

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَلَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ بَعْدَ إِصْلَاحِهَا وَادْعُوهُ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا إِنَّ

رَحْمَتَ اللَّهِ قَرِيبٌ مِّنَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: أَلْبِرُ حُسْنُ الْخُلُقِ، وَالْإِيمُ مَا حَاكَ فِي صَدْرِكَ،

وَكَرِهْتُ أَنْ يَطَّلَعَ عَلَيْهِ النَّاسُ

Respected Believers!

The topic of today's khutbah is doing good and being among the righteous. Goodness is one of the most precious qualities that bring a person closer to Allah ﷻ.

Allah ﷻ says in the Qur'an regarding doing good: **"Indeed, the mercy of Allah is near to those who do good."** (Al-A'raf, 56)

Those who do good and the rewards they attain are mentioned in many verses of the Qur'an: **"We will grant more to those who do good."** (Al-Baqarah, 58) **"Indeed, Allah loves those who do good."** (Al-Baqarah, 195) **"Indeed, Allah is with those who do good."** (An-Nahl, 128)

Dear brothers!

A true doer of good does not merely help those in need but is also forgiving, controls their anger, remains patient in the face of injustice, and even responds to harm with kindness.

The Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) set the finest example of goodness for us. At the conquest of Mecca, standing at the door of the Kaaba, he asked the Meccans: **"What do you think I will do to you?"** They replied, **"You are a noble man; we have always seen goodness from you."** Thereupon, the Prophet (ﷺ) said, as Prophet Yusuf (AS) had said to his brothers: **"There is no blame upon you today. You are all free."**

Faced with this immense mercy, many Meccans embraced Islam. The Prophet (ﷺ) could have sought revenge from those who had persecuted him and his companions, oppressed them, and even killed some of them. Yet, he forgave, showed mercy, and treated them with kindness.

Honorable congregation!

Goodness is not only a duty toward people but also toward all creation, animals, and nature. The Prophet (ﷺ) said: **"A woman was sent to Hell because of a cat she confined and left to starve."** (Bukhari, Anbiya, 54) Conversely, he also narrated that a sinful woman was forgiven and entered Paradise for giving water to a thirsty dog.

The Qur'an presents the example of remaining good even in the most difficult times through the words of Habil, the son of Prophet Adam (AS): **"Even if you stretch out your hand to kill me, I will not stretch out my hand to kill you, for I fear Allah, the Lord of the worlds."** (Al-Ma'idah, 28)

Malik bin Dinar (may Allah have mercy on him) had a Jewish neighbor who would pour dirty water into his courtyard to harass him. Yet, he endured it patiently. Eventually, the Jew came to him and asked: **"Why have you never complained all this time?"** Malik bin Dinar replied: **"Allah the Almighty says: 'They suppress their anger and pardon people.'"** (Aal-e-Imran, 134) **That is why I remain patient."** Upon hearing this, the Jew was astonished and embraced Islam.

Throughout history, the most distinguishing trait of the righteous friends of Allah, who firmly adhered to the path of the Prophet (ﷺ), has been their goodness. When we think of a "friend of Allah," the first thing that comes to mind is a good person. They treated even their enemies with forgiveness and patience. They responded to hostility, hatred, and harm with tolerance, pardon, and patience, repelling evil with goodness. Our religion teaches us to remove even a small obstacle, like a stone on the road, that may inconvenience passersby.

Dear brothers!

I conclude my khutbah with a noble hadith: **"Smiling at your brother, teaching goodness, preventing evil, and removing harmful things from the road are all acts of charity."** (Tirmidhi, Birr, 45; Abu Dawud, Adab, 36)