



Broadcasted and Distributed Friday Khutbah

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The Worship of Gratitude (Shukr)

All praise is due to Allah, we praise Him, seek His help, and ask for His forgiveness.

And we seek refuge in Allah from the evils of ourselves and from our bad deeds.

Whomsoever Allah guides, none can lead astray; and whomsoever He leads astray, none can guide.

I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone, with no partner, and I bear witness that



Muhammad is His slave and His Messenger, His chosen one among His creation, and His intimate friend.

He fulfilled the trust, delivered the message, and strove for the sake of Allah with true striving until certainty came to him.

May Allah send His peace and blessings upon him, his family, and his companions abundant blessings.

{O you who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared. [Obey Him, be thankful to Him, and remember Him always], and die not except in a state of Islam (as Muslims) with complete submission to Allah.} [Aal-Imran: 102].

To proceed: Indeed, the truest speech is the Book of Allah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him.

The worst of matters are newly-invented ones, every newly-invented matter is an innovation, every innovation is misguidance, and every misguidance leads to the Fire.

O servants of Allah: Indeed, among the most sublime stations of servitude is the station of gratitude (Shukr).

For it is a noble act of worship and a great means of drawing close to Allah.

Allah, the Exalted and Glorious, praised its people and described the elite of His creation with it.

Allah said regarding His Prophet Noah, peace be upon him: {Verily, he was a grateful slave.} [Al-Isra: 3].

And Allah said regarding His intimate friend Abraham, peace be upon him: {Verily, Ibrahim (Abraham) was a Umah (a leader having all the good righteous qualities), or a nation, obedient to Allah, Hanifa (i.e. to worship none but Allah), and he was not one of those who were Al-Mushrikun (polytheists, idolaters, disbelievers in the Oneness of Allah). (He was) thankful for His favours. He (Allah) chose him (as an intimate friend) and guided him to a Straight Path.} [An-Nahl: 120-121].



When the Prophet of Allah Solomon, peace be upon him, saw the continuous favors of Allah upon him, he said: {This is by the Grace of my Lord - to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! And whoever is grateful, truly, his gratitude is for (the good of) his ownself, and whoever is ungrateful, (he is ungrateful only for the loss of his ownself). Certainly! My Lord is Rich (Free of all wants), Bountiful!} [An-Naml: 40].

Our Prophet, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, possessed immense gratitude toward his Lord.

Al-Mughirah ibn Shu'bah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, stood in prayer until his feet became swollen.

It was said to him: "Do you overburden yourself like this, when Allah has forgiven your past and future sins?" He replied: "Should I not then be a thankful servant?" [Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim].

O Muslims: Indeed, Allah, the Blessed and Exalted, has divided people into the thankful and the ungrateful.

Allah the Exalted said: {Verily, We showed him the way, whether he be grateful or ungrateful.} [Al-Insan: 3].

And He, glorified be He, informed us that His thankful servants are the few, saying in His noble and majestic speech: {But few of My slaves are grateful.} [Saba: 13].

Thus, most of creation fluctuate within the apparent and hidden favors of Allah, yet few among them are thankful, and rare among them are those who remember Him.

When the blessing departs and the affliction strikes, they awaken from their heedlessness and regret their intoxication, but at that moment, regret is of no avail.

The successful servant is the one who sees the effect of Allah's blessings upon him at all times; his heart acknowledges the grace of his Lord, his tongue utters His praise and remembrance, and his limbs yield in obedience to His command.

Allah the Exalted said: {And He gave you of all that you asked for, and if you count the Blessings of Allah, never will you be able to count them. Verily! Man is indeed an ingrate, a wrong-doer.} [Ibrahim: 34].

Talq ibn Habib, may Allah have mercy upon him, said: "Indeed, the right of Allah is too heavy for the servants to fully fulfill, and the blessings of Allah are too many for the servants to count, but wake up in the morning repenting, and enter the evening repenting."

O blessed ones: Among the Most Beautiful Names of Allah is As-Shakur (The Most Appreciative).

He is the One who gives abundant reward for little action, accepts minor deeds

, and bestows immense reward for them.

He multiplies a good deed ten times up to seven hundred times, and to even greater multiples.

Frequently, the Lord of Might and Glory couples His Name As-Shakur with His Name Al-Ghafur (The Oft-Forgiving).

He, glorified be He, is forgiving of all sins no matter how great they are, for no sin is too great for Him to forgive, and He is appreciative of every deed, even if it is small.

Glorified be He who never disappoints the hope of a hopeful person and never wastes the deed of any worker.

O Muslims: Indeed, among the means by which a servant reaches the status of a thankful servant is supplication (Dua).

