



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

[7-1-36– Dr.Al-Hudhaifi]

The Duties of Allah's Servants

His Eminence Sheikh Ali ibnAbdur-Rahman Al-Hudhaifi, may Allah preserve him, delivered the Friday *khutbah* entitled, “The Duties of Allah’s Servants”, in which he talked about the servants’ duties towards one another as prescribed in Islam, including their duties towards Allah, Exalted be He, and towards their parents, in addition to the other duties that they should perform. He spoke at great length about children’s duties towards their parents, citing textual evidence from the Qur’an and the *Sunnah* to show the importance of fulfilling such duties.

Part One

Praise be to Allah, Who has bestowed favours upon His servants and detailed for them their rights and duties. He likes it for His servants to do good deeds and hates it for them to do evil deeds, and He has promised the truthful great rewards. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners, the One Who answers His servants’ supplications; and I bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger, who was supported by miracles. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and Companions, who defended Your religion by fighting in Your cause and by clear evidence.

Now then,

Fear Allah. Do not neglect the obligations He has imposed upon you, nor transgress the boundaries He has set for you. Those who fear Allah will achieve success, while those who follow their evil desires are the true losers.

Servants of Allah!

Know that the servants’ deeds are either for them or against them. Allah does not benefit by His servants’ obedience to Him, nor is He harmed by their disobedience. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(Whosoever does a good deed, it is for his ownself, and whosoever does evil, it is against (his ownself). Then to your Lord you will be made to return.) (Al-Jathiyah: 15)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:



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(Whosoever does an evil deed, will not be requited except the like thereof; and whosoever does a righteous deed, whether male or female and is a true believer (in the Oneness of Allah), such will enter Paradise, where they will be provided therein (with all things in abundance) without limit.) (Ghafir: 40)

Allah, Might and Majesty be to Him, says in the holy *hadith*:

“O My servants! You will never have the power to do Me any harm, nor will you have the power to bring Me any benefit. O My servants! It is but your deeds that I reckon up for you and then recompense you for, so let him who finds good (in the Hereafter) praise Allah and let him who finds other than that blame none but himself.” (Reported by Muslim; part of the *hadith* narrated by Abu Dharr, may Allah be pleased with him).

The benefits of discharging the duties imposed upon the servant will ultimately go to the servant himself, and it is he who will actually reap the reward for doing such duties both in this world and in the hereafter. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(So whoever does righteous good deeds while he is a believer (in the Oneness of Allah – Islamic Monotheism), his efforts will not be rejected. Verily! We record it for him (in his Book of deeds).) (Al-Anbiya’: 94)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

(Verily, as for those who believed and did righteous deeds, certainly We shall not make the reward of anyone who does his (righteous) deeds in the most perfect manner to be lost.) (Al-Kahf: 30)

A morally accountable person who neglects certain duties or abandons them altogether will suffer the harm and punishment for not respecting the rights prescribed in the religion, for if he does not observe the rights of the Lord of the Worlds, he will harm none but himself in this world and in the hereafter. Allah is Self-Sufficient and He stands in no need of all the worlds. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(If you disbelieve, then verily, Allah is not in need of you, He likes not disbelief for His slaves. And if you are grateful (by being believers), He is pleased therewith for you. ...)(Az-Zumar :7)



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Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

(O mankind! It is you who stand in need of Allah. But Allah is the Rich (Free of all needs), the Worthy of all praise.)
(Fatir: 15)

Allah, Might and Majesty be to Him, also says:

(Behold! You are those who are called to spend in the Cause of Allah, yet among you are some who are niggardly. And whoever is niggardly, it is only at the expense of his ownself. ...) (Muhammad: 38)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

(And whoever earns sin, he earns it only against himself. And Allah is Ever All-Knowing, All-Wise.)(An-Nisa': 111)

