

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا تُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ تَوْبَةً نَصُوحًا عَسَىٰ رَبُّكُمْ أَن يُكَفِّرَ عَنْكُمْ
سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَيُدْخِلَكُم جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرَىٰ مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ يَوْمَ لَا يُخْزَىٰ اللَّهُ
النَّبِيَّ وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مَعَهُ نُورُهُمْ يَسْعَىٰ بَيْنَ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَبِأَيْمَانِهِمْ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا
آتِنَا لَنَا نُورَكَ وَآغْفِرْ لَنَا إِنَّكَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ
قَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ تُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ، فَإِنِّي أَتُوبُ فِي الْيَوْمِ إِلَيْهِ مِئَةً
مَرَّةً

Dear Muslims!

The topic of today's khutbah will be about repentance and seeking forgiveness.

Allah ﷻ says in the Holy Quran: **"O you who have believed, repent to Allah with sincere repentance. Perhaps your Lord will remove from you your misdeeds and admit you into gardens beneath which rivers flow on the Day when Allah will not disgrace the Prophet and those who believed with him. Their light will proceed before them and on their right; they will say, 'Our Lord, perfect for us our light and forgive us. Indeed, You are over all things competent.'"** (At-Tahrim, 8)

Repentance is a great act of worship that is obligatory for every Muslim at all times. Seeking Allah's forgiveness and turning to Him softens the heart and brings spiritual peace. However, repentance is not merely saying *"I seek forgiveness"* with the tongue. True repentance must be done with heartfelt remorse and sincere return. This state is referred to as "Sincere Repentance" (Tawbat an-Nasuh). Repentance is feeling remorse for sins, fulfilling missed responsibilities, and turning from falsehood to truth. Seeking forgiveness (istighfar) is asking one's Lord for the pardon of one's faults and the forgiveness of one's sins, with regret for the mistakes one has fallen into. Repentance and seeking forgiveness are not only for the forgiveness of sins but also the door to abundance, blessings, sustenance, peace, and mercy.

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: **"If anyone continually seeks forgiveness, Allah will appoint for him a way out of every distress, a relief from every anxiety, and will provide for him from where he did not expect."** (Abu Dawud, Witr 26)

Dear Believers!

Abandoning the sins of the heart is more important than abandoning the sins of the body and tongue; for if the

heart is corrupted, the body is corrupted, and if the heart is rectified, the body is rectified. Hypocrisy, arrogance, hatred, envy, and stinginess are among the evil traits that corrupt the heart.

In this regard, the Prophet ﷺ said: **"When a believer commits a sin, a black spot appears on his heart. If he gives up that sin and seeks forgiveness and repents, his heart is polished. But if he continues to sin, the spots increase until they cover his heart. This is the rust which Allah mentioned: 'No! Rather, the stain has covered their hearts of that which they were earning.'"** (Ibn Majah, Zuhd, 29)

Dear Brothers,

Allah the Almighty says: **"Except for those who repent, believe and do righteous work. For them, Allah will replace their evil deeds with good. And ever is Allah Forgiving and Merciful."** (Al-Furqan, 70)

Shaitan tries to make people despair by saying, "Your repentance will not be accepted; it is too late." However, this is a trick of Satan and the inner-self. The believer should not be deceived by these whispers and should always turn to repentance and seeking forgiveness.

The Prophet ﷺ said: **"The one who repents from sin is like the one who has no sin."** (Ibn Majah, Zuhd, 30)

Let us not forget that Allah is Forgiving and Merciful. He accepts sincere repentance and forgives the sins of His servants. Come, let us purify ourselves with constant repentance and seeking forgiveness. Let us cleanse our hearts, turn to our Lord, and seek forgiveness with Tawbah Nasuh.

I conclude my khutbah with a noble verse: **"And those who, when they commit an immorality or wrong themselves, remember Allah and seek forgiveness for their sins – and who can forgive sins except Allah? – and do not persist in what they have done while they know."** (Al-Imran, 3:135)