



The General Presidency for the Affairs of
the Grand Holy Mosque and the Prophet's Holy Mosque

Translation of the Two Holy Mosques Khutbahs
A Joint Project



Al-Imam Muhammad Ibn Saud Islamic University
College of Languages and Translation

[27/12/1434– A – Al-Sudais] المسجد الحرام أ- السديس 1434-12-27

A Year in, a Year out

Khutbah Topic

His eminence Sheikh Abdurrahman Al-Sudais delivered last Friday's *Khutbah* titled “**A Year in, a Year out**” in which he talked about the necessity to take lessons from what has already elapsed of people's lives and the necessity to hold oneself to account for the good or evil deeds one has done. He also urged Muslims to hasten to do what is good and to avoid proscribed and evil acts.

Part one

Praise be to Allah. Our Lord! We praise You; ask for Your help and Your forgiveness and repent to You! You are the all Munificent! May You be exalted and duly praised! Oh Allah! Glory be to You! We can't eulogize You as much as You Have done Yourself.

(The Sheikh recited two lines of poetry):

*Praise is due to You! Though our thanks are not enough for Your Majesty.
You can continuously see us and hear our secret conversations.
Praise is always due to You until You are satisfied;
Praise is due to You for Your great blessings and Your forgiveness!*

I bear witness that there is no deity worth worshipping except Allah alone with no associate. He made the years a lesson to those who would compete to do good deeds. I also bear witness that our Prophet and Master Muhammad is Allah's Servant and Messenger in whose guidance the wisdom of time has flourished so that purification has become like a flying banner. May Allah send His *Salat* (Grace, Honours, Mercy) and perfumed Peace upon Prophet Muhammad, his immaculate and noble family, his Companions who attained sublime ranks of remembrance, the *tabi'in* (the contemporaries of the Companions of the Prophet [ﷺ] after his death) and those who follow their footsteps in righteousness and whose souls are full of pure longings to Paradise.

Now then, O servants of Allah!



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The best discourse is what provides sound and full advice, and speaks of what is right and neverturns away from it: fear of Allah in public and in private. So have fear of Allah –may Allah have mercy upon you– and let it be known to you that the herein is only a transient, fast and ephemeral stage; verily it is a mirage and a vision; all there is in it is moving either towards eternal happiness in heaven or to everlasting misery in hell. *«O you who believe! Fear Allâh and keep your duty to Him. And let every person look to what he has sent forth for the morrow, and fear Allâh. Verily, Allâh is All-Aware of what you do.»* [Al-Hashr: 18]

(Sheikh Al-Sudais recited another two lines of poetry):

*The best provision is fear of Allah.
You should know; get ready and avoid idle talk.
Fear of Allah is the wealth of the herein and the hereafter.
This is the glory for the humble servant.*

O Muslims!

In an age inflamed with materialism, plagued with indulgence and delinquency, and afflicted with oblivion of wise and divine verses, straight souls rush to alert others with candid words and awakening righteousness terms that cause hearts to return to Allah, purify souls from negligence and failure, and cause fear of Allah to abide in the hearts anew.

O Muslims, may Allah protect you! Some of these reminders are the succession of months and years, the elapse of hours and days, and the termination of lives before their desires and hopes are fulfilled. *«Allâh causes the night and the day to succeed each other (i.e. if the day is gone, the night comes, and if the night is gone, the day comes, and so on). Truly, in these things is indeed a lesson for those who have insight.»* [An-Noor: 44]

O Muslim *Ummah!*

The year with all its days and months has elapsed; it is almost over and you are about to see it disappear. The pens have been put away and the sheets have dried. Allah alone knows the good or evil deeds it contained. Let him rejoice who did good deeds and followed a straight path, and woe to those evil perpetrators, sinners and criminals. *«Let not then this (worldly)*



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present life deceive you, nor let the chief deceiver (Satan) deceive you about Allâh. ﴿ [Luqmân: 33]

Al-Bukhari and Al-Tirmidhi, quoting Ibn Omar (may Allah be pleased with both him and his father) as saying, “Holding me by my shoulder, the Prophet (ﷺ) said, ‘***Be like a stranger or a passerby in this world***’.”

