

# Friday Sermon

م 2023/6/23

هـ ١٤٤٤/١٢/٥



The Virtuous Shaykh

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Title

# Actions of the Ten Days of Dhul-Hijjah





# Actions of the Ten Days of Dhul-Hijjah<sup>(1)</sup>

Verily, all praise is for Allah. We praise Him, and seek His aid and forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evil of our souls, and from our bad deeds. Whomsoever Allah guides none can misguide, and whomsoever Allah leaves to go astray none can guide. I testify that there is none worthy of worship except Allah, alone with no partners. And I testify that our Prophet Muhammad is His slave and messenger. May Allah's peace and blessings be upon him, as well as his family and companions in abundance.

## **Amma ba'd:**<sup>[2]</sup>

O Slaves of Allah! Fear Allah as He deserves to be feared and be conscious of Him in secret and in open.

## **Ayyuhal-Muslimun:**<sup>[3]</sup>

The seasons of good come in succession to the

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(1) This khutbah was delivered in Al-Masjid An-Nabawi on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> of Dhul-Hijjah 1444 AH.

[2] Translator's note: "Amma ba'd": a phrase used to separate between the introduction and the topic of the sermon. It can be translated as: "to proceed".

[3] Translator's note: "Ayyuhal-Muslimun" is an address meaning: "O Muslims".]

slaves, out of Allah's bounty and generosity. As soon as one ritual ends, it is followed by another worship. This is so they can cleanse their sins and have their ranks raised through it.

Ten blessed days have come upon us. They are the best, greatest and most virtuous of all days. Allah took an oath by them saying:

﴿وَالْفَجْرِ \* وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ﴾

{By the dawn, and the ten nights (i.e., the first ten days of the month of Dhul-Hijjah).} [Al-Fajr: 1-2]

Masruq (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "They are the ten days [leading up to and including the day of] Al-Adha. They are the most virtuous days of the year." They are from the sacred days in Allah's sight. They are the last part of the "well-known months" about which Allah stated:

﴿الْحَجُّ أَشْهُرٌ مَّعْلُومَاتٌ﴾

{Hajj is [during] well-known months.} [Al-Baqarah: 197]

Kab (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "The most beloved of the sacred months to Allah is Dhul-Hijjah. And the most beloved part of Dhul-Hijjah to Allah is its first ten days." The daytime (from dawn to sunset) of these days are better than that of the last ten nights of Ramadan. The Prophet (may

Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**The best days in this world are the ten days [i.e., the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah].**" Narrated by Ibn Hibban). Shaykh Al-Islam (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "The daytime in the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah is more virtuous than the daytime in the last ten nights of Ramadan. And the nighttime (from sunset to dawn) of the last ten nights of Ramadan is more virtuous than the nighttime in the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah."

The virtue of the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah is because of the main acts of worship all coming together during it, including: Salah (prayer), fasting, charity, and Hajj (pilgrimage). This does not occur in any other time.

The increased virtue of some nights and days is a motive to take advantage of the good in them. Part of taking advantage of the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah is performing a lot of righteous deeds during them. The righteous deed performed during them is more beloved to Allah than that same deed when performed at any other time. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**There are no days in which righteous deeds are more virtuous than in these ten days.**" They said: "Not even jihad?" He said: "**Not even jihad, unless a man goes out for jihad, risking his life and his wealth, and does not come back with anything.**" (Narrated by Al-Bukhari). Ibn Rajab (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "This hadith indicates that righteous deeds in these ten days are

more beloved to Allah than righteous deeds in all the other days in this world, without any exception." The predecessors [i.e., the early generations of Muslims] (may Allah have mercy on them) would exert themselves in performing good deeds during them. When the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah would begin, Said ibn Jubayr (may Allah have mercy on him) would strive extremely hard [in performing good deeds], to the point that he could almost not be kept up with.

