

The Last Sermon (Khutbah) of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) On Mount Arafat

Prophet Muhammad ﷺ delivered his last sermon (Khutbah) on the ninth of Dhul Hijjah (12th and last month of the Islamic year), 10 years after Hijrah (migration from Makkah to Madinah) in the Uranah Valley of Mount Arafat. His words were quite clear and concise and were directed to all of humanity. After glorifying, praising, and thanking Allah he ﷺ said:

“O People, lend me an attentive ear, for I know not whether after this year I shall ever be amongst you again. Therefore listen to what I am saying to you very carefully and TAKE THESE WORDS TO THOSE WHO COULD NOT BE PRESENT HERE TODAY.

“BEWARE OF SATAN, FOR THE SAFETY OF YOUR RELIGION. He has lost all hope that he will ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things. O People, just as you regard this month, this day, and this city as Sacred, so regard the life and property of every Muslim as a sacred trust. Return the goods entrusted to you to their rightful owners. Hurt no one so that no one may hurt you. Remember that you will indeed meet your LORD, and that HE will indeed reckon your deeds.”

INTEREST: “ALLAH has forbidden you to take usury (interest), therefore all interest obligation shall henceforth be waived. Your capital, however, is yours to keep. You will neither inflict nor suffer any inequity. Allah has judged that there shall be no interest and that all the interest due to Abbas ibn ‘Abdul Muttalib (Prophet’s ﷺ uncle) shall henceforth be waived.”

RIGHTS WITH REGARD TO YOUR WOMEN: “O People, it is true that you have certain rights with regard to your women, but they also have rights over you. Remember that you have taken them as your wives only under Allah’s trust and with His permission. If they abide by your right then to them belongs the right to be fed and clothed in kindness. Do treat your women well and be kind to them for they are your partners and committed helpers. And it is your right that they do not make friends with any one of whom you do not approve, as well as never to be unchaste.”

SALAT (Prayers), FAST, ZAKAT (Charity) and HAJ (Pilgrimage to Makkah): “O People, listen to me in earnest, worship ALLAH, say your five daily prayers (Salat), fast during the month of Ramadhan, and give your wealth in Zakat. Perform Hajj if you can afford to.”

NO SUPERIORITY: “Remember, one day you will appear before ALLAH and answer your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone. All mankind is from Adam and an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab; also a white race has no superiority over a black race nor does a black race have any superiority over a white race except by piety (taqwa) and good action. Learn that every Muslim is a brother to every Muslim and that the Muslims constitute one brotherhood. Nothing shall be legitimate to a Muslim which belongs to a fellow Muslim unless it was given freely and willingly. Do not, therefore, do injustice to yourselves.

“All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; and may the last ones understand my words better than those who listen to me directly. Be my witness, O ALLAH, that I have conveyed your message to your people.

“O People, NO PROPHET OR APOSTLE WILL COME AFTER ME AND NO NEW FAITH WILL BE BORN. Reason well, therefore, O People, and understand the words which I convey to you. I leave behind me two things, the QURAN and my example, the SUNNAH and if you follow these you will never go astray.”

Thus the beloved Prophet completed his Final Sermon, and upon it, near the summit of Arafat, the revelation came down:

الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتِمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضَيْتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا

...This day have I perfected for you your faith and completed My blessings upon you and have chosen Islam for your religion... (Surah al-Maida 5:3)