This is evidence –servants of Allah– that life will come to an end and the days will grind to a halt.

Beware then –servants of Allah– of confiding in the house of fallacy and delusion. You are but travelers in it and will soon depart from it. You who are living in the dream world of fantasy and slumber the years are passing by while you are still wallowing in your ingratitude and going too far in your indulgence. How many a year and how many a month have you wasted in mirth and in dallying. How many evil deeds have you perpetrated? How many rights have you wasted?

O my Lord! O my Lord! How long will you wait before you repent? Until when do you keep procrastinating expiation? ﴿***And Allâh grants respite to none when his appointed time (death) comes. And Allâh is All-Aware of what you do.***﴾ [Al-Munâfiqûn: 11]. The days are gnawing at your life, your hopes are expanding vertically, but death will surprise you horizontally.

(The Sheikh recited further three lines of poetry):

*The days are shredding your heart.
The hours are chipping your body away.
Death is calling on you in earnest:
It is you –friend– that I want ... You, indeed!
How certainly deceived you are!
And how long will it take you to wake up? How long?*

May Allah’s name be exalted –servants of Allah– how strange man’s predisposition is! He believes in death, but forgets about it; he is certain of delinquency and purposefully commits it. How much he is deceived by health and power that he trails away from examples still standing in front of him!

Although short-lived, changeable and bitter, the herein never fails to lure man with its temptations. Its honey is marred by bee stings, and its dates are struck by *pestalotia*¹. However, man –in his delusion– still collects and keeps them lending a deaf ear to all advice and guidance.

¹ Pestalotia (pestalotiopsis) is a disease that affects palm trees.



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How sorrowful you are –you the indulgent– on account of the Satan you have obeyed, the time you have wasted, the whims you have followed and the rights you have shouldered but never applied. *﴿On the Day when every person will be confronted with all the good he has done, and all the evil he has done, he will wish that there were a great distance between him and his evil. And Allâh warns you against Himself (His Punishment) and Allâh is full of Kindness to the (His) slaves.﴾*
[Al-Imrân: 30]

O Believers!

Happy is the one who saves from his life time for the hereafter, who has been doing good deeds all his life, who readies himself for his account and grave, and who fears the dreads of the Judgement Day and its appointed time that is drawing near.

(Again, the Sheikh recited two lines of poetry):

*Just renounce the house that deceived its inhabitants
Into taking it for their ultimate goal.
They competed for it against each other and granted it their bodies
Along with their hearts. How strange!*

O Brothers and sisters in faith!

Seeing a year in and a year out should be an incentive for you to repent to Allah sincerely and truly, expressing faith and remorse. Hold yourselves to account before you are held to account; weigh your deeds before they are weighed for you. Ask yourselves how you spent last year so that you may compensate your shortcomings in future.

I swear that the wise is he who watches over and blames himself; who watches his senses and holds them accountable. Abdullah Ibn Mas'ud (رضي الله عنه) reported that the Prophet (ﷺ) said, *"The two feet of the son of Adam will not move from near his Lord on the Day of Judgement until he is asked about four (matters) concerning his life - how he spent it; about his youth - how he took care of it; about his wealth - how he earned it and where he spent it; and about that which he acted upon from the knowledge he acquired."* [Reported by Al-Tirmidhi]

Man will act as his own witness and is responsible for his good or bad deeds, for what he earned in his minutes, days, months and years. *﴿And We have fastened every man's deeds to his neck, and on the Day of Resurrection, We shall bring out for him a book*



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which he will find wide open.[13] (It will be said to him): "Read your book. You yourself are sufficient as a reckoner against you this Day." ﴿ [Al-Isrā': 13-14]

(The Sheikh recited two lines of poetry):

*The good and pious deeds are treasures
With which we are rewarded in eternal life.
All success, real success lies in obeying our Lord
As he who disobeys Him will feel sorry and humiliated.*

O Muslims!

