#### The Virtue of Friday and Its Etiquette

#### 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:

Allah distinguishes whatever He wills of His creation, and to Him belongs all wisdom and praise in His creation and selection. Part of magnifying Allah is honoring what He has distinguished and favored. Time is the vehicle for drawing nearer to our Lord and gathering provisions of good deeds for the Hereafter. Among the best ways of making our record of good deeds heavier is by obeying Allah during virtuous times. Allah has chosen a day that He mentioned in His Book, and an entire Surah was named after it, unlike any other day of the week. It is the most noble and honorable day. The Prophet said:

The best day on which the sun has risen is Friday [Muslim 854b] Allah Almighty swore by this day in His Book, saying:

Al-Burooj (85) 3: **And [by] the witness and what is witnessed** Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) said, "The witness is Friday, and the witnessed is the Day of Arafah." On Friday, a significant event occurred, as Allah completed the creation of the heavens and the earth. Allah, the Exalted, says:

Surah Al-A'raf (7) 54: Indeed, your Lord is Allāh, who created the heavens and earth in six days.

Ibn Kathir (may Allah have mercy on him) commented, that on Friday, the entire creation was gathered.

It is the day with which Allah favored this Ummah, guiding us to it while leading others away from it. The Prophet said:

We are the last, but we will be the foremost on the Day of Resurrection, though they were given the Scriptures before us. This is their day (Friday) which was prescribed for them, but they differed about it. So Allah guided us, and the people follow us in this regard: the Jewish community tomorrow (Saturday) and the Christian community the day after tomorrow (Sunday). [Bukhari 876]

And on this day, Allah bestows His favor by opening the doors of His bounty, such that there is a time within it that no supplication is rejected. The Prophet said:

Indeed, there is an hour on Friday during which no Muslim asks Allah for good but that He gives it to him. [ Muslim 852e]

As mentioned in authentic hadiths, its exact time has been specified in some narrations by Abu Dawud and An-Nasa'i, where it is said to be "the last hour after Asr." The Prophet # said:

Seek it in the last hour after Asr. [Abu Dawud 1048]

And the Day of Judgment is a monumental event, and it will only occur on a great day. This alone is enough to make this day special, for the events of the Hour are of immense significance. The Prophet said:

The Hour will not be established except on a Friday. [Muslim 854b] And on every Friday, everything on earth becomes fearful, dreading that the Hour may occur, except for the son of Adam. The Prophet said:

There is no creature on earth that does not become attentive on Friday, listening intently, until the sun rises, fearing the coming of the Hour, except for the son of Adam. [Sunan an-Nasa'i 1430, Grade: Sahih] Because of the great virtue of Friday, it has been distinguished with acts of worship not found on other days. From the dawn of Friday, the reminders begin. It is narrated in an agreed upon hadith that the Prophet used to recite the Surahs of Sajdah and Insan during the Fajr prayer of Friday. Perhaps this is because these two surahs contain the mention of what has occurred and what will occur concerning the beginning and the end; such as the creation of Adam (peace be upon him), the gathering of the creatures, their resurrection from the graves to either Paradise or Hell, and the conditions of the Day of Judgment, which will occur on a Friday. Shaykh al-Islam (may Allah have mercy on him) said that the Prophet

would recite these two surahs during the Fajr prayer on Friday because they include what has happened and what will happen on this day. And it is a day of beauty and adornment. After the sun rises, the time for bathing begins, and the use of perfume and the miswak (tooth-stick) is especially recommended on this day. The Prophet said:

Ghusl (bathing) on the day of Friday is obligatory on every adult, and (so is) the use of the miswak, and he should apply whatever he can find of perfume. [Bukhari 880, Muslim 846b]

The reward for attending Friday prayer is multiplied. 'Abaya bin Rifa'a (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Abu 'Abs met me while I was going to Friday Prayer, and he said, 'I heard the Prophet say:

Whoever's feet become dusty in the path of Allah, Allah will forbid him to Hellfire. [Bukhari 907]

And the 'path of Allah' applies to every act of obedience, including going out for prayer, seeking knowledge, and similar activities. Therefore, it is hoped for anyone whose feet become dusty walking towards any act of obedience, that they are shielded from the Fire.

