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Prophetic Guidance: Endurance, Hope, Renewal

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ، نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا
وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا، مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ، وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ
لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدَهُ وَرَسُولَهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ. قَالَ تَعَالَى فِي التَّنْزِيلِ: يَا أَيُّهَا
الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

Zumratal mukminin rahimakumullah,

Have taqwa towards Allah s.w.t. Fulfil His commands and abstain from His prohibitions. May Allah s.w.t. grant us the **strength** to **endure** through every **trial**. Amin, ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

Dear congregation,

At the beginning of the Prophet s.a.w.'s mission in Makkah, society at that time was drowning in problems of faith and social life, including idolatry, oppression, corruption, and the like.

In the midst of that darkness of ignorance (*jahiliyyah*), the Prophet s.a.w. came bearing mercy; calling people to monotheism, to **goodness**, and to justice, lifting humankind from the depths of degradation to the heights of nobility.

Beloved congregation,

Although the Prophet s.a.w. was known as a noble person, he often received the most heartbreaking treatment. He was insulted while praying before the Kaabah, had filth thrown on him while prostrating, and was nearly strangled with his own garment before being rescued by Abu Bakr r.a.

His own people, who had once called him *Al-Sadiq Al-Amin* – the most truthful and trustworthy, began to see him as a liar. They turned away from him, mocked him, insulted him, slandered him, and even attempted to kill him.

Regardless of this, the Prophet s.a.w. did not let the **ugliness** around him tarnish his nobility, **goodness**, and gentleness of heart. He **endured**, remained patient, and stayed true to his character.

That **endurance** bore extraordinary fruit. Some who had once been his enemies turned into his defenders, standing beside him to spread the faith.

Through the Prophet s.a.w.'s **endurance**, the light of Islam was not extinguished at its beginning in Makkah, nor when it was

battered by wave after wave of **trials** in Madinah. The pure teachings of the Prophet s.a.w., the values he upheld throughout his life, did not end with his passing. They crossed the boundaries of place and time to reach us, here, today, by the will of Allah s.w.t.

Every command and prohibition that shapes the life and morality of a Muslim originates from a man who refused to let a negative environment corrupt him. My brothers and sisters, we are the ummah of Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. Our conduct should reflect his **endurance** and nobility, and contribute to the advancement of Islam across the ages.

Allah s.w.t. says in Surah Fussilat, verse 34:

وَلَا تَسْتَوِ الْحَسَنَةُ وَلَا السَّيِّئَةُ ادْفَعْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ أَحْسَنُ فَإِذَا الَّذِي بَيْنَكَ وَبَيْنَهُ
عَدَاوَةٌ كَأَنَّهُ وَلِيٌّ حَمِيمٌ ﴿٣٤﴾

Which means: *“And the **good** deed and the **evil** deed are not alike. Repel the **evil** deed with one which is better, and the one whom between you and him is enmity (will become) as though he was a close friend.”*

This is the spirit of **endurance** we need to cultivate; to repel **ugliness** with something better. This world, brothers and sisters, will always have its share of wrongdoing. Sometimes we may see or read things that, for a moment, make us lose faith in humanity.

The Prophet s.a.w. also witnessed and experienced many **evils** which are far worse than what we go through. Yet he overcame them and left behind the teachings and values of Islam for all the world.

So remember: even when we are burdened with many challenges, keep choosing to do **good**. Never give up. Believe that the **good** we do will keep growing and eventually bear fruit, building a **stronger** and better society.

May Allah s.w.t. grant us the **strength** to answer every **ugliness** with wisdom, faith, and **goodness**. Amin ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

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. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ تَعَالَى فِيمَا أَمَرَ، وَانْتَهُوا عَمَّا نَهَاكُمْ عَنْهُ وَزَجَرَ.

Blessed congregation,

Recently, a flooding disaster has struck Nepal, affecting as many as 93,000 of its residents.

In response, the Rahmatan Lil 'Alamin Foundation (RLAF) has pledged a contribution of \$50,000 and launched a fundraising appeal to help the affected victims.

Donations can be made directly at mosques from 7 to 14 September, or online via the QR code shown on this campaign poster. Every donation received will be channelled through the Singapore Red Cross to those in need.

Let us contribute according to our means, while praying that Allah s.w.t. eases the hardship of our fellow human beings, and makes every one of our affairs easier.

أَلَا صَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى النَّبِيِّ الْمُصْطَفَى، فَقَدْ أَمَرَنَا اللَّهُ بِذَلِكَ حَيْثُ قَالَ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ: إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ

ءَامِنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا
مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ.

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

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ
وَالْأَمْوَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ ادْفَعْ عَنَّا الْبَلَاءَ وَالْوَبَاءَ وَالزَّلَازِلَ وَالْمِحْنَ، مَا ظَهَرَ
مِنْهَا وَمَا بَطَنَ، عَنِ بَلَدِنَا خَاصَّةً، وَسَائِرِ الْبُلْدَانِ عَامَّةً، يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ.
اللَّهُمَّ انصُرْ إِخْوَانَنَا الْمُسْتَضْعَفِينَ فِي غَزَّةٍ وَفِي فَلِسْطِينَ وَفِي كُلِّ مَكَانٍ
عَامَّةً، يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ. رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً، وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً،
وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى، وَيَنْهَى عَنِ
الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ، فَادْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ
يَذْكُرْكُمْ، وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَى نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ، وَلَذِكْرُ
اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ، وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.