With the dawn of a new year drawing near, with all the agony of disunity and fragmentation that has befallen our Muslim *Ummah*, with all the oppression it is suffering at the hands of the tyrants, and the sinister plotting against it by the enemy, we must emphasize that might, victory and investiture will not be achieved except with adherence to our faith and fortification of the moral values that Allah has ordained.

With all the contemporary challenges, our *Ummah* has no other choice but to shoulder its religious and historical responsibilities towards its faith, security, steadfastness, unity, wisdom, tolerance, and dialogue and to deal with other nations without exaggeration, hostility, arrogance or exclusionism.

Wisdom is the ultimate aim of the believer. Wherever he finds it, he has to give it priority. He has to consider the supreme interests of the Muslim *Ummah* and its human rights, avoiding the atrocities of wars and intrigues, enforcing law and order, establishing justice, protecting freedoms, precluding bloodshed (and maintaining security and social peace) in order to achieve world security and peace. This will enhance hope in world peace and security, maintain confidence in international organizations, and underline the importance of overhauling them so that they may be able to fulfil their duties and responsibilities.

All the foregoing aspects are required so that the world would not lose hope in establishing: security and peace, trust in international organizations and agencies, the importance of undergoing radical reform so they can practically perform their duties and assume their responsibilities. This should be conducted away from selectivity, double standards. In addition, this should be carried out while keeping our pride in holding tight to our fixed principles and origins, and by refusing to compromise them in matters of war and peace, politics and economy, women and society, realisation of intellectual temperance and moderation, rejection of fanaticism, violence, discrimination and hatred, uplifting of injustice, oppression and tyranny, treating problems of ignorance, poverty, disease, unemployment, dissent, and difference, support



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of sciences, knowledge, civilization, hard work production, construction, agriculture, unity, and harmony.

All this should be coupled with proper use of modern means and technologies as well as social communication web sites in what benefits the Muslim *Ummah*, serves Islam, and unifies homelands, protects their security and stability in order to safeguard against the evil of the biased, disgraceful, spiteful and lurking enemies. We have to wear the shield of the sharp smiling voice of hope, fortify ourselves in legions of optimism in order to defeat pessimism and despair!

Let our motto and sanctuary be: *«...and never give up hope of Allah's mercy. Certainly no one despairs of Allah's mercy, except the people who disbelieve.»* [Yūsuf: 87]. Let our trust in Allah—the One, the Omnipotent— accompany our heartbeat and fill our paths! *«If you help (in the cause of) Allah, He will help you, and make your foothold firm.»* [Muhammad: 7]

(The Sheikh quotes two lines of poetry):

*Haven't we been promised Allah's victory on every occasion,
Knowing that Allah's promise is a confirmed truth?
Certainly, as long as we champion the religion of Allah, He will help us.
He does whatever He wills and decrees for His creation.*

O our loved ones in injured Palestine, in the vicinities and the blessed Aqsa Mosque! Rejoice at the good tidings that your anguish and tight conditions will be eased, and be hopeful that that you will be empowered and relieved (of anguish).

O our loved ones in the Shām homelands! Rejoice at the good tidings of a full victory even though the vile oppressors have failed you and spread devastation and crime.

O our brothers in Burma and Arakan! Rejoice at the good tidings of the relief from darkness, for Allah's promise is true: *«Verily, Allah will help those who help His (Cause). Truly, Allah is All-Strong, All-Mighty.»* [Al-Hajj: 40]

We send an ardent and agonizing cry and a sympathetic look from the homeland of the Two Holy Mosques, the land of the heroic and dignified stances to our loved ones who are oppressed on account of their religion, who are homeless and injured all over the world repeating and emphasizing what a poet said:



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(He recites another two lines of poetry)

*If you are sleepless we'll be your eyes and eyelids,
And if you are happy, then we share your happiness;
Your happiness is also ours, and so is your refuge.
We are alike in plenty, loss, health and illness.*

﴿But honour, power and glory belong to Allah, and to His Messenger (Muhammad), and to the believers, but the hypocrites know not.﴾ [Al-Munafiqūn: 8]

O Allah! We implore You to bless us by the Noble Qur'ān and the *Sunnah*, to make them beneficial to us and to raise our status through the verses and wisdom they contain! This being said, I ask Allah, the Almighty, to forgive you and me and all Muslims of all sins; so ask Him for forgiveness and turn in repentance to Him, for my Lord is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful for those who repent to Him!