Muslims hasten to the Friday Prayer early because arriving early has a special merit not found in other acts of worship. The Prophet said:

مَنِ اغْتَسَلَ يَوْمَ الْجُمُعَةِ غُسْلَ الْجَنَابَةِ، ثُمَّ رَاحَ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَرَّبَ بَدَنَةً، وَمَنْ رَاحَ فِي السَّاعَةِ الثَّالِيَةِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَرَّبَ كَبْشًا أَقْرَنَ، وَمَنْ رَاحَ فِي الشَّاعَةِ الثَّالِثَةِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَرَّبَ كَبْشًا أَقْرَنَ، وَمَنْ رَاحَ فِي السَّاعَةِ الْخَامِسَةِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَرَّبَ بَيْضَةً، فَإِذَا السَّاعَةِ الْخَامِسَةِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَرَّبَ بَيْضَةً، فَإِذَا خَرَجَ الْإِمَامُ حَضَرَتِ الْمَلَائِكَةُ يَسْتَمِعُونَ الذِّكْرَ" (متفق عليه

Whoever performs Ghusl on the day of Friday, as the Ghusl of Janabah (ritual impurity), then goes to the masjid, it is as if he offered a camel as a sacrifice. Whoever goes in the second hour, it is as if he offered a cow. Whoever goes in the third hour, it is as if he offered a horned ram.

Whoever goes in the fourth hour, it is as if he offered a chicken. And whoever goes in the fifth hour, it is as if he offered an egg. When the Imam comes out, the angels present themselves to listen to the remembrance. [Bukhari 881, Muslim 850]

Whoever sits in the mosque waiting for Friday prayer has a right protected by Islam. No one should move him from his place to take it for themselves. The Prophet said:

No one of you should make his brother get up and then sit in his place during Friday Prayer, but he should say: Make room. [Muslim 2178] It is even forbidden to disturb others by movement. The Prophet saw a man stepping over people during Friday Prayer and said:

**Sit down, for you have harmed [people]** [Sunan an-Nasa'i 1399. Grade: Sahih]

On this great day, Muslims gather in a display of unity, listening attentively to the reminder of Allah and what brings them closer to Him. The Friday khutbah has a special impact on the hearts, and it is to be listened to with attentiveness and tranquility of the limbs. It is forbidden for the one attending Friday Prayer to be distracted, even by touching the pebbles. The Prophet said:

Whoever touches the pebbles has engaged in idle talk. [Narrated by Muslim 857b]

Just as the Prophet # forbade those attending Friday Prayer from being distracted by actions, he also forbade them from speaking, even a single word. The Prophet # said:

If you say to your companion: 'Be quiet' on Friday while the Imam is delivering the khutbah, then you have engaged in idle talk. [Bukhari 935 Muslim 851]

The Friday khutbah contains guidance, admonitions, and knowledge about Allah, His Messenger, and the religion of Islam. Therefore, Allah made it obligatory to hasten to it when the call to prayer is made, saying:

Surah Al-Jumu'ah (62) 9: O you who have believed, when [the adhān] is called for the prayer on the day of Jumu'ah [Friday], then proceed to the remembrance of Allāh and leave trade. That is better for you, if you only knew.

Ibn al-Qayyim (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Whoever contemplates the khutbahs of the Prophet and the khutbahs of his companions will find them sufficient in explaining guidance and Tawheed (monotheism), mentioning the attributes of the Lord - the Glorious and Exalted - and the fundamental principles of iman (faith), calling to Allah, mentioning His favors that endear Him to His creation, and His days that make them fear His punishment, commanding His remembrance and gratitude which makes them beloved to Him. They mention the greatness of Allah, His attributes, and His names that which makes Him beloved to His creation, and they are commanded to obey, express gratitude, and remember Him, which makes them beloved to Him, so the listeners leave with love for Him, and He loves them.

Then, Muslims perform one of the obligatory acts of Islam, in which the Imam recites Surahs aloud that remind of the current state and the hereafter, such as Surah Al-A'la and Surah Al-Ghashiyah, or Surah Al-Jumu'ah and Surah Al-Munafiqun. After the Friday prayer, people go about their daily affairs, rejoicing in that day. The Prophet ## prescribed the Sunnah of Friday Prayer in the masjed afterward with four Rak'ahs

(units of prayer) with two Tasleems (concluding salutations). The Prophet said:

When one of you prays Friday Prayer, let him pray four [Rak'ahs] afterward. [Muslim 881]

Whoever prays the voluntary prayer at home after Friday Prayer should pray two Rak'ahs.

