

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ
الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّى أَكُونَ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ وَالِدِهِ
وَوَلَدِهِ وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ

Esteemed Muslims!

The month of Rabi' al-Awwal, which we are currently in, is a blessed month in which our Beloved Prophet, Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ, was born into this world. The topic of today's khutbah will be the importance of love and obedience towards the Master of the Universe, Muhammad Mustafa ﷺ, who was sent as a mercy to all worlds.

Our Almighty Lord says in the Holy Qur'an: "Say, [O Muhammad], **'If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful.'** Say, **'Obey Allah and the Messenger.'** But if they turn away - then indeed, Allah does not like the disbelievers." (Surah Al 'Imran, 3:31-32)

Our Beloved Prophet ﷺ said in a noble hadith: **"None of you will truly believe until I am more beloved to him than his parents, his children, his wealth, and all of mankind."** (Al-Bukhari, Iman, 2)

Dear Brothers,

A person cannot love someone they do not know or are not acquainted with. As his Ummah, we must learn, read about, and apply to our lives the biography of our Prophet ﷺ, his exemplary character, the hardships and difficulties he faced, and the struggles and sacrifices he made. Thus, our love for our Prophet ﷺ will increase even more.

Our Master ﷺ said: **"A person will be with those whom he loves."** (Al-Bukhari, Adab, 96) Therefore, every believer should carefully consider whom they hold love for in their heart and whose path they are following.

Esteemed brothers!

The path to attaining this love lies in having a sound Ahl al-Sunnah creed, acting upon authentic knowledge of jurisprudence (fiqh), and holding firmly to the noble Sunnah (Prophetic tradition). We must cleanse our hearts with the remembrance of Allah the Almighty and purify our souls from evil traits.

For love, passion, and affection are matters of spiritual state, a grace from Allah the Almighty. They are not attained merely by words, claims, or outward appearance.

I conclude my khutbah with this verse from our Lord: **"There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often."** (Surah Al-Ahzab, 33:21)