# Khutbah 6: The Importance of Repentance

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## First Khutbah — Arabic Opening

**Innal hamda lillah,**
**nahmaduhu wa nasta‘eenuhu wa nastaghfiruhu,**
**wa na‘oodhu billahi min shuroori anfusina**
**wa min sayyi’aati a‘maalina.**

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ، نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Man yah-dihi-llahu falaa mudilla lah,**
**wa man yud-lil falaa haadiya lah.**

مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ، وَمَنْ يُضْلِلْ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Wa ash-hadu an laa ilaaha illallahu wahdahu laa shareeka lah,**
**wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan ‘abduhu wa rasooluh.**

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَٰهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Yaa ay-yuhal-ladheena aamanut-taqul-laha haqqa tu-qaa-tihi**
**wa laa tamootunna illaa wa antum muslimoon.**

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Yaa ayyuhan-naasu-ttaqu rabbakumul-ladhee khalaqakum min nafsin waahidah,**

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ،

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**wa khalaqa minhaa zawjahaa,**
**wa baththa minhumaa rijaalan katheeran wa nisaa'aa.**

وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا، وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Wattaqullahal-ladhee tasaa'aloona bihi wal-arhaam.**
**Innallaha kaana 'alaykum raqeebaa.**

وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Yaa ayyuhalladheena aamanu-ttaqullaha wa qooloo qawlan sadeedaa.**

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Yuslih lakum a'maalakum wa yaghfir lakum dhunoobakum.**

يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Wa man yuti'illaha wa rasoolahu faqad faaza fawzan 'azeemaa.**

وَمَنْ يُطِعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Ammaa ba‘d.**

أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Fa inna asdaqal hadeethi kitaabullah,**

فَإِنَّ أَصْدَقَ الْحَدِيثِ كِتَابُ اللَّهِ،

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**wa khayral hadyi hadyu Muhammadin sallallahu ‘alayhi wa sallam,**

وَخَيْرَ الْهَدْيِ هَدْيُ مُحَمَّدٍ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ،

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**wa sharral umoori muh-dathaa-tuhaa,**
**wa kulla muh-dathatin bid‘ah,**
**wa kulla bid‘atin dalaalah,**
**wa kulla dalaalatin fin-naar.**

وَشَرَّ الْأُمُورِ مُحْدَثَاتُهَا، وَكُلَّ مُحْدَثَةٍ بِدْعَةٌ، وَكُلَّ بِدْعَةٍ ضَلَالَةٌ، وَكُلَّ ضَلَالَةٍ فِي النَّارِ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

## First Khutbah — English

My dear brothers in Islam,

I advise myself first, and then all of you, to have taqwa of Allah.

Fear Allah, be aware of Allah, and remember that one day we will stand before Him and answer for how we lived our lives.

Today's khutbah is about something that every one of us needs.

Something that can change our lives.

Something that can save us from the punishment of the Hereafter.

**Repentance.**

My dear brothers in Islam,

Every one of us makes mistakes.

Every one of us has committed sins.

Some of these sins are small, while others are very serious.

Some are committed openly, while others are committed when nobody is watching.

And sometimes, we carry the regret of those sins for many years.

But there is something important that we must never forget.

**No matter how far we have moved away from Allah, the door of repentance is open while we still have the opportunity to return.**

Allah says in Surah Az-Zumar, (verse 53):

**"My servants who have harmed yourselves by your own excess, do not despair of Allah's mercy."**

Think about these words.

Allah is speaking to people who have wronged themselves.

People who have committed sins.

People who may have spent years disobeying Him.

Yet Allah tells them not to lose hope in His mercy.

My dear brothers in Islam,

This is one of the most beautiful reminders in the Quran.

Because sometimes, a person commits so many sins that he begins to believe Allah will never forgive him.

He may have neglected his salah for years.

He may have earned money through haram means.

He may have been involved in relationships that Allah has forbidden.

He may have lied, cheated, hurt people or committed sins that nobody else knows about.

And eventually, he begins telling himself:

"I have done too many bad things."

"Allah will never forgive someone like me."

"There is no point in trying to change now."

But my dear brothers in Islam, these thoughts should never stop us from returning to Allah.

Whatever sins we have committed, we must not give up hope in Allah's forgiveness.

At the same time, we must not use Allah's mercy as an excuse to continue sinning.

**True repentance means we sincerely want to change.**

It is not simply saying "Astaghfirullah" while making plans to continue doing the same thing.

We need to feel regret for what we have done.

We need to stop the sin.

And we need to make a sincere intention not to return to it.

This is what tawbah means.

Turning away from disobedience and returning to Allah.

My dear brothers in Islam,

Imagine a person who has been driving in the wrong direction for a long time.

Eventually, he realises that he is heading towards danger.

What should he do?