The right of the Lord that should be preserved is true monotheism (*tawhid* – belief in the Oneness of Allah). Allah has promised the greatest reward for those who believe in His Oneness. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(And Paradise will be brought near to the *Muttaqun* (pious) not far off. (It will be said): "This is what you were promised, –(it is) for those oft-returning (to Allah) in sincere repentance, and those who preserve their covenant with Allah" (by obeying Him in all what He has ordered, and worship none but Allah Alone, i.e. follow Allah's Religion, Islamic Monotheism).)(Qaf: 31-32)

Those who neglect the right of Allah, Might and Majesty be to Him, by associating partners with Him and seeking the help of intermediaries whom they worship and supplicate instead of Allah to remove their afflictions and calamities and provide for their needs, and in whom they put their trust, will indeed be doomed to total loss for associating partners with their Lord, and their endeavours in this life will be in vain. Allah will not accept any compensation or ransom from them, and on the Day of Judgement it will be said to them, "Enter the Fire along with those who enter," unless they repent of the sin of associating partners with Allah.

The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "A man dwelling in Hellfire will be asked, 'If you had all that is in the earth, would you use it to redeem yourself from Hellfire?' He will say 'Yes'. It will then be said to him, 'You were



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ordered to do something much easier than that –you were ordered not to associate any partners with Allah””(Reported by Al-Bukhari).

If the morally accountable person neglects his obligations and disregards the due rights of others, he will be depriving himself of great rewards in this world and in the hereafter. If he falls short of fulfilling some of these obligations, he will be depriving himself of good commensurate with his negligence in discharging his duties towards others, apart from the punishment that will be inflicted upon him.

In our life we go through times of hardship and times of ease, times of deprivation and times of plenty, but life is not only for attaining the rights that are due to us. On the Day of Judgement, all adversaries will gather before Allah, Who will then wrest the rights from the oppressors and restore them to those whom they have wronged and whose rights they neglected. Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, “All rights will certainly be paid to those to whom they are due on the Day of Judgement, such that the hornless sheep will get its claim from the horned sheep””(Reported by Muslim).

Next in importance to the rights of Allah and His Messenger are the rights of parents. Due to the great importance of the rights due to parents, Allah has mentioned them in conjunction with His own right. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of disrespect, nor shout at them but address them in terms of honour. And lower unto them the wing of submission and humility through mercy, and say: “My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was young.”) (Al-Isra’: 23-24)

Allah, Exalted be He, also says:

(And We have enjoined on man (to be dutiful and good) to his parents. His mother bore him in weakness and hardship upon weakness and hardship, and his weaning is in two years – give thanks to Me and to your parents. To Me is the final destination.) (Luqman: 14)

Allah attaches such great importance to the parents’ rights because He created you and brought you to life through them. The mother suffers the greatest forms of hardship during the various stages of pregnancy and comes close to death during childbirth. Allah, Exalted be He, says:



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(And We have enjoined on man to be dutiful and kind to his parents. His mother bears him with hardship and she brings him forth with hardship ...)(Al-Ahqaf: 15)

In addition, the breastfeeding of the child is one of the signs of Allah.

On the other hand, the father protects his children, raises them up, and strives for getting provision for them. Both parents seek treatment for their children when they are sick. They stay up late so that their children may sleep soundly and toil so that they can rest. They endure hardships so as to provide a life of comfort for them, bear their troubles so as to make them happy, and educate them so that they may achieve perfection and uprightness, wishing only that they lead a life better than theirs. Children, therefore, should not wonder at Allah's repeated commandments to honour parents or at His repeated warnings against disobeying them.

No matter how hard a man tries, he can never be completely dutiful to his father except in one case. Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "No son can compensate his father (for what he did for his sake) unless he finds him a slave, buys him, and then sets him free" (Reported by Muslim, Abu-Dawud, and At-Tirmidhi).

Parents are gates to Paradise; whoever honours his parents will enter Paradise and enjoy its delights. Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Shame on him! Shame on him! Shame on him!" It was said, "Who is that, O Messenger of Allah?" He said, "He whose parents, or one of them, reach old age during his lifetime but does not enter Paradise"(Reported by Muslim).

O Muslim!