It is recommended for a Muslim to spend the remainder of the day in the remembrance of Allah and in acts that draw them closer to their Lord. Allah, the Exalted, says:

Surah Al-Jumu'ah (62) 10: And when the prayer has been concluded, disperse within the land and seek from the bounty of Allāh, and remember Allāh often that you may succeed.

The effects of obedience on the day of Friday extend for ten days afterwards. For the Prophet said:

لَا يَغْتَسِلُ رَجُلٌ يَومَ الجُمُعَةِ، ويَتَطَهَّرُ ما اسْتَطَاعَ مِن طُهْرٍ، ويَدَّهِنُ مِن دُهْنِهِ، أَوْ يَمَسُّ مِن طَهْرٍ، ويَدَّهِنُ مِن دُهْنِهِ، أَوْ يَمَسُّ مِن طِيبِ بَيْتِهِ، ثُمَّ يَخْرُجُ فلا يُفَرِّقُ بيْنَ اثْنَيْنِ، ثُمَّ يُصَلِّي ما كُتِبَ له، ثُمَّ يُنْصِتُ إِذَا تَكَلَّمَ الإِمَامُ، إلَّا غُفِرَ له ما بيْنَهُ وبيْنَ الجُمُعَةِ الأُخْرَى -رواه البخاري زاد مسلم وفضل ثلاثة أيام

No man takes a bath on Friday, purifies himself as much as he can, applies oil to his hair or perfumes himself with the scent of his house, then goes out without separating two people, then prays as much as is written for him, and remains silent when the Imam speaks, except that he will be forgiven for what is between that Friday and the next. [Bukhari 883] And Muslim added- And three additional days. [Muslim 857] Whoever neglects the good of this day misses out on a great deal of good. Whoever abandons Friday Prayer out of negligence, Allah will

place a seal over his heart, and he will be among the heedless. The Prophet # said:

Let those people who are neglecting the Friday prayer stop doing so, or Allah will seal their hearts and they will be among the heedless. [Muslim 865]

Due to the grave nature of abandoning Friday Prayer, the Prophet \*\* even considered burning down the houses of those who do so. The Prophet \*\* said:

I was about to command a man to lead people in prayer, and then to burn the houses of men who do not attend the Friday prayer. [Muslim 652]

Friday has characteristics that distinguish it from other days, and it is a gift from Allah to this Ummah (community). It is a wide field for competing in good deeds. Therefore, a Muslim should honor and cherish it, dedicate it to worship, and keep themselves away from all misdeeds and sin.

Whoever takes advantage of this day will be successful by Allah's grace for the rest of the week. Allah Almighty said:

Surah Al-Qasas (28) 68: And your Lord creates what He wills and chooses; not for them was the choice. Exalted is Allāh and high above what they associate with Him.

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

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:

Friday is the weekly Eid (celebration) for Muslims, and therefore, it should not be singled out for fasting. The Prophet said:

Do not single out Friday night among all other nights for standing in night prayer, and do not single out Friday among all other days for fasting unless it is part of a fast that one of you regularly observes.

[Muslim 1144b]

The honor of this day, like all aspects of the religion, is known to us through the Prophet , as he is the messenger between us and Allah in conveying the message. Being faithful to the Prophet includes following him consistently and increasing invoking blessings upon him on Fridays. The Prophet said:

Indeed, among the most excellent of your days is Friday; on it Adam was created, on it he passed, on it the last trumpet will be blown, and on it the shout will be made, so invoke more blessings upon me that day, for your blessings will be submitted to me. [Abu Dawood 1047]

May Allah make us among those who venerate what He has honored. Indeed Allah 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 وَنَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الشَّرِ كُلِّهِ عَاجِلِهِ مَا عَلِمْنا مِنْهُ وَمَا لَمْ نَعْلَمْ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ خَيْرِ مَا 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 الْجُنَّةَ 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 وَنَعُودُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُودُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُودُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُودُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُودُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعُودُ بِكَ مِنَ النَّارِ وَمَا قَرَّبَ إِلَيْهَا مِنْ قَوْلٍ أَوْ عَمَلٍ وَنَعْدُ أَلَا قَضَاءٍ قَضَيْتَهُ لَنا 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 اللهِ اللهِ اللهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمِنكرِ وَالْبَغْي، 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.