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"STEADFASTNESS POST RAMADAAN"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَمُوا فَلَا خَوْفَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ.¹

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.²

Dear blessed Muslims,

I humbly call upon all of us to altogether strive in increasing our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by fulfilling all of His Commands and abandoning all matters that He prohibited. May we be bestowed with happiness and salvation in this world and the Hereafter.

¹ al-Ahqaaf 46:13.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.

On this noble day, I will expound on a *khutbah* titled
"STEADFASTNESS POST RAMADAAN."

Blessed Friday audience,

Alhamdulillah, we express our utmost gratitude unto Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* for His abundant *rahmah* (mercy) and permission, we have been granted with the opportunity and privilege from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* to engage in *'ibaadah* (worship) in the month of Ramadaan that is full of *barakah* (blessings) this year. May we successfully attain pleasure and forgiveness from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Ramadaan teaches us the meaning of *sabr* (patience) in performing the *'ibaadah* of fasting as a sign of obedience, in restraining oneself from matters that have been prohibited, as well as enduring hunger, thirst, and feeling weak.

But what is even more important for us to ponder upon is will the *sabr* that we have developed throughout Ramadaan continue to be preserved, or will it end with the passing of Ramadaan?

In truth, *sabr* after Ramadaan is truly necessary so that we continue to remain obedient without coercion, abstaining from disobedience without supervision, and accepting predestination without complaint. Take heed that the reward for those possessing *sabr* is tremendous in the sight of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 10 of Soorah az-Zumar:

إِنَّمَا يُوفَّى الصَّابِرُونَ أَجْرَهُمْ بِغَيْرِ حِسَابٍ.

"Indeed, the patient will be given their reward without account."

Esteemed Friday congregation,

The scholars have explained that the reality of fasting is not merely abstaining oneself from eating, drinking, and everything that nullifies fasting. Fasting also means to restrain all body parts from committing matters that are prohibited by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* such as preventing the tongue from uttering lies and backbiting, preserving the eyes from looking the *haraam* (unlawful), and guarding the heart from negative assumptions.

Imaam al-Ghazaali, in his magnum opus *Ihya' 'Uloom ad-Deen*, had divided fasting into three levels. The highest level is the fasting of *khusoos al-khusoos*, which is refraining the heart and mind from worldly matters and focusing entirely for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Indeed, the heart that is always attached to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* will continue to remain obedient upon His Commands and avoid His prohibitions. This obedience does not cease with the end of Ramadaan, moreover it continues throughout one's life as a servant. In reality, the failure for *istiqaamah* (steadfastness) after Ramadaan often happens when Ramadaan is deemed as seasonal *'ibaadah*, not as madrasah that develops *taqwa* that is continuous.

Beloved audience,

In the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, the Prophet ﷺ said:

لِلصَّائِمِ فَرْحَتَانِ فَرْحَةٌ عِنْدَ فِطْرِهِ وَفَرْحَةٌ عِنْدَ لِقَاءِ رَبِّهِ

"There are two occasions of joy for one who fasts, the joy when he breaks his fast, and the joy when he meets his Lord."

(Muslim)

This *hadeeth* provides glad tidings from Rasulullah ﷺ to his *ummah*. The first joy is the happiness felt by the fasting person during the breaking of fast, after enduring hunger and thirst for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. Moreover, that happiness is felt even greater with the arrival of 'Eid *al-Fitr* after one month of *mujaahadah* (striving) in performing the 'ibaadah of fasting.

However, truthfully there is still a much greater joy that awaits, which is the moment when the servant meets Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, in a state where his fasting is accepted and his deeds are blessed.

Verily, the life of a Muslim post Ramadaan necessitates *istiqaamah* in obedience to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and avoid all matters that He forbade. What does it mean to refrain from hunger and thirst throughout Ramadaan, if post Ramadaan we return to our old habits without having concern for sins and reward?

Imaam al-Ghazaali, in *Ihya' 'Uloom ad-Deen*, gave a very profound metaphor:

فَمِثَالُ هَذَا الصَّائِمِ مِثَالُ مَنْ يَبْنِي قَصْرًا وَيَهْدِمُ مِصْرًا

"The example of this fasting person is akin to someone who builds a palace and destroys a city."