The Prophet of Allah Solomon, peace be upon him, said: {My Lord! Grant me the power and ability that I may be grateful for

Your Favours which You have bestowed on me and on my parents.} [An-Naml: 19].

And Mu'adh ibn Jabal, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, took his hand and said: "O Mu'adh, by Allah, I love you; by Allah, I love you." Then he said: "I advise you, O Mu'adh, never leave saying at the end of every prayer: 'O Allah, help me to remember You, thank You, and worship You in the best manner.'" [Narrated by Abu Dawud and authenticated by Al-Albani].

Among those means is: acknowledging and mentioning the blessings of Allah.

{And (remember) when your Lord proclaimed: "If you give thanks (by accepting Faith and worshipping none but Allah), I will give you more (of My Blessings), but if you are thankless (i.e. disbelievers), verily! My Punishment is indeed severe."}
[Ibrahim: 7].

The thankful soul sees the manifestations of grace and acknowledges the Creator's benevolence and favor, thereby attaining increase and bounty.

For this reason, the early scholars called gratitude "the preserver," because it preserves existing blessings and attracts missing ones.

Another means is: using the blessing in obedience to Allah, for the true essence of gratitude is harnessing the favor in that which pleases Allah the Exalted.

Some of the predecessors (Salaf) said: "Gratitude is the abandonment of sin."

And among the means that aid in gratitude is: looking at those who are beneath you in worldly matters.

Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, said: "Look at those who are beneath you and do not look

at those who are above you, for it is more suitable that you do not belittle the favor of Allah upon you." [Agreed upon].

May Allah bless me and you in the Great Quran, and benefit me and you with what is in it of verses and the Wise Reminder.

I say this statement of mine and I seek forgiveness from Allah for myself and for you from every sin, so seek His forgiveness and repent to Him; indeed, He is the Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

The Second Khutbah

Praise be to Allah for His benevolence, and gratitude is due to Him for His success and favor.

May peace and blessings be upon the caller to His pleasure, Muhammad ibn Abdillah, and upon his family, his companions, and whoever follows his path until the Day of Recompense.



To proceed: Fear Allah, O servants of Allah, with true consciousness, and be mindful of Him in secret and in private, and know that unto Him you shall all be gathered.

O Muslims: Indeed, among the greatest blessings that Allah has bestowed upon us is the blessing of water.

It flows to us without hardship or significant effort, while there are those who travel long distances searching for water, regardless of whether that water is fit for drinking or not.

Allah the Exalted said, reminding His servants of this blessing: {Say (O Muhammad): "Tell me! If your water were to be sunk away (into the earth), who then can supply you with flowing (spring) water?"} [Al-Mulk: 30].

Complete gratitude requires the servant to use this blessing properly, without wasting water.

If our upright religion has forbidden us from extravagance even in charity and ablution (Wudu)—which are acts of worship—how then can extravagance be acceptable in other matters?

Allah the Exalted said: {And those, who, when they spend, are neither extravagant nor niggardly, but hold a medium (way) between those (extremes).} [Al-Furqan: 67].

And Abdullah ibn Amr, may Allah be pleased with them both, reported that the Prophet, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, performed ablution washing each part three times, then said: "This is the ablution; whoever exceeds this has done bad, transgressed, and committed injustice." [Narrated by Ahmad and An-Nasa'i, and authenticated by Al-Albani].

O believers: Indeed, among the most majestic blessings that Allah has bestowed upon us in recent centuries is the blessing of electricity.

Through it, homes are illuminated, food is preserved, the wheels of life turn, communication tools operate, and the intense heat of midday is relieved for people.

Should it be cut off for an hour of the night or day, one feels as though life has stopped and movement has been paralyzed.

Whenever a servant becomes accustomed to a blessing, his awareness of it diminishes, but when it is lost, he recognizes its true worth.

Blameworthy extravagance includes indifference towards electrical energy, leaving lights and appliances running day and night.

Al-Mughirah ibn Shu'bah, may Allah be pleased with him, reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, said: "Indeed, Allah hates three things for you: gossip (he said and she said), wasting wealth, and excessive asking." [Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim].

O Allah, make faith beloved to us and beautify it in our hearts, and make disbelief, wickedness, and disobedience hateful to us, and make us among the rightly guided.



O Allah, grant honor to Islam and the Muslims, and humiliate polytheism and the polytheists.

O Allah, protect Kuwait and its people from every evil and harm, and make this land safe and tranquil, along with all other lands of the Muslims.

O Allah, protect our brothers who are in charge of the security of the country, and make the ground firm beneath their feet.

O Allah, grant success to our Amir and his Crown Prince to do that which You love and are pleased with, and take their forelocks towards righteousness and piety.

And our final supplication is that all praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds.

The Committee for Preparing the Standard Friday Sermon