

Prophet of Mercy & Peace

نَبِيُّ الرَّحْمَةِ وَالسَّلَامِ

رحمت اور سلامتی والے نبی ﷺ

Khutbah Selection: Hafiz Sajjad

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي بَعَثَ فِيْنَا حَاتَمَ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ، وَأَرْسَلَهُ رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ
قَالَ سُبْحَانَهُ وَتَعَالَى: (يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَآمِنُوا بِرَسُولِهِ
يُؤْتِكُمْ كِفْلَيْنِ مِن رَّحْمَتِهِ وَيَجْعَلْ لَكُمْ نُورًا تَمْشُونَ بِهِ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ
وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَّحِيمٌ)⁽¹⁾.

O you who have believed, fear Allah and believe in His Messenger; He will [then] give you a double portion of His mercy and make (give) you a glorious light which you will walk with. And will forgive you; and Allah is Forgiving and Merciful. [Qur'an:57:28]

We are in the month of Rabi' al-awwal. Our Prophet Mohammad (pbuh) was born in this month.

Indeed the birth of our Prophet who is the *best of creation*, the most pure, the most merciful of them. He was the answer of the Dua / supplication of our father Ibrahim (pbuh) when he said:

رَبَّنَا وَابْعَثْ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِنْهُمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِكَ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ
الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ⁽¹⁾

O Allah: Send amongst them a messenger from themselves who will recite to them Your verses and teach them the Book and wisdom and purify them.

Indeed, You are the Exalted in Might, the Wise.

[Qur'an:2:129]

His blessed birth was accompanied by numerous signs. Making clear for us the lofty magnitude of his status and esteemed rank. He (pbuh) says:

رَأَتْ أُمِّي أَنَّهُ يُخْرِجُ مِنْهَا نُورًا أَضَاءَتْ مِنْهَا قُصُورُ الشَّامِ⁽²⁾

“My mother saw a light come out of her that illuminated for her the Castles of Sham (The Levant)”.

The Messenger of Allah pbuh was sent as a mercy to the whole world as illustrated in this Verse:

وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ

(1) البقرة : 129 .
(2) أحمد : 22921 .

“and We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds.”

(Al-Anbiyaa: 107).

And from his mercy to us in the world, is that he came to us with a beautiful Deen based on justice and tolerance. That faith which is built upon making things easy and light for people. Hence, he used to make things easy for people in their worship. And to make the affairs of social interactions easy for them. So, he ρ said:

إِنِّي بُعِثْتُ بِالْحَنِيفَةِ السَّمْحَةِ⁽¹⁾

“I was sent with a tolerant faith”

Our Prophet Muhammad pbuh has been sent with a message to the entire humanity. Allah the Almighty has accentuated this for He says:

قُلْ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنِّي رَسُولُ اللَّهِ إِلَيْكُمْ جَمِيعًا

“say, [O Muhammad], ‘O mankind, indeed I am the Messenger of Allah to you all’.” (Al-Aaraf: 158).

The Prophet (pbuh) says:

إِنَّمَا أَنَا رَحْمَةٌ مُّهْدَاةٌ

Indeed I am a gifted Mercy

The Prophet (pbuh) came with a universal message for humanity, urging mutual love and harmony. He said:

أَوَلَا أَدُلُّكُمْ عَلَى شَيْءٍ إِذَا فَعَلْتُمْوهُ تَحَابَبْتُمْ؟ أَفَشُوا السَّلَامَ
بَيْنَكُمْ

Shall I tell you of something you can do to make you love one another? Spread Salam (true peace) between each other. [Muslim]

So, He pbuh brought with him a wealth of good things. He taught us to worship our Lord and informed us about the rights of Allah the Almighty on us. He also taught us to show a positive behaviour and character. He said:

إِنَّمَا بُعِثْتُ لِأَتَمِّمَ مَكَارِمَ الْأَخْلَاقِ

“I have been sent to perfect good character/manners.”

More to the point, amongst the great qualities that our Prophet pbuh has urged us to do are: showing kindness to one's parents, harmony and affection between spouses/partners, taking good care of one's children, maintaining ties of kinship, being hospital with friends and doing good to one's neighbours.

قَالَ عَلَيْهِ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ: «لِكُلِّ نَبِيٍّ دَعْوَةٌ مُسْتَجَابَةٌ، فَتَعَجَّلْ كُلُّ نَبِيٍّ دَعْوَتَهُ، وَإِنِّي اخْتَبَأْتُ دَعْوَتِي شَفَاعَةً لِّأُمَّتِي يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ»⁽¹⁾.

(1) متفق عليه .

وَذَلِكَ حِينَ يَذْهَبُ النَّاسُ إِلَى الْأَنْبِيَاءِ، فَيَسْأَلُوهُمْ الشَّفَاعَةَ، فَيَقُولُ كُلُّ وَاحِدٍ مِنْهُمْ: فَيَقُولُونَ: يَا مُحَمَّدُ، أَنْتَ نَفْسِي نَفْسِي، اذْهَبُوا إِلَى غَيْرِي. ثُمَّ يَأْتُونَ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، وَخَاتِمُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ، وَقَدْ غَفَرَ اللَّهُ لَكَ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ ذَنْبِكَ وَمَا تَأَخَّرَ، اشْفَعْ لَنَا إِلَى رَبِّكَ⁽¹⁾. قَالَ عَلَيْهِ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ: «فَأَنْطَلِقُ فَاتِي تَحْتَ الْعَرْشِ، فَأَقْعُ سَاجِدًا لِرَبِّي، ثُمَّ يَفْتَحُ اللَّهُ عَلَيَّ مِنْ مَحَامِدِهِ وَحُسْنِ الثَّنَاءِ عَلَيْهِ شَيْئًا لَمْ يَفْتَحْهُ عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ قَبْلِي، ثُمَّ يُقَالُ: يَا مُحَمَّدُ ارْفَعْ رَأْسَكَ، سَلْ تُعْطَهُ، وَاشْفَعْ تُشَفَّعْ، فَأَرْفَعُ رَأْسِي فَأَقُولُ: أُمِّي يَا رَبِّ، أُمِّي يَا رَبِّ، أُمِّي يَا رَبِّ، فَيُقَالُ: يَا مُحَمَّدُ ادْخُلْ مِنْ أُمْتِكَ مَنْ لَا حِسَابَ عَلَيْهِمْ مِنَ الْبَابِ الْأَيْمَنِ مِنْ أَبْوَابِ الْجَنَّةِ، وَهُمْ شُرَكَاءُ النَّاسِ فِي مَا سِوَى ذَلِكَ مِنَ الْأَبْوَابِ»⁽²⁾.

