



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

**[5-10-35 – B – Al-Hudhaifi]**

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## **The Virtue of Steadfastness in Obedience to Allah**

His Eminence Sheikh Ali ibn Abdur-Rahman Al-Hudhaifi, may Allah preserve him, delivered the Friday *khutbah* entitled, “The Virtue of Steadfastness in Obedience to Allah”, in which he talked about steadfastness in worshipping Allah, Exalted be He, and the importance of maintaining it, showing its virtue and positive effect on a Muslim’s life.

### **Part One**

Praise be to Allah, the All-Mighty, the Oft-Forgiving, the Most Forbearing, the Most Appreciative of His servants’ good deeds. I praise my Lord and thank Him. I turn to Him in repentance and ask Him for forgiveness. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, the All-Knowing of what the breasts conceal, and I bear witness that our master and prophet, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger, the caller to every righteous deed. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and all his Companions.

O Muslims!

Fear Allah as He should be feared, and grasp the trustworthy handhold of Islam, for Allah protects whoever fears Him and safeguards whoever trusts in Him.

Servants of Allah!

Those who take admonition and learn lessons from others are successful, those who fear Allah will be saved, but the heedless who turn away from the truth are the losers. You can learn the greatest lessons and take the best admonitions from the lapse of the blessed month of Ramadan. Its scrolls of deeds have been folded up and its days have recorded whatever has been done in them. None of the past days will ever come back again until the Day of Resurrection.

Whomever Allah has granted success in Ramadan should thank Allah for guiding him to acts of obedience and keeping him away from forbidden acts, and should remain steadfast in this, for steadfastness in goodness is the greatest honour ever, and whoever maintains it will be protected by Allah from destructive sins and will be among the foremost to Paradise in the hereafter. Allah, Exalted be He, says:



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﴿Verily, those who say: "Our Lord is (only) Allah," and thereafter stand firm and straight on the Islamic Faith of Monotheism, on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve. Such shall be the dwellers of Paradise, abiding therein (forever) – a reward for what they used to do.﴾ (Al-Ahqaf: 13-14)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿Verily, those who say: "Our Lord is Allah (Alone)," and then they stand firm, on them the angels will descend (at the time of their death) (saying): "Fear not, nor grieve! But receive the glad tidings of Paradise which you have been promised! We have been your friends in the life of this world and are (so) in the Hereafter. Therein you shall have (all) that your inner-selves desire, and therein you shall have (all) for which you ask for. An entertainment from (Allah), the Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."﴾ (Fussilat: 30-32)

Scholars have said, "Steadfastness includes all aspects of the religion and encompasses all its commands and prohibitions; it comprises doing all acts of obedience and avoiding all the forbidden ones." When Sufyan ibn Abdullah Ath-Thaqafi, may Allah be pleased with him, once asked the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, about a comprehensive piece of advice and an all-embracing statement on the religion, the Prophet advised him to be steadfast. As reported by Muslim, Sufyan Ath-Thaqafi said, "I once said, 'O Messenger of Allah! Tell me something concerning Islam about which I will never ask anyone else.' He said, 'Say, "I have believed in Allah," and then be steadfast.'"

Due to the great position of steadfastness, Allah ordered His Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, to maintain it, so as to show gratitude to Allah for the blessing of prophethood and to set a good example to all Muslims to follow. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿So stand (ask Allah to make) you (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)) firm and straight (on the religion of Islamic Monotheism) as you are commanded and those (your companions) who turn in repentance (unto Allah) with you, and transgress not (Allah's legal limits). Verily, He is All-Seer of what you do.﴾ (Hud: 112)



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The best state for a servant of Allah is to observe steadfastness by following up one good deed with another and abstaining from evil deeds. This is the rank of those who are foremost in doing good deeds. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿And the foremost ones [(in Islamic Faith of Monotheism and in performing righteous deeds) in the life of this world on the very first call for to embrace Islam,] will be the foremost (in Paradise). These will be those nearest (to Allah), in the Gardens of Delight (Paradise). A multitude of those (foremost) will be from the first generations (who embraced Islam). And a few of those (foremost) will be from the later generations.﴾ (Al-Waqi'ah: 10-14)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿While as for those who accept guidance, He increases their guidance, and bestows on them their piety.﴾ (Muhammad: 17)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿And those who give that (their charity) which they give (and also do other good deeds) with their hearts full of fear (whether their alms and charities have been accepted or not), because they are sure to return to their Lord (for reckoning). It is these who hasten in the good deeds, and they are foremost in them [e.g. offering the compulsory *Salat* (prayers) in their (early) stated, fixed times and so on].﴾ (Al-Mu'minun: 60-61)

