

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 وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ  
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ  
يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا  
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ  
فَإِنَّ أَصْدَقَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَخَيْرَ الْهُدَى هَدْيُ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ وَشَرَّ الْأُمُورِ مُحَدَّثَاتُهَا وَكُلُّ مُحَدَّثَةٍ بَدْعَةٌ وَكُلُّ بَدْعَةٍ ضَلَالَةٌ وَكُلُّ ضَلَالَةٍ فِي النَّارِ

Dear my brothers in Islam,

All thanks and praise is due to Allah Ta'ala, we seek His help and forgiveness. We seek refuge to Allah from the evil within ourselves and the consequences of our evil deeds. Whosoever Allah guides will never be led astray, and whosoever Allah leads astray will never find guidance. We bear witness that there is no God to be worshipped except Allah, alone without any partners, and we bear witness that Muhammad shallallahu'alaihi wa sallam is His servant and His Messenger.

As a reminder for myself and all of us, let us increase our taqwa to Allah Subhaanahu wa Ta'ala by fulfilling all of His commands and refraining from all His prohibitions. Let's continue to be guided by the Holy Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophet Shallallahu'alaihi wa sallam in our daily life.

Dear brothers,

It is one of the rules of Allah over His creatures that whoever takes the way that leads to the success of his life of this world shall attain whatever Allah has destined for him of this world. Similarly, whoever takes the way that leads to the success of hereafter and the Paradise, Allah will make him reach his goal. Also, whoever takes the way that leads to the success of both this world and the Hereafter by obeying Allah and abstaining from sins, he will attain the success of this both world and the Hereafter. Allah says,

مَنْ كَانَ يُرِيدُ الْعَاجِلَةَ عَجَّلْنَا لَهُ فِيهَا مَا نَشَاءُ لِمَنْ نُرِيدُ ثُمَّ جَعَلْنَا لَهُ جَهَنَّمَ يَصْلَاهَا مَذْمُومًا مَدْحُورًا ﴿١٨﴾ وَمَنْ أَرَادَ الْآخِرَةَ وَسَعَىٰ لَهَا سَعْيَهَا وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَأُولَٰئِكَ كَانَ سَعْيُهُمْ مَشْكُورًا ﴿١٩﴾

“Whoever desires the quick-passing (transitory enjoyment of this world), We readily grant him what We will for whom We like. Then afterwards, We have appointed for him Hell; he will burn therein disgraced and rejected (far away from Allah’s Mercy). And whoever desires the Hereafter and strives for it, with the necessary effort due for it, then such are the ones whose striving shall be appreciated.” (Surah Al-Israa’:18-19)

It is also of the rule of Allah to test His slaves with the good and evil. He says,

وَتَبْلُوكُمْ بِالشَّرِّ وَالْحَيْرِ فِتْنَةً ۗ وَإِلَيْنَا تُرْجَعُونَ ﴿٣٥﴾

“We shall make a trial of you with evil and with good. And to Us you will be returned.” (Surah Al-Anbiyaa’:35)

As for the Muslim, whenever any good affects him, he knows that it is a favour from his Lord, because he knows that he deserves nothing from Allah by right. This belief will make him thank his Lord and praise Him. Also, if any evil afflicts him he perseveres and seeks the reward of his Lord, because he knows that the evil is the result of a sin he has committed or that Allah wants to elevate his rank in the Hereafter.

Allah says,

﴿۳۰﴾ وَمَا أَصَابَكُمْ مِنْ مُصِيبَةٍ فَبِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِيكُمْ وَيَعْفُو عَنْ كَثِيرٍ ﴿۳۰﴾

“And whatever of misfortune that befalls you, it is because of what your hands have earned. And He pardons much.” (Surah Ash-Shura:30)

Every Muslim should examine himself, review his deeds and repents for every sin he commits. As for the disbeliever, if any favour comes his way, he becomes insolent and arrogant and starts transgressing. And when any calamity afflicts him he despairs and becomes impatient. We should not be like that.

Dear brothers,

Muslims in these days are afflicted with many calamities. Many causes have however been given for these tribulations. Some say that they are a result of the evil plan of the enemies, some say they are the result of our economic recession and some say they are the result of the Muslim’s industrial and technological backwardness etc. But actually we can say that the real cause of this sorry situation is our negligence of religion individually and collectively. We can learn from the story of Battle of Uhud. Allah says,

أَوَلَمَّا أَصَابَتْكُمْ مُصِيبَةٌ قَدْ أَصَبْتُمْ مِثْلَيْهَا قُلْتُمْ أَنَّى هَذَا ۖ قُلْ هُوَ مِنْ عِنْدِ أَنْفُسِكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ  
كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ ﴿۱۶۵﴾

“Why [is it that] when a [single] disaster struck you [on the day of Uhud], although you had struck [the enemy in the battle of Badr] with one twice as great, you said, "From where is this?" Say, "It is from yourselves (i.e. your own negligence)." Indeed, Allah is over all things competent.” (Surah Aal ‘Imran:165)

Muslims in their history have passed through some periods which were more severe than the present one in afflictions and in which their enemies subjected them to persecutions. But then they made a sincere return to their religion with knowledge and Faith. They therefore, attained security and regained their honour, unity and wellbeing under the shade of Islamic law. This injury was healed and their condition became better.