Allah informs us in His Book about the station of His Messenger that He praises him from the Highest of Heavens, and the Angels in turn send their peace and blessings upon him. Then He in turn commands us to send our peace and blessings upon him, as a testimony and recognition of love and honour. So Allah says:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا

عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا

(1) متفق عليه .

(2) متفق عليه .

Indeed, Allah and His Angels [by asking Him to do so] confer blessing upon the Prophet. O you who believe: Ask for [Allah to confer] blessings upon him and ask for [Allah to grant him] peace.

[Qur'an: 33:56]

For whosoever sends his peace and blessings shall find in turn his/her **blessings increase**, and his/her **sins/shortcomings decrease**. And he in turn receives prayers and blessings from Allah and His Angels. The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ وَاحِدَةً صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ عَشْرًا، وَحُطَّ عَنْهُ عَشْرَ

خَطِيئَاتٍ

Whoever sends salutations (peace and blessings) upon me once, Allah will send salutations upon him tenfold.

And ten bad deeds will be erased from (his record) , and he will be raised (in status) by ten degrees.

[Adab al-Mufrad]

And he said:

مَا صَلَّى عَلَيَّ أَحَدٌ صَلَاةً إِلَّا صَلَّتْ عَلَيْهِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ مَا دَامَ يُصَلِّي

عَلَيَّ

No one sends salutations upon me except that the Angels continue to send salutations upon them for as long as they do. [Ahmad]

And with salutations upon the Prophet, grief is removed, distress is made easy. So on the authority of Ubayy ibn Ka'b who said a man came to the Prophet (pbuh) and said: "O Messenger of Allah, what do you see if I make all of my salutations upon you?"

إِذَنْ يَكْفِيكَ اللَّهُ مَا أَهَمَّكَ مِنْ دُنْيَاكَ وَآخِرَتِكَ

"Then Allah will suffice you concerning your worries in both this world and the hereafter."

[Ahmad]

So this is one of the best of days to send salutations upon the Prophet ρ

إِنَّ مِنْ أَفْضَلِ أَيَّامِكُمْ يَوْمَ الْجُمُعَةِ... فَأَكْثِرُوا عَلَيَّ مِنَ الصَّلَاةِ فِيهِ، فَإِنَّ صَلَاتَكُمْ مَعْرُوضَةٌ عَلَيَّ

One of the best of your days is Friday... So send a great deal of salutations upon me on this day, for your salutations will be presented to me.

[Abu Dawud]

The Prophet (pbuh) said:

أَوَّلَى النَّاسِ بِي يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَكْثَرُهُمْ عَلَيَّ صَلَاةً

The closest of people to me on the Day of Judgment shall be those who were most proficient in sending salutations upon me. [Tirmidhi]

Dua:

O Allah, we ask You, from your loving kindness, for the immensity of your forgiveness, for the reward of all righteousness, for the safety and protection from all sins.

O Allah, do not allow us to sin except that You forgive us, nor to have any worry except that you relieve us, nor for any debt to come upon us except that You see it compensated, nor for there to be any sick amongst us except that You see them healed. Let there be no dead, except that You have covered them in Your mercy, and let there be no pressing need amongst any of us, except that You see it met and fulfilled. O most Noble of the Noble, You are capable over all things, and You are the most generous in responding to those who call upon You.

We ask You, O Allah, the Lord of all domains, to continue blessing the entire world with stability, welfare, increase in its bounties, knowledge, civilization, happiness, beauty and tolerance.

O Allah, spread salam and peace in the entire world.

O Allah: Make us lovers of our Prophet and make us among those who benefit from His seerat (Life of the Prophet) and Sunnah. Make us among those who emulate his character and act upon the guidance He gave. O, Allah make us among those who benefit from his *intercession*. And assist us all in the way of piety. Piety towards Your trustworthy Messenger, Muhammad pbuh and towards those You have commanded us to be dutiful towards. In accordance with the Verse:

O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.

[Qur'an: 4:59]

اللَّهُمَّ يَا خَيْرَ مَنْ سُئِلَ، وَيَا أَجْوَدَ مَنْ أُعْطِيَ، وَيَا أَكْرَمَ مَنْ عَفَا،
وَأَعْظَمَ مَنْ غَفَرَ؛ نَسْأَلُكَ مِنَ الْخَيْرَاتِ أَوْفَرَهَا، وَمِنَ الْعُلُومِ أَنْفَعَهَا،
وَمِنَ الْأَخْلَاقِ أَكْمَلَهَا، وَنَسْأَلُكَ السَّعَادَةَ فِي الدُّنْيَا، وَالْفَوْزَ فِي
الْآخِرَةِ.

I say this, and I seek forgiveness for me and for you, so seek His forgiveness, for He is the All-Forgiving and the All-Merciful.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.