

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ  
وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ  
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
تَرَكْتُ فِيكُمْ أَمْرَيْنِ لَنْ تَضِلُّوا مَا تَمَسَّكْتُمْ  
بِهِمَا كِتَابَ اللَّهِ وَسُنَّةَ نَبِيِّهِ.

### THE FAREWELL SERMON (KHUTBAH AL-WADA): A TIMELESS PROPHETIC BEQUEST

#### Honorable Muslims!

Endless thanks be to our Lord Almighty who deserves all kinds of thanks, praises, glories, and honors. Allah (swt) enabled us to enjoy anew the joy of welcoming Eid al-Adha and Friday. We performed the eid prayer and the worship of qurbani in comprehension of the fact that we, with all our material and spiritual selves, demand His appreciation. We are enjoying the divine abundance of blessings of the eid together with all Muslims on the face of the earth.

#### Dear Believers!

Every year until this year, our joy of the eid would be accompanied by the chants of “Labbayk, Allahumma labbayk” by our pilgrimages. But this year we could not go to Bayt Allah, Arafat, Muzdalifah, and Mina. Our prospective pilgrims are saddened, our hearts broken. We pray to Allah that He (swt) may enable us, as soon as possible, to go to those holy places in health, wellness, and safety; and perform tawaf around the Ka’bah and attain peace by the Masjid al-Nabawi.

#### Dear Muslims!

In order to sooth our longing for the holy lands even a little, let us recall our Prophet’s Farewell Pilgrimage (Hajj al-Wada) today. Let us take a look at some of the timeless messages that he (saw) bequeathed to all humanity in the khutbas he delivered during the Farewell Pilgrimage. Let us all contemplate and attain ease of heart as if living that moment again.

#### Dear Believers!

Addressing a large mass at Arafat, the Prophet of Mercy (saw) first extended thanks and praises to Allah (swt) and said:

“O people! Know it well that your Lord is one and your father is one. You all are from Adam, and Adam is from dirt. The Arab has no superiority over the non-Arab nor the non-Arab over the Arab nor the white over the black nor the black over the white. The superiority in the presence of Allah is by piety and piety alone.

“Verily! Your blood, property and honor are sacred to one another (i.e. Muslims) like the sanctity of this day of yours (arafa), in this month of yours (Dhu al-Hijjah) and in this city of yours (Mecca).”

That day, Prophet Muhammad (saw) declared that he trodden down all kinds of interest and blood feud.

From centuries ago, he warned Muslims about the women’s rights, their respectability, and inviolability by stating, “Beware! Just like you have rights over women, they have rights over you.”

Let us continue with the Farewell Sermon:

“O people! Listen to me in earnest. Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not do injustice... Whatever is borrowed should be returned, and all debts should be paid off. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners.”<sup>1</sup>

“I leave behind me two things, the Qur’an and my example, the Sunnah, and if you follow these you will never go astray.”<sup>2</sup>

#### Dear Muslims!

These honorable words make the Final Prophet’s bequest to humanity, entrustment to his ummah, and the assurance of a safe future. And the guidance for our lives filled with the love of him... I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with the following verse: “Say [O Muhammad]! ‘If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins.’ For Allah is the Oft-Forgiving and Most Merciful.”<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Musnad, VII, 307, 330, 376; Bukhari, Hajj, 132, Maghazi, 78; Muslim, Hajj, 147.

<sup>2</sup> Muwatta’, Qadar, 3.

<sup>3</sup> Al-i ‘Imran, 3/31.