From Allah's bounty and generosity is that the acts of obedience in these ten days are many. From that which is legislated in them is remembering Allah abundantly. Allah (may He be exalted) said:

﴿وَيَذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ فِي أَيَّامٍ مَّعْلُومَاتٍ﴾

{And [so they may] mention the Name of Allah on appointed days.} [Al-Hajj: 28]

Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him and his father) said: "[The appointed days] are the ten days [of Dhul-Hijjah]." The remember of Allah (may He be glorified) during these days is from the best acts of worship. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**There are no days that are greater before Allah or in which good deeds are more beloved to Him, than these ten days, so recite a great deal of tahlil (i.e., La ilaha ill-Allah), takbir (i.e., Allahu Akbar) and tahmid (i.e.,**

**Alhamdulillah) during them.**" (Narrated by Ahmad). An-Nawawi (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "It is recommended to increase in the various forms of [Allah's] remembrance in these ten days more than other days. And this is even more emphasised on the Day of Arafah (i.e., the 9<sup>th</sup> of Dhul-Hijjah) than the rest of the ten days." The best form of Allah's remembrance is reciting His book, for it is guidance and a clear light.

The unrestricted takbir at all times is from the rituals of these ten days. "Ibn 'Umar and Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with them both) used to go out to the marketplace during the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah, reciting the takbir out loud, and the people would recite takbir when they heard them". (Narrated by Al-Bukhari in muallaq form). The restricted takbir is also legislated after the obligatory prayers, from the Fajr prayer on the Day of Arafah (the 9<sup>th</sup>) until the Asr prayer on the last of Ayyam Ash-Tashriq (the 13<sup>th</sup>). This is for those performing hajj and other than them.

Charity is a righteous deed that relieves a person of calamities and removes worries. The best charity is the one which is given at the time of need and the virtuous times. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**The one who looks after a widow or a poor person is like the one who fights in Allah's path.** [The narrator said:] I think he also said: **And he is like the one who stands in prayer without rest, and fasts continuously.**" (Agreed upon).

From that which is recommended in these ten days is fasting the first nine of them. An-Nawawi (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "It is extremely strongly recommended." And fasting the Day of Arafah "**expiates [the sins of] the previous and coming year.**" (Narrated by Muslim). It is better for the one performing Hajj not to fast on that day, following the example of the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and in order to preserve his strength to increase in Dua (supplication) and beseeching Allah.

The Day of Arafah is the witnessed gathering of the Muslims. It is a day of hope and humbleness, humiliation and submission [towards Allah]. It is an honourable day for the Muslims. For "**there is no day on which Allah frees more of His slaves from the Hellfire than the day of Arafah.**" (Narrated by Muslim). Shaykh Al-Islam (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "The pilgrims have descending upon their hearts – on the evening of Arafah – [a huge amount of] faith, mercy, light and blessings that cannot be expressed in words."

Dua is extremely important and it holds a great status. The slave raises his needs to his Protector, and asks from His infinite generosity. He turns towards Allah with his heart, obeying His command:

﴿فَادْعُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ﴾



{So call upon Allah with sincere devotion.} [Ghafir: 14]

Raise your needs to Him and confide your calamities in Him; on the Day of Arafah and other than it. And be certain that you will be answered. Insist in your requests to Al-Karim (The Generous), for He is Al-Khallaq Al-Alim (The All-Knowing Creator):

﴿إِنَّمَا أَمْرُهُ إِذَا أَرَادَ شَيْئًا أَنْ يَقُولَ لَهُ كُنْ فَيَكُونُ﴾

{All it takes, when He wills something 'to be', is simply to say to it: "Be!" And it is!} [Yasin: 82]

Ibn Abd Al-Barr (mercy) said: "The supplication on the Day of Arafah is almost always answered."

Within the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah falls Yawm An-Nahr (i.e., the Day of Sacrifice - the 10<sup>th</sup> of Dhul-Hijjah). It is the greatest of all days in the sight of Allah. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**Verily, the greatest of all days in the sight of Allah is Yawm An-Nahr.**" (Narrated by Abu Dawud). It is the most sacred day in the sight of Allah. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) stated – in his sermon on Yawm An-Nahr – during the farewell pilgrimage: "**Verily, the most sacred of all days is this day of yours, and the most sacred of all months is this month of yours.**" (Narrated by Ahmad). It is one of the two Eids (festivals) of the Muslims. It is a day of joy and happiness for having performed one of the pillars of

Islam.