Part Two

Praise be to Allah Whose favour is clear and constant, and I bear witness that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah alone with no associate. He has made the alternation of the day and night a sign that fills hearts with happiness; and I bear witness that our Prophet Muhammad is the Servant and Messenger of Allah; he conveyed his Lord's Message constantly to become a clear mercy and dignity for the worlds. May Allah send His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, and Mercy) Peace and Blessing upon him (ﷺ), his family and Companions, who have sacrificed their eyes and souls in order to attain Paradise, upon the *tabi'īn* (the contemporaries of the Companions of the Prophet [ﷺ] after his death), and upon all those who have followed them in righteousness till the Day of Judgement!

Now then, O Muslims!

I advise you to observe *taqwā* (fear of Allah) as best as you can, and to learn from the passage of lives and the erosion of traces; you have to hold yourselves to account and review your deeds before you are suddenly brought into accountability and consequently punished.

O believers!

Among the memorable historical events that are full of lessons in the newly born Hegira Year is the blessed Hegira of the Prophet. Indeed, it is a great event if only you knew its significance!



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Indeed it is a unique example of producing hope and optimism. It is hope for victory from Allah even though it might take a long time to come. It is hope that Allah will empower us even though the lurking enemy is escalating hostilities. It is also hope that oppression will be defeated even though its echo is deafening. It is equally hope in a bright future for Islam even though its dawn will take a long time to come.

By the same token we have a unique example of a deeply rooted trust in Allah. He is the only Sustainer, Protector, and Supporter. This is clear in what the Chosen one (Muhammad), who trusts in his Lord, said: "***O Aba Bakr! What do you think of two whose third companion is Allah.***" This is an inspiring example of how meanings of power are expressed through the power of meanings, the integrity of religion and the safety of homelands.

(The Sheikh quotes three lines of poetry):

*Our trust in Allah, our Lord and Master,
Is a sincere trust that increases with our breathing.
We ask Him to have mercy on us and cover our defects,
For He supports all and provides for all.
We pray to Him for forgiveness and
A good end², for life swiftly passes away!*

Our respected brothers and sisters!

The crowning touch (of this khutbah) is: Fear Allah in your new year and proceed toward Allah before you are brought unto Him. Obey the One Who wished you well and ease. Do your best in worshipping Allah and in increasing your good deeds without ever losing interest in them. Do every difficult and task for the sake of Allah and His forgiveness; then you will win Paradise and drink from its *Salsabil* and *Kawthar* (two rivers in Paradise) and achieve –Allah willing– victory, power, and dignity. ***Verily, therein is indeed a reminder for him who has a heart or gives ear while he is heedful.*** ﴿Qāf: 37﴾

Now, ask Allah –may He bless you– to send His *Salat* (Graces, Honours and Mercy) and Peace on the Chosen Repenting Prophet (Muhammad) as the Lord has commanded you to do in His Wise Book. He (ﷺ) so generously and creatively put it thus: ***Allâh sends His Salât (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), and also His angels (ask Allâh to bless and forgive him). O***

²*Husnu al-khātimah* (حسن الخاتمة) is what every true Muslim is after in this life, i.e. to die as a believer seeking Allah's pleasure and reward in the Hereafter.