In this age, the calamity is actually great for the Muslim nation, but it remains and indisputable fact that the affairs of the latter generation of the Muslim nation will never be set aright except by that which set right the affairs of their predecessors. So, blaming the enemies of Islam for these calamities in any way does not absolve the Muslims from being responsible for their own problems.

Dear brothers,

It is thus of great importance, whenever a calamity afflicts any Muslims, the very first step to take is to have a sincere repentance. Allah says,

﴿ ٣١ ﴾ وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا أَيُّهَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ

“And all of you beg Allah to forgive you, O believers, that you may be successful.”  
(Surah An-Nur:31)

Every Muslim needs to have a sincere repentance. If anyone however says, ‘What is the relevance of my personal repentance to the rectification of the other Muslims’ condition?’ He should be told that the cause of all good in this world and the Hereafter is the obedience to Allah and the cause of evil retribution is to disobey Him. He should also be told that, the repentance of every individual brings greater good and reduces calamities on the other Muslims in general.

We should realize that a lot of past nations were destroyed because of the existence of many sinners and fewness of righteous people. The sin of a single individual may destroy a whole nation. For example, we know from Quran that Allah gave epidemics to spread among the children of Israel –even in the presence of Musa and Haaron (peace be upon them) because some of them committed adultery.

Allah says about some of the destroyed nations,

فَكُلًّا أَخَذْنَا بِذَنبِهِ ۖ فَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ أَرْسَلْنَا عَلَيْهِ حَاصِبًا وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ أَخَذَتْهُ الصَّيْحَةُ وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ حَسَفْنَا بِهِ  
الْأَرْضَ وَمِنْهُمْ مَّنْ أَعْرَفْنَا ۖ وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ لِيُظْلِمَهُمْ وَلَكِنْ كَانُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ

“So We punished each (of them) for his sins; of them were those on whom We sent a violent wind with shower of stones, of them there were those who were overtaken by awful cry, of them were those whom We caused the earth to swallow and of them were those whom We drowned. It was not Allah who wronged them, but they wronged themselves.” (Surah Al-‘Ankabut:40).

Zainab radiyallahu’anha once asked to Prophet sallallahu’alaihi wa sallam, “Yaa Rasuulallah, is it possible that we are going to be destroyed while there are righteous people among us? The Messenger of Allah said, ‘Yes, when immorality and khamr have become widespread.’ ”

Dear brothers,

It is clear that we should not treat the matter of repentance lightly because it is the way out of all hardships. We should hold fast to the Book of Allah and the Sunnah of His Messenger for they are the light and guidance that save from darkness and error.

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ آيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ . وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْبَصِيرُ . أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا  
وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ

## Second sermon

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، وَبِهِ نَسْتَعِينُ عَلَى أُمُورِ الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةِ،  
وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى نَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ، أَمَا بَعْدُ

Dear my brothers,

Let's repent from our own sins as much as possible and as soon as possible. Let's fear Allah as He should be feared, seek nearness to Him through righteous deeds and abstain from sinful acts. Send forward our good deeds before we meet Him and make good use of our lifetime. Allah says,

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ نَفْسٌ مَّا قَدَّمَتْ لِغَدٍ ۖ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ



“O you who believe! Fear Allah and keep your duty to Him. Let every soul look for what he has sent forth for the morrow and fear Allah. Verily, Allah is All-Aware of what you do.”  
(Al-Hashr 59:18)

Let's prepare for ourselves answers that will save us from the hardship of the Day of Resurrection. Rasulullah sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam said, “The foot of man will not slip on the Day of Resurrection until he is asked of his life as to how he has lived it, of his youth as to how he has used it, of his wealth as to how he got it and in what he spent it and about his knowledge as to what he did with it.”

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا  
اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ  
مُجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لَنَا وَلِإِخْوَانِنَا الَّذِينَ سَبَقُونَا بِالْإِيمَانِ وَلَا تَجْعَلْ فِي قُلُوبِنَا غِلًّا لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ رَؤُوفٌ  
رَحِيمٌ

رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لَنَا ذُنُوبَنَا وَإِسْرَافَنَا فِي أَمْرِنَا وَثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَنَا وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ  
رَبَّنَا لَا تُرِغْ قُلُوبَنَا بَعْدَ إِذْ هَدَيْتَنَا وَهَبْ لَنَا مِنْ لَدُنْكَ رَحْمَةً إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الْوَهَّابُ

رَبَّنَا لَا تُؤَاخِذْنَا إِنْ نَسِينَا أَوْ أَخْطَأْنَا رَبَّنَا وَلَا تَحْمِلْ عَلَيْنَا إِصْرًا كَمَا حَمَلْتَهُ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِنَا رَبَّنَا وَلَا  
تَحْمِلْنَا مَالًا طَاقَةً لَنَا بِهِ وَاعْفُ عَنَّا وَاعْفِرْ لَنَا وَارْحَمْنَا أَنْتَ مَوْلَانَا فَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ  
رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ

سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ رَبِّ الْعِزَّةِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