Should he keep driving because he has already travelled so far?

Of course not.

He should stop, turn around and take the correct road.

The same applies to our lives.

Just because we have spent years making mistakes does not mean we should continue making them.

**The best time to change is the moment we realise we are going in the wrong direction.**

And Allah loves those who turn back to Him.

In Surah Al-Baqarah, (verse 222), Allah tells us that He loves those who repent.

Think about that.

Allah does not merely allow us to seek forgiveness.

He loves those who sincerely return to Him.

The Prophet Muhammad, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam, also taught us how pleased Allah is when His servant repents.

In Sahih Muslim, (Hadith 2747), the Prophet, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam, described a man travelling through a desert.

The man had a camel carrying his food and water.

But he lost the camel.

He searched for it until he lost all hope.

He believed he would die in the desert.

Then, suddenly, he found his camel standing beside him.

Imagine the happiness and relief he would feel.

The Prophet, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam, explained that Allah is even more pleased when His servant sincerely repents and returns to Him.

My dear brothers in Islam,

What a beautiful reminder of Allah's mercy.

We should never think that Allah does not want us to return to Him.

But we must also remember something very important.

**Repentance must come before it is too late.**

A person may say, "I will repent when I am older."

Or, "I will become serious about Islam after I get married."

Or, "I will change when Ramadan arrives."

But my dear brothers in Islam, who has promised us that we will live until then?

How many people went to sleep last night and never woke up?

How many people left home expecting to return, but never made it back?

We cannot guarantee that we will be alive tomorrow.

So why are we delaying something as important as asking Allah for forgiveness?

My dear brothers in Islam,

There is another mistake that some people make.

They sincerely repent, but then they fall into the same sin again.

And because of this, they begin to lose hope.

They say, "I have already asked for forgiveness, but I keep making the same mistake."

"I must be a terrible Muslim."

"Perhaps Allah will no longer forgive me."

But we need to understand the difference between deliberately planning to continue sinning and sincerely trying to change but falling into weakness again.

If you sincerely repent, and later fall into sin again, do not give up.

Repent again.

Ask Allah for forgiveness again.

And make another sincere effort to leave that sin.

Do not allow Shaytan to convince you that you should stop trying.

In Sahih Muslim, (Hadith 2759), the Prophet, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam, taught us that Allah accepts the repentance of those who sinned during the day and those who sinned during the night.

This shows us how great Allah's mercy is.

But my dear brothers in Islam, repentance is not only about asking forgiveness for the sins between ourselves and Allah.

What about the people we have wronged?

What about the money we have taken unfairly?

What about the people we have lied to?

What about the family members we have treated badly?

If we have taken someone's money, we must make an effort to return it.

If we have damaged someone's reputation, we must try to repair the harm.

If we have hurt someone, we should try to make things right.

**We cannot simply ignore the rights of other people and expect everything to be settled by saying Astaghfirullah.**

Sincere repentance also means taking responsibility for the harm we have caused.

My dear brothers in Islam,

Allah says in Surah Ali Imran, (verse 135), describing those who seek His forgiveness:

**"who never knowingly persist in doing wrong"**

This is an important lesson.

A believer may fall into sin.

But he should not become comfortable with that sin.

He should not make excuses for it.

And he should not continue doing it simply because other people are doing the same thing.

Today, many sins have become so common that people no longer feel embarrassed about them.

Things that were once hidden are now openly shared on social media.

People speak proudly about actions that Allah has forbidden.

And sometimes, we begin to think that because something is common, it must not be very serious.

But my dear brothers in Islam, **something does not become halal simply because it becomes popular.**

Our guide is the Quran and the Sunnah of the Prophet Muhammad, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam.

Not what society accepts.

Not what our friends are doing.

And not what is popular on the internet.

My dear brothers in Islam,

We should also remember that repentance is not only for people who have committed major sins.

Even those who pray regularly, fast Ramadan and try to live as good Muslims need to seek Allah's forgiveness.

The Prophet Muhammad, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam, who was the best example for us, regularly asked Allah for forgiveness.

In Sahih al-Bukhari, (Hadith 6307), he said:

**"I ask for forgiveness from Allah and turn to Him in repentance more than seventy times a day."**

If the Prophet, Sallahu Alayhi wa Salam, sought Allah's forgiveness so often, then how much more should we be doing it?

My dear brothers in Islam,

Let us never become too proud to admit our mistakes.

Let us never become so comfortable with sin that we stop feeling regret.

And let us never believe that Allah's mercy is beyond our reach.

We are still alive.

We can still ask for forgiveness.

We can still change.

And we can still become better servants of Allah.

May Allah forgive our sins, both those we remember and those we have forgotten.

May Allah protect us from returning to the sins we have left behind.

May Allah soften our hearts and guide us towards sincere repentance.

