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Cultivating the Essence of Ubudiyyah at Home in Ramadan

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي هَدَانَا لِلْإِسْلَامِ، وَوَفَّقَنَا لِإِتْرَاكِ شَهْرِ الصِّيَامِ وَالْقِيَامِ،
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ الْمَلِكُ الْعَلَّامُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ
سَيِّدُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ خَيْرِ مَنْ صَلَّى وَصَامَ،
وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ الْكِرَامِ. أَمَا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ. قَالَ جَلَّ
فِي عُلَاهُ: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ
مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ.

Zumratal mukminin rahimakumullah,

Let us adorn ourselves with taqwa towards Allah s.w.t. Strive to maximise this Ramadan as though it is our last, so that we may attain enduring rewards and our souls be cleansed from sin. Amin ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

Dear blessed congregants,

In this month of Ramadan, we see our mosques enlivened and filled with many worshippers. However, today's khutbah reminds

us: let us not confine our devotion to Allah only to the month of Ramadan or to the mosque alone.

Our **homes** are not merely places of rest, shelter, and worldly affairs. Rather, in Islam, the **home** is the first madrasah and the first environment where individuals and **families** are nurtured in **Ubudiyyah** – devotion and servitude to Allah s.w.t.

Observe how Prophet Ibrahim a.s. and Prophet Ya'qub a.s. cultivated faith beginning from the **home**. Allah says in Surah al-Baqarah, verse 132:

وَوَصَّىٰ بِهَا إِبْرَاهِيمُ بَنِيهِ وَيَعْقُوبُ يَبْنَٰى إِنَّ اللّٰهَ اصْطَفٰى لَكُمْ الدِّينَ فَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ اِلَّا وَاَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُوْنَ ﴿١٣٢﴾

Which means: *“And Abraham instructed his sons, and so did Jacob, saying, ‘O my sons, indeed Allah has chosen for you this religion, so do not die except in a state of submission (as Muslims).”*

My dear brothers,

From this, we recognise the role of the **home** in ensuring that our spiritual journey continues even beyond the month of Ramadan:

First: The home is the place where worship and spirituality are cultivated

When **worship** is alive within the **home**, it becomes normalised; a habit not confined to a particular time. It becomes part of the

rhythm of daily life. The Prophet s.a.w. said, which means: *“Pray in your **homes**, for indeed the best prayer of a person is in his **home** except for the obligatory prayer.”* (Reported by al-Bukhari and Muslim)

When prayer is maintained in the **home**, when the Quran is recited consistently, when supplications are heard by the children, and when the remembrance of Allah beautifies the environment, the **home** continues to be immersed in an atmosphere of iman even after Ramadan has departed.

Second: Worship must be established as a legacy, not merely an individual practice

Faith was never meant to be experienced alone. It must be lived, witnessed, and transmitted from one generation to the next. The prophets did not only **worship** Allah themselves; they strove to ensure that their children **worshipped** and obeyed Him as well. They advised them, guided them, and demonstrated faith through their actions.

Children do not learn faith merely through instruction. They learn through observation. When they see their parents pray, they learn the importance of prayer. When they hear their parents make du‘a, they learn reliance upon Allah. When they see their parents recite the Quran, they develop love for the Quran.

The habits introduced by parents becomes a protection for their children. The practices established today will determine the sustainability of faith of future generations.

So let us reflect on the condition of our **homes** today. Is it a place where **worship** thrives? When was the last time our **families** prayed together? When was the last time our **homes** were illuminated with the recitation of the Quran? When was the last time our children saw us humble ourselves sincerely before Allah?

Esteemed congregants,

Just as we enliven the houses of Allah during this Ramadan with our **worship**, let us strive to enliven our own **homes** by cultivating an environment of faith within them. This is the essence of cultivating **Ubudiyyah**. May Allah s.w.t. bless every one of our **homes** with faith, tranquility, and His mercy.

بَارِكِ اللَّهُمَّ كُنَا فِي شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ،

بَارِكِ اللَّهُمَّ كُنَا فِي شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ،

بَارِكِ اللَّهُمَّ كُنَا فِي شَهْرِ رَمَضَانَ.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ
الرَّحِيمُ.

Second Sermon

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ حَمْدًا كَثِيرًا كَمَا أَمَرَ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ تَعَالَى فِيمَا أَمَرَ، وَانْتَهُوا عَمَّا نَهَى عَنْهُ وَزَجَرَ.

أَلَا صَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْمُصْطَفَى، فَقَدْ أَمَرَنَا اللَّهُ بِذَلِكَ حَيْثُ قَالَ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ: إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ.

وَارِضْ اللَّهُمَّ عَنِ الْخُلَفَاءِ الرَّاشِدِينَ الْمُهَدِّينَ سَادَاتِنَا أَبِي بَكْرٍ وَعُمَرَ وَعُثْمَانَ وَعَلِيٍّ، وَعَنْ بَقِيَّةِ الصَّحَابَةِ وَالْقُرَابَةِ وَالتَّابِعِينَ، وَتَابِعِي التَّابِعِينَ، وَعَنَّا مَعَهُمْ وَفِيهِمْ بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا رَحِيمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ ادْفَعْ عَنَّا الْبَلَاءَ وَالْوَبَاءَ وَالرُّلَازِلَ وَالْمِحْنَ، مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَنَ، عَنِ بَلَدِنَا خَاصَّةً، وَسَائِرِ الْبُلْدَانِ عَامَّةً، يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ أَنْصُرْ إِخْوَانَنَا الْمُسْتَضْعَفِينَ فِي عَزَّةٍ وَفِي فِلِسْطِينَ وَفِي كُلِّ مَكَانٍ عَامَّةً، يَا رَحِيمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ بَدِّلْ خَوْفَهُمْ أَمْنًا، وَحُزْنَهم فَرَحًا، وَهَمَّهُمْ فَرَجًا، يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ. اللَّهُمَّ اكْتُبِ السَّلَامَ وَالْأَمْنَ وَالْأَمَانَ لِلْعَالَمِ كُلِّهِ

وَلِلنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ. رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً، وَفِي الآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً، وَقِنَا عَذَابَ
النَّارِ.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى، وَيَنْهَى عَنِ
الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ، فَادْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ
يَذْكُرْكُمْ، وَاشْكُرُوا عَلَى نِعْمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ، وَلَا تَكْفُرُوا
اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ، وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.