The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, explained this verse to Aishah, may Allah be pleased with her, stating that it refers to those who do good deeds but fear that such deeds may not be accepted from them.

The state next in rank for the servant is to follow up a bad deed with a good one – with repentance and with righteous deeds that wipe out sins. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿And perform *As-Salat* (*Iqamat-as-Salat*), at the two ends of the day and in some hours of the night [i.e. the five compulsory *Salat* (prayers)]. Verily, the good deeds remove the evil deeds (i.e. small sins). That is a reminder (an advice) for the mindful (those who accept advice).﴾ (Hud: 114)



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Mu‘adh ibn Jabal, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “Fear Allah wherever you are. Follow up a bad deed with a good deed and it will wipe it out. And deal with people in good manners”.

The worst state for the servant is to abandon righteous deeds and to commit sins and forbidden acts. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿Verily, those who have turned back (have apostatised) as disbelievers after the guidance has been manifested to them, *Shaitan* (Satan) has beautified for them (their false hopes), and (Allah) prolonged their term (age).﴾  
(Muhammad: 25)

Allah orders us to maintain doing righteous deeds. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿Guard strictly (five obligatory) *As-Salawat* (the prayers) especially the middle *Salat* (i.e. the best prayer – ‘Asr). And stand before Allah with obedience [and do not speak to others during the *Salat* (prayer)].﴾ (Al-Baqarah: 238)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

﴿And worship your Lord until there comes unto you the certainty.﴾ (Al-Hijr: 99)

Commentators on the Qur’an have said, “This means, ‘Maintain worshipping your Lord until death comes to you.’”

Our Lord, Blessed and Exalted be He, forbids invalidating good deeds by doing whatever renders them unacceptable or at least reduces their reward. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿O you who believe! Obey Allah, and obey the Messenger (Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him) and render not vain your deeds.﴾ (Muhammad: 33)

Abul-‘Aliyah, may Allah have mercy on his soul, said, “The Companions of Allah’s Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him, used to believe that a sin would not invalidate a good deed. However, when this verse was revealed, they feared that sins could invalidate good deeds.”

During the month of Ramadan, our enemy, Iblis (Satan), and the rebellious devils were chained up and they were unable to achieve their goals, but now that Ramadan has



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elapsed, they want to pursue their aim of misleading the members of the *Ummah*. Therefore, drive them back, reject them, and defeat them by putting your trust in Allah, by believing in His Oneness, and by maintaining your worship of Him.

Those who, in the month of Ramadan, missed doing some good deeds, committed some forbidden acts, or were misled and went astray must remember that Allah has opened the door for His servants to repent of their sins, not only in Ramadan but in any other month as well. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿And verily, I am indeed Forgiving to him who repents, believes (in My Oneness, and associates none in worship with Me) and does righteous good deeds, and then remains constant in doing them, (till his death).﴾ (Ta Ha: 82)

Never lose your determination to increase your good deeds. Never take any sin lightly, however small it may seem, for it will be recorded against you and you will be held accountable for it and will be punished for it. Bishr Al-Hafi was once asked, “What do you think of those people who strive hard to do good deeds in Ramadan, and when it is over, they give them up?” He replied, “They are evil indeed, for they know Allah only in Ramadan.”

Servants of Allah!

Do not be deceived by vain hopes and never rely on having a long life, for just as the days of Ramadan and the days before it passed, the months and the years after it will also pass. Therefore, strive hard for the hereafter, exert the effort due for it and you will be admitted into Paradise, the Home of Peace. This worldly life is not an eternal abode, but will soon come to an end, so constantly reflect upon the death of those who preceded you, one generation after another. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿O mankind! Verily, the Promise of Allah is true. So let not this present life deceive you, and let not the chief deceiver (Satan) deceive you about Allah. Surely, *Shaitan* (Satan) is an enemy to you, so take (treat) him as an enemy. He only invites his *Hizb* (followers) that they may become the dwellers of the blazing Fire.﴾ (Fatir: 5-6)

May Allah bless you and me with the Great Qur'an and make us benefit from its verses and wise words and benefit from the guidance and right sayings of the Imam of all Messengers. I have said what you have heard and I ask forgiveness of Allah for myself, for you, and for all Muslims for any sin we have committed. Ask Allah for forgiveness.



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## Part Two

Praise be to Allah, Who guides whomever He wills to obey Him, and forsakes whomever he wills in His infinite justice and wisdom. I praise my Lord and thank Him for His countless favours. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners, and to Whom belong the Most Beautiful Names, and I bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and chosen messenger. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and Companions, the people of knowledge and piety.

Now then!

Fear Allah, Exalted be He, and obey Him. Nobody has ever suffered misery by showing obedience to Allah and nobody has ever experienced happiness by disobeying Him. Know well that one's lifespan is made up of days that elapse one after the other until one faces the predetermined moment and the inescapable fate, which can neither be postponed nor advanced.

At the time of his death, a good-doer rejoices at meeting Allah because of the good deeds he has done in his life. Therefore, Allah likes meeting him and gives him the greatest reward for his deeds. As for those who have been neglectful, they dislike the moment of meeting Allah because of the evil deeds that they have committed and the duties that they have neglected. Therefore, Allah abhors meeting them and will He punish them for their deeds. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

﴿And the stupor of death will come in truth: "This is what you have been avoiding!" And the Trumpet will be blown -- that will be the Day whereof warning (had been given) (i.e. the Day of Resurrection). And every person will come forth along with an (angel) to drive (him), and an (angel) to bear witness. (It will be said to the sinners): "Indeed you were heedless of this, now We have removed your covering, and sharp is your sight this Day!"﴾ (Qaf: 19-22)

It is a sign of Allah's mercy on us that He has shown us the deeds with which we may attain His good pleasure. With every obligatory deed that He has prescribed, He has also recommended similar deeds that we can do voluntarily in order to save ourselves from an intensely hot fire that has a fathomless bottom and to attain a garden in Paradise whose delights are infinite and never-ending. The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon



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him, said, “Whoever fasts during the month of Ramadan and then follows it with six days of Shawwal will be (rewarded) as if he had fasted the entire year” (Reported by Muslim).

Servants of Allah!

﴿Allah sends His *Salat* (Graces, Honours, Blessings, Mercy) on the Prophet (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)) and also His angels (ask Allah to bless and forgive him). O you who believe! Send your *Salat* on (ask Allah to bless) him (Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him)), and (you should) greet (salute) him with the Islamic way of greeting (salutation, i.e. *As-Salamu 'Alaikum*).﴾ (Al-Ahzab: 56)

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “If a person asks Allah to send blessings upon me once, Allah will send blessings upon him ten times over.” Therefore, ask Allah to bestow His peace and blessings on the master of those who preceded us and those who are yet to come, and the Imam of Messengers.

O Allah! Bestow Your peace upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your peace upon Ibrahim and his family, You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious. O Allah! Bestow Your blessings upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your blessings upon Ibrahim and his family, You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious. O Allah! Bestow Your bountiful peace and blessings upon Muhammad and his family.

O Allah! Be pleased with all the Companions. O Allah! Be pleased with the Rightly-Guided Caliphs and Imams, Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, along with all Your Prophet's Companions, with the *Tabi'un* (the contemporaries of the Companions who followed them after the death of the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him), and with those who follow them in righteousness until the Day of Judgment. O Allah! Be pleased with us together with them, by Your grace, munificence, and mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and Muslims. O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and Muslims. O Allah! Grant power and glory to Islam and Muslims. O Allah! Subdue polytheism and the polytheists. O Allah! Subdue polytheism and subdue the polytheists and atheists, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Grant victory to Your religion. O Allah! Grant victory to Your religion, Your Book, and the *Sunnah* of Your prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him.