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you who believe! Send your Salât^[11] on (ask Allâh to bless) him (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islâmîc way of greeting (salutation i.e. As-Salâmu 'Alaikum). [Al-Ahzâb: 56]. The Prophet (ﷺ) said: "*Whoever makes one salat on me Allah will make ten such salats on him.*"

(The Sheikh quotes two lines of poetry):

*The most redolent Salat is constantly on him
Rotating like months and years,
And on his family and Companions as long as rain falls
And shipsnavigateunfathomable waters.*

O Allah! Send Your *Salat*(Graces, Honours, Mercy) and Peace on the Master of all mankind ever and the Mercy sent unto the Worlds, our leader, and beloved Prophet, Muhammad Ibn Abdullah! O Allah! Be content with His rightly guided Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Omar, Othman, and Ali, and on all the other Companions, on his pure and honourablewives (the Mothers of the believers), on the *tabi'în*(the contemporaries of the Companions of the Prophet [ﷺ] after the death), those who righteously followed them till the Day of Judgement, and on us along with them, O You, the Most Merciful, the Most Generous!

O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims! O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims! O Allah! Grant glory to Islam and Muslims, and fail polytheism and polytheists! O Allah! Destroy the enemies of religion (Islam)!Make this country, as well as all Muslim countries, secure and tranquil,blessed and prosperous!

O Allah! Grant glory to Your religion, Your Book, the *Sunnah* of Your Prophet, and Your believing servants!

O Allah! We ask You to grant us guidance, piety, chastity, and riches!

O Allah! Set right our religion which is our tight rope, and set right our life which is the source of our living!Set right our Hereafter unto which we are returning!Make this life an increase for us of every good thing, and death a rest for us from every evil!

O Allah! Grant our *Imam* guidance and support of Your own! Make him do whatever You love and accept! Make available for him a righteous retinue that will show him what is good and help him do it! O Allah! Guide him, his Crown Prince, his brothers and helpers to do what is good for the country and the people, O You, Who has the Herein and the Hereafter in His Possession and to Whom we shall return!



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O Allah! Give victory to our oppressed brothers and sisters in their religion everywhere! O Allah! Grant them victory in Palestine! O Allah! Grant them victory in Palestine against the aggressive occupying Zionists!

O Allah! Save the Aqsa Mosque! O Allah! Save the Aqsa Mosque! O Allah! Save the Aqsa Mosque! O Allah! Save the Aqsa Mosque from the filth of the occupying aggressors and usurpers! O Allah! Let it be standing in dignity till the Day of Judgement! O Allah! Grant us the chance to pray in it before we die!

O You! The Living One, the Self-Subsisting! O You! The Living One, the Self-Subsisting! O You! The Living One, the Self-Subsisting! We seek Your mercy, so do not entrust us to ourselves for a blink of an eye! O Allah! Set right all our matters!

O Allah! Be on the side of our brothers and sisters in the Shām! O Allah! Grant them victory over their oppressive tyrants! O Allah! Grant them victory over their oppressive tyrants! O Allah! They are oppressed, so grant them victory! O Allah! They are oppressed, so grant them victory! O Allah! They are oppressed, so grant them victory! O You the Giver of victory to the weakened and oppressed!

Our Lord! Give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Hellfire!

O Allah! You are Allah, and there is no deity except You! You are Self-Sufficient and we are poor! O Allah! Send us rain and save us from despair! O Allah! Send us rain and save us from despair!

O Allah! Send us rain! O Allah! Send us rain! O Allah! We are but creatures of Your Creation, so do not hold back Your favours from us because of our sins!

O Allah! Inspire our hearts with belief and faith and provide our homelands with blessings and all encompassing rain! O Allah! Make all of this a means to help us in Your obedience!

O our Lord! Accept from us (our good deeds), You are certainly the All-Hearer, the All-Knower! Do accept our repentance as you are Most Forgiving, Most Merciful! Forgive us, our parents and all Muslims whether dead or alive by Your Mercy, O You, the Most Merciful!

Glorified be Your Lord, the Lord of Honour and Power! You are free from what they attribute unto You! May peace be upon all the messengers! And all praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds!