

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ إِنَّا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ شَاهِدًا وَمُبَشِّرًا وَنَذِيرًا وَدَاعِيًا

إِلَى اللَّهِ يَازِنَهُ وَسِرَاجًا مُنِيرًا.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

أَكْمَلُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِيمَانًا أَحْسَنُهُمْ خُلُقًا.

MAWLID AL-NABI

Esteemed Muslims!

Our beloved Prophet (saw), whose ummah we are honored to be part of, illuminated the Age of Ignorance, in which shirk had condemned humanity to darkness, with the creed of tawhid. At a time when oppression and evil had taken humanity captive, he became a source of hope for the oppressed and victimized, the powerless and the weak. Our mother Khadijah expressed this noble quality of our Prophet (saw) as follows: **“By Allah, Allah the Almighty will never disgrace you. For you maintain the ties of kinship; you care for those in need; you protect and look after those who are hungry and destitute; you honor your guests; and you help those afflicted by calamity.”**¹

Dear Believers!

All the elements of noble character that humanity needs are found in the Book of Allah and the sunnah of our Prophet (saw). Therefore, whoever seeks peace and tranquility within their family should hold fast to the Prophetic counsel: **“The best of you are those who are best to their families.”**² Whoever seeks halal earnings should adopt as a principle in life: **“Allah loves it when a person performs their work with excellence.”**³ Whoever strives to maintain ties with relatives, live in harmony with neighbors, and establish brotherhood in social life should heed the counsel: **“A Muslim is one from whose tongue and hand people are safe.”**⁴ And whoever desires to experience the fulfillment of faith should take as their guide the hadith: **“The most perfect of the believers in faith are those who are best in character.”**⁵

Esteemed Muslims!

Today, the means of communication are rapidly expanding, and information can reach every corner of the world within seconds. Yet, despite all these advancements, humanity is in greater need of peace and tranquility than ever before. Many people who are able to communicate with others on the other side of the world can become strangers to their own spouses, children, mothers, and fathers with whom they share the same home. Likewise, many who lose themselves in the crowds of the virtual world may remain unaware of the troubles of the neighbor next door, the circumstances of their relatives, and the cries of those in need in their own neighborhoods. Let us not forget that the solution to these problems we face in our time lies in the Prophetic character, some aspects of which we have sought to highlight in today's khutbah.

Honorable Believers!

This coming Monday marks the blessed night of Mawlid al-Nabi. On the occasion of the 1,500th Hijri anniversary of the birth of our beloved Prophet (saw), we will observe Mawlid al-Nabi Week under the theme “Our Prophet and Noble Character.” Through the programs we will hold throughout the week, we will strive to commemorate and better understand our Prophet (saw), and to share the messages he brought with all of humanity.

All praise and glory be to our Lord, Allah the Almighty, Who has honored us by making us members of the ummah of the Messenger of Allah (saw). May blessings and peace be upon our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa, our guide and our role model, and upon his family and companions. May our Mawlid al-Nabi be filled with blessings.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

We conclude this week's khutbah with the meaning of the following verses from Surah al-Ahzab: **“O Prophet! We have sent you as a witness, and a deliverer of good news, and a warner, and a caller to ‘the Way of’ Allah by His command, and a beacon of light.”**⁶

¹ Bukhari, Bad'e al-Wahy, 1.

² Ibn Majah, Nikah, 50.

³ Tabarani, Mu'jam al-Kabir, XXIV 306.

⁴ Nasa'i, Iman, 8.

⁵ Abu Dawud, Sunnah, 15.

⁶ Ahzab, 33/45, 46.