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O Allah! Let the guidance of Your prophet Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, reign supreme everywhere, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Grant us and all Muslims a sound understanding of Your religion.

O Allah! Protect us from the evil within ourselves and from our wrong deeds. O Allah! Protect us from the evil of all evil-doers, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! We ask You to take charge of the affairs of every Muslim, man or woman, and to take charge of the affairs of every believer, man or woman, by Your Mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

O Allah! We ask You to protect Muslims from the evil of oppressors, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! The enemies of Islam have transgressed all bounds in their oppression of Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Foil the plots of the enemies of Islam against Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Foil the plots of the enemies of Islam, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Thwart the plans of the enemies of Islam with which they intend harm against Islam and Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Provide food for the hungry among Muslims and provide clothes for the naked among them. O Allah! Dispel their fears and conceal their weaknesses. O Allah! Protect Islam and Muslims everywhere. O Allah! Protect Muslims' lives and spare their blood. O Allah! Safeguard their property and safeguard their religion, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Conceal our weaknesses and dispel our fears!

O Allah! We seek refuge in You from deluding trials. O Allah! Protect Muslims from deluding trials and from mistaken ideas, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Protect our homelands from every evil and harm, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Grant us and grant all Muslims sound understanding of Your religion. O Allah! Make us among those who follow and adhere to the guidance of Your Messenger, peace and blessings be upon him.

O Allah! Protect us and our offspring from Satan, his soldiers, and his devils, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Protect Muslims and their offspring from Satan, his devils, and his soldiers, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Guide the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to what You love and accept. O Allah! Guide Your servant, the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, to what You love and accept. O Allah! Lead him to Your guidance, make all his deeds pleasing to You, and help him in doing all that is good, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Bless him with good health; You are Powerful over all things! O Allah! Guide his two Deputies to what You love and accept and to that which is good for Islam and Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds!





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O Allah! We seek refuge in You from ill fate, from the malicious rejoicing of enemies, from abject misery, and from hard affliction.

O Allah! Forgive the sins of our dead and the sins of all dead Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Forgive the sins of our dead and the sins of all dead Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Facilitate for Muslims their affairs in the right way. O Allah! Guide us and guide all Muslims to sincere repentance which will make You pleased with us, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! Relieve the distress of Muslims. O Allah! Relieve the distress of Muslims. O Allah! Relieve the afflictions of Muslims. O Allah! O Allah! Remove the punishments inflicted on them, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Do not set any of Your enemies against them, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! We ask You to make them merciful and compassionate to one another. You are Powerful over all things! O Allah! Free Muslims from whatever leads to inflicting punishments on them. O Allah! Free Muslims from whatever leads to inflicting punishments on them, O Lord of the Worlds!

﴿... Our Lord! Give us that which is good in this world and that which is good in the Hereafter, and save us from the torment of Hellfire!﴾ (Al-Baqarah: 201)

Servants of Allah!

﴿Verily, Allah enjoins *Al-'Adl* (i.e. justice and worshipping none but Allah Alone – Islamic Monotheism) and *Al-Ihsan* [i.e. to be patient in performing your duties to Allah, totally for Allah's sake and in accordance with the *Sunnah* (legal ways) of the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) in a perfect manner], and giving (help) to kith and kin (i.e. all that Allah has ordered you to give them, e.g., wealth, visiting, looking after them, or any other kind of help, etc.): and forbids *Al-Fahsha'* (i.e. all evil deeds, e.g. illegal sexual acts, disobedience of parents, polytheism, to tell lies, to give false witness, to kill a life without right, etc.), and *Al-Munkar* (i.e. all that is prohibited by Islamic law: polytheism of every kind, disbelief and every kind of evil deeds, etc.), and *Al-Baghy* (i.e. all kinds of oppression), He admonishes you, that you may take heed.) And fulfil the Covenant of Allah (*Bai'ah*: pledge for Islam) when you have covenanted, and break not the



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oaths after you have confirmed them, and indeed you have appointed Allah your surety. Verily! Allah knows what you do. ﴿An-Nahl: 90-91﴾

Remember Allah, the Most Great, the Sublime, and He will remember you. Thank Him for His favours and He will give you more. Verily, remembrance of Allah is greater than all, and Allah knows what you do.