificant before Allah and falling from His sight, that would be sufficient. When a person becomes insignificant to Allah, none will honor them.

The most honored of creation before Allah are those most conscious Him. The closest to Him in rank are those most obedient to Him. The person's rank before Allah is determined by their obedience.

If a person disobeys Allah, they become insignificant to Him. And this necessitates a rift between servants and their master. When this rift occurs, the channels of goodness are cut off from the person, and the paths of evil are opened to them. What success, hope, or life is there for one whose channels of goodness are severed and who has cut off what is between them and their Master, the Exalted and Glorified?

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، 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:

Anyone desiring honor in this world and the Hereafter, eternal happiness, and salvation from distresses and hardships, should fortify themselves with iman (faith) and righteous deeds, and obedience to their Creator

even many others go astray. For the criterion is obedience to Allah, not obedience to humans. True success is when one comes before Allah. Allah Almighty said:

يَوْمَ لَا يَنْفَعُ مَالٌ وَلَا بَنُونَ * إِلَّا مَنْ أَتَى اللَّهَ بِقَلْبٍ سَلِيمٍ-الشُّعَرَاءِ 88-89

Ash-Shu'ara (26) 88-89: **(88) The Day when there will not benefit [anyone] wealth or children (89) But only one who comes to Allāh with a sound heart.**

And there is no security for the heart except in its complete submission to Allah, by following His entire ordinances, without picking and choosing. For selective adherence to the Sharia is the way of those following their whims, who divide their religion, taking from it what they desire and rejecting what they do not desire. Allah Almighty said:

وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ وَنَهَى النَّفْسَ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ * فَإِنَّ الْجَنَّةَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَى-التَّارِعَاتِ 40-41

An-Nazi'at (79) 40-41: **(40) But as for he who feared the position of his Lord and prevented the soul from [unlawful] inclination, (41) Then indeed, Paradise will be [his] refuge.**

Oh Allah, make us among the truly successful; those honored in this world and in the Hereafter. 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 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 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.

أَذْكُرُوا 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.