It is the best of the days in which the rituals of Hajj are performed, and the most apparent of them, and the one with the largest gathering. It is "the day of the greater pilgrimage", about which Allah has stated:

﴿وَأَذَانٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولِهِ إِلَى النَّاسِ يَوْمَ الْحَجِّ الْأَكْبَرِ﴾

{A declaration from Allah and His Messenger [is made] to all people on the day of the greater pilgrimage.} [At-Tawbah: 3]

On Yawm An-Nahr, Allah informed His Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and the believers that He had perfected their religion for them. Thus, they would not need anything more. And that He had completed it, so he would never decrease from it. And that He was pleased with it, so He would never be displeased with it. Allah (may He be glorified) said:

﴿الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتَمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا﴾

{Today I have perfected your faith for you, completed My favour upon you, and chosen Islam as your religion.} [Al-Maidah: 3]

Ibn Kathir (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "This is the greatest blessing of Allah (may He be exalted) upon this nation: that He completed their religion for them, such that they would not need any other religion, or any prophet besides their prophet."

Every prophet will be asked by Allah on the Day of Resurrection about him conveying the message to his nation. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**And you will be asked about me.**" (Narrated by Muslim). On Yawm An-Nahr, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) asked the Companions: "**Have I conveyed?**" They said: "Yes." He said: "**O Allah, bear witness.**" (Agreed upon).

On that great day, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) commanded his nation to convey the religion to mankind. He said: "Let those who are present convey to those who are absent, because the informed one might comprehend better than the hearer [that was present and informed him]." (Agreed upon).

Al-Muzhiri (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "This is an encouragement to teach people the hadith of the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and the other Islamic sciences. For verily, were it not for teaching and learning; knowledge would have been cut off from people."

With the people's joy on Eid, some of them may become heedless of Allah's remembrance. Allah (may He be glorified) said:

﴿وَأذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ فِي أَيَّامٍ مَّعْدُودَاتٍ﴾

{And remember Allah during [the] appointed days.}  
[Al-Baqarah: 203]

Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) said: "The appointed days are [the days known as] Ayyam Ash-Tashriq, and they are the three days after Yawm An-Nahr (i.e., the 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>)." The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**Ayyam Ash-Tashriq are days of eating, drinking and remembering Allah.**" (Narrated by Muslim). Ibn Hajar (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "The virtue of the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah is confirmed. And by that the virtue of Ayyam Ash-Tashriq is also confirmed."

On the days of Nahr and Tashriq, there is an act of worship that requires a person to use both with wealth and body, and it is one of the most beloved actions to Allah. Allah coupled it with the prayer. He (may He be glorified) said:

﴿فَصَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ وَأَنْحِرْ﴾

{So pray and sacrifice to your Lord 'alone'.} [Al-Kawthar: 2]

Allah incited [the people] to have sincerity in their sacrifice, and that their intent be Allah's face alone; not to boast, show-off, for people to hear of him, or out of habit. Allah (may He be glorified) said:

﴿لَنْ يَنَالَ اللَّهَ لُحُومُهَا وَلَا دِمَاؤُهَا وَلَكِنْ يَنَالُهُ التَّقْوَىٰ مِنْكُمْ﴾

{Neither their meat nor blood reaches Allah. Rather, it is your piety that reaches Him.} [Al-Hajj: 37]

And "the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) offered a sacrifice of two horned rams that were black speckled with white. He slaughtered them with his own hand." (Agreed upon).

The best sacrificial animal is the one which is most expensive, and most dear to its people. The Muslim should not complain about its high price, for its reward is great with Allah. A single sheep suffices for a man and his family. There is no problem in a person borrowing in order to perform the sacrifice. Thus, be happy with it. Eat yourselves, feed others, and give charity from it. Search for the poor with your charity, and your relatives and neighbours with your gifts.