If your parents are pleased with you, then the Lord is pleased with you. Abdullah ibn Umar, may Allah be pleased with him and his father, narrated that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Allah's pleasure lies in the parent's pleasure, and Allah's displeasure lies in the parent's displeasure"(An authenticated *hadith*, reported by At-Tirmidi and by Al-Hakim in *Al-Mustadrak*, who classified it as authenticated).

Honouring one's parents is realized by obeying them in all that does not lead to disobeying Allah, acting on their orders and advice, treating them with kindness, and seeking to make them happy. One should spend liberally on them to make them live at ease, show mercy and compassion to them, feel grieved at whatever saddens them, keep their company, honour their friends, and maintain ties with the people they love as well as with their relatives. One should also refrain from causing any harm to them, desist from doing whatever they forbid, love to see them live long, and ask forgiveness for them



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very often during their life and after their death. Dishonouring parents is the opposite of all that.

One of the signs of the Last Hour (the Day of Judgement) is that dishonouring parents will become widespread. The Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "Among the signs of the Last Hour is that rain will be extremely hot, children will be a source of grief to their parents, evil-doers will abound, and the righteous will subside."

One of the worst forms of dishonouring parents is to send one or both of them to elderly care homes and deprive them of their children's care. Allah forbid! For this is contrary to the ethics of Islam and is in no way a form of good manners. It is also among the worst forms of dishonouring parents to act arrogantly towards them, assault them through beating, humiliation, and verbal abuse, or deprive them of what they need. Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, narrated that the Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "The scent of Paradise can be smelt from the distance one could travel in five hundred years, but one who dishonours his parents will not even smell it [let alone enter Paradise]" (Reported by At-Tabarani).

Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(Worship Allah and join none with Him (in worship); and do good to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, *Al-Masakin* (the needy), the neighbour who is near of kin, the neighbour who is a stranger, the companion by your side, the wayfarer (you meet), and those (slaves) whom your right hands possess. Verily, Allah does not like such as are proud and boastful.) (An-Nisa': 36)

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. Ask Allah for forgiveness. He is the Oft-Forgiving, the Most Merciful.



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Part Two

Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah alone, Who has no partners, the All-Mighty, the Most Strong; and I bear witness that our prophet and master, Muhammad, is His servant and messenger, the true to his promise, the trustworthy. O Allah! Bestow Your prayers, peace, and blessings upon Your servant and messenger Muhammad and upon his family and all his Companions.

Now then,

Fear Allah as He should be feared, and grasp the trustworthy handhold of Islam.

Servants of Allah!

In addition to being a means of gaining great rewards and blessings, observing the parents' rights testifies to one's good manners. It is one of the most admirable qualities that are only observed by those who are of good nature, noble descent, and refined moral character.

There is no reward for good other than good. A favour that one does is to be met by gratitude and loyalty, and one good turn deserves another. None would deny the favours of others except those who are ill-mannered, ill-intentioned, and devoid of chivalry – those who are unblessed and arrogant. Allah, Exalted be He, says:

(... And do not forget liberality between yourselves. Truly, Allah is All-Seer of what you do.) (Al-Baqarah: 137).

Allah, Exalted be He, tells us that 'Isa (Prophet Jesus), peace and blessings be upon him, said of himself:

("And dutiful to my mother, and made me not arrogant, unblest.") (Maryam: 32).

Allah says of Yahya (Prophet John), peace be upon him:

(And dutiful towards his parents, and he was neither arrogant nor disobedient (to Allah or to his parents).)
(Maryam: 14)

He also says about the miserable, wretched man who dishonours his parents:

(But he who says to his parents: "Fie upon you both! Do you hold out the promise to me that I shall be raised up (again) when generations before me have passed away (without rising)?" While they (father and mother) invoke



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Allah for help (and rebuke their son): “Woe to you! Believe! Verily, the Promise of Allah is true.” But he says: “This is nothing but the tales of the ancient.”) (Al-Ahqaf: 17)

Abu Hurairah, may Allah be pleased with him, said, “A man once came to the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, and said, ‘O Messenger of Allah! Who amongst the people is most deserving of my good treatment?’ He said, ‘Your mother, then your mother, then your mother, then your father, and then the next closest to you from among your relatives’” (Reported by Al-Bukhari and 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 bountiful peace and blessings upon Muhammad and his family, as You bestowed Your peace and blessings upon Ibrahim and his family, You are All-Praiseworthy, All-Glorious.