Therefore, *istiqaamah* post Ramadaan necessitates that all body parts are safeguarded from sinning. The heart always remains alive with *dhikrullaah* (remembrance of Allah), the tongue is safeguarded from idle speech, lying, and backbiting, while all body parts are preserved from unlawful acts and vigilant upon *shubuhaat* (doubtful matters).

My brothers, respected Muslims,

To end the *khutbah* today, let us derive several lessons as guidelines in daily affairs:

1. We must continue to embrace *sabr* that has been engrained throughout Ramadaan in enduring the worldly life, which truthfully is a realm for tribulations, filled with a plethora of challenges, trials, and temptations.
2. We must always maintain our momentum of *'ibaadah* so that it will not halt after Ramadaan. Moreover, it remains continuous throughout the year by preserving all obligations and increase supererogatory acts as a sign of *taqwa* unto Him.
3. We must remain *istiqaamah* by abandoning all unrighteous habits and attitudes, after remaining *mujaahadah* throughout Ramadaan unto becoming servants that are more obedient to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
إِنَّ الَّذِينَ قَالُوا رَبُّنَا اللَّهُ ثُمَّ اسْتَقَامُوا تَتَنَزَّلُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْمَلَائِكَةُ أَلَّا
تَخَافُوا وَلَا تَحْزَنُوا وَأَبْشِرُوا بِالْجَنَّةِ الَّتِي كُنْتُمْ تُوعَدُونَ.

"Indeed, those who have said, "Our Lord is Allah" and then remained on a right course - the angels will descend upon them, [saying],

"Do not fear and do not grieve but receive good tidings of Paradise, which you were promised."

(Soorah Fussilat 41:30)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ
مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ
السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ الشَّرِيعَةَ، هَدَى لِلنَّاسِ وَرَحْمَةً،

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.³

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزَّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَذِلَّ الشِّرْكَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ، وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ، وَاجْعَلْ هَذَا الْبَلَدَ آمِنًا مُطْمَئِنًّا وَسَائِرَ بِلَادِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ.

³ al-Ahzaab 33:56.

اَللّٰهُمَّ وَفِّقْ اَئِمَّةَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَوُلاَةَ اُمُوْرِهِمْ وَجَمِيْعَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ
لِمَا فِيْهِ صَلاَحُ الْبِلَادِ وَالْعِبَادِ.

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ اِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْاَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ
بِاسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنٰى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمٰى، اَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعِيْنَ
عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصِّمْدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا
الْمُعَظَّمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطُوْر، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ ابْنِ الْمَرْحُوْمِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحُ الدِّيْنِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيْزِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُوْر، تَغْكُوْ اَمِيْر شَاهِ ابْنِ
السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِيْ اَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ
عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحِيْنَ لِلْمَوْظَفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ
مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيْقِ الْهُدٰى وَالرَّشَادِ.

O Allah! Strengthen the 'aqeedah of the Muslims upon the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*, which is upon the path of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his Companions *radiyAllaahu 'anhum*, as formulated by Imaam Abu Hasan al-Ash'ari and Imaam Abu Mansoor al-Maatureedi, practicing upon the

Shaafi'i *Madhhab* (juristic school of thought) while accepting the other three *madhaahib*, practicing *tasawwuf* upon the way of Imaam Junayd al-Baghdaadi and Imaam al-Ghazaali. Spare us from all forms of bribery and abuse of power, as well as misguidance and extremism, and protect us from *fitan* that can harm the union and unity of the Muslim *ummah*.

O Allah! Bestow peace and prosperity upon our state and nation. Protect us from all forms of disaster, fitnah and calamity. Bestow upon us leaders that have utmost integrity, firmness, and courage in upholding the Truth according to Your *Sharee'ah*.

O Allah! Protect the Muslim *ummah* and Masjid al-Aqsa in Palestine. Preserve them from oppression and evil, and bestow upon them steadfastness, strength, and victory.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا.⁴
رَبَّنَا ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.⁵
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ.⁶
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ،
وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا
تَصْنَعُونَ.

⁴ al-Furqaan 25:74.

⁵ al-Baqarah 2:201.

⁶ an-Nahl 16:90.