The one who wants to perform a sacrifice is forbidden from taking anything from his hair or nails in the ten days of Dhul-Hijjah. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**When you see the new moon of Dhul-Hijjah, and one of you wants to offer a sacrifice, let him refrain from removing anything from his hair or nails until he has offered his sacrifice.**" (Narrated by Muslim).

The danger of sins is greater when performed in the seasons of mercy and good. Allah (may He be glorified) said:

﴿إِنَّ عِدَّةَ الشُّهُورِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ اثْنَا عَشَرَ شَهْرًا فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ يَوْمَ خَلَقَ  
السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ مِنْهَا أَرْبَعَةٌ حُرُمٌ ذَلِكَ الْدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ فَلَا تَظْلِمُوا  
فِيهِنَّ أَنْفُسَكُمْ﴾

{Indeed, the number of months ordained by Allah is twelve – in Allah’s Record [i.e., Al-Lawh Al-Mahfuz] since the day He created the heavens and the earth – of which four are sacred. That is the Right Way. So do not wrong one another during these months. } [At-Tawbah: 36]

Qatadah (may Allah have mercy on him) said: "Oppression is greater in sin during the sacred months that it is outside of them, despite the fact that it is always a grave matter. However, Allah magnifies what He wishes of His commands."

### **Wa Ba’d<sup>[1]</sup>, Ayyuhal-Muslimun:**

The happy person is he who takes advantage of the months, days and hours; and seeks closeness to his Protector by what they contain of acts of obedience.

### **A’udhu billahi min ash-shaytanir-rajim.<sup>[2]</sup>**

[1] Translator's note: When coming at the end of a sermon, this phrase can be understood to mean: 'To conclude'.

[2] Translator's note: This phrase means: "I seek refuge in Allah from the accursed Shaytan".]

﴿سَابِقُوا إِلَى مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا كَعَرْضِ السَّمَاءِ وَالْأَرْضِ أُعِدَّتْ  
 لِلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَرُسُلِهِ ذَلِكَ فَضْلُ اللَّهِ يُؤْتِيهِ مَن يَشَاءُ  
 وَاللَّهُ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ﴾

{Race toward forgiveness from your Lord and a Paradise as vast as the heavens and earth, prepared for those who believed in Allah and His messengers. That is the bounty of Allah which He gives to whom He wills, and Allah is the possessor of great bounty.} [Al-Hadid: 21]

May Allah bless me and you by The Great Quran.

## The Second Sermon

All praise is to Allah for His excellence and kindness, and gratitude is due to Him for His guidance and favours. I testify that there is none worthy of worship except Allah alone having no partners, glorifying Him; and I testify that Muhammad is His slave and messenger, may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him, as well as his family and companions in abundance.

### Ayyuhal-Muslimun:

Tawbah (repentance) has a high status in this religion. It is the means of attaining success and happiness. Allah made it obligatory upon all the slave from every sin. He said to those that claimed He has a wife and son:

﴿أَفَلَا يَتُوبُونَ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَيَسْتَغْفِرُونَ﴾

{Will they not turn to Allah in repentance and seek His forgiveness?} [Al-Maidah: 74]

And He said to the believers:

﴿وَتُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ جَمِيعًا أَيُّهَ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ﴾

{And turn to Allah in repentance, all of you, O believers, so that you may be successful.} [An-Nur: 31]

The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) would ask Allah to accept his repentance a



hundred times in a single day. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: "**O People! Repent to Allah, for verily I repent to him a hundred times in a single day.**" i.e., "I say: My Lord! Accept my repentance." (Agreed upon). We are more in need of repentance than him, and the best of the slave's days is the day of his repentance. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said to Kab Ibn Malik (may Allah be pleased with him) said: "**Rejoice at the best day that has come upon you since your mother gave birth to you.**" (Agreed upon). How excellent is the one that repents during the most beloved days to Allah. Whoever is truthful in his repentance will be elevated in his rank, and Allah will change his sins for good deeds.

Thereafter, know that Allah has commanded you to invoke His peace and blessings upon His Prophet...

# خُطْبَةُ الْجُمُعَةِ

2023/6/23 م

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فضيلة الشيخ

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