O Allah! Be pleased with all the Companions. O Allah! Be pleased with the Rightly-Guided Caliphs, Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman, and Ali, along with all Your Prophet's other Companions, with the *Tabi'un* (the contemporaries of the Prophet's Companions after his death), and with those who follow them in righteousness until the Day of Judgment. O Allah! Be pleased with us together with them, by Your benevolence, generosity, mercy, and grace, 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; You are the All-Mighty, the Most Strong! O Allah! Grant victory to Your religion, Your Book, and the *Sunnah* of Your Prophet, O All-Mighty! O Most Strong! O Lord of the Worlds!



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O Allah! We ask You to help us adhere to the guidance of Your messenger, Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him. O Allah! Grant us and grant all Muslims sound understanding of Your religion. O Allah! Help us and help all Muslims perform acts of obedience to You. O Allah! Help us perform acts of obedience to You and help us avoid acts of disobedience to You.

O Allah! Do not leave us to ourselves for the blink of an eye and make good all our affairs; there is no god but You! O Allah! We seek refuge in You from the evil within ourselves and from our wrong deeds. O Allah! Protect us and our offspring from Satan, his offspring, his devils, and his soldiers, O Lord of the Worlds! O All-Mighty! O Most Strong! O Allah! Protect Muslims and their offspring from Satan and his devils, O Lord of the Worlds!

O Allah! We ask You to guide us to what You love and accept. O Allah! We ask you for Paradise and for every word or deed that brings us closer to it, and seek refuge in You from Hellfire and from every word or deed that brings us closer to it.

O Allah! Forgive us the sins that we have committed and the sins that we may commit in the future; forgive us the sins that we have committed in secret and the sins that we have committed in public; and forgive us what You know better than we do. You are the Expediter and the Delayer! There is no god but You!

O Allah! Forgive the sins of our dead. O Allah! Forgive the sins of our dead. O Allah! Forgive the sins of our dead and the sins of all dead Muslims, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

O Allah! Ease our tasks, comfort our hearts, and ease the tasks of all Muslims and all believers, men and women, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

O Allah! Clothe the naked among the Muslims. O Allah! Clothe the naked among the Muslims, and feed the hungry among them, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Dispel the fear of the frightened among them. O Allah! Protect all Muslims, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Protect their religion, their lives in this world, and their honour, O Owner of Majesty and Honour! O Allah! Protect us from the evil of all evil-doers!

O Allah! Protect Muslims from the evil within themselves and from their wrong deeds.

O Allah! Foil the plots of the enemies of Islam. O Allah! Foil the plots of the enemies of Islam. O Allah! Thwart the plans of the enemies of Islam with which they intend to harm and offend Islam, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful! You are Powerful over all things!



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O Allah! Protect our homelands from every evil and harm, O Lord of the Worlds!
O Allah! Grant us safety in our homelands and make good our rulers.

O Allah! Guide the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to what You love and accept. O Allah! Lead him to Your guidance and make his deeds pleasing to You. O Allah! Help him do all that is good, O Lord of the Worlds! O Allah! Guide his two deputies to what You love and accept and to that which is good to Islam and Muslims, O Owner of Majesty and Honour!

(... 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)

O Allah! Help the debtors pay off their debts. O Allah! Help the debtors among Muslims pay off their debts, and release our prisoners as well as all Muslim prisoners, O Lord of the Worlds! You are Powerful over all things!

O Allah! Cure the sick among us. O Allah! Cure the sick among us. O Allah! Cure the sick among us and the sick among all Muslims. O Allah! Relieve the distress of the afflicted among us, by Your mercy, O Most Merciful of all the merciful!

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 oaths after you have confirmed them, and indeed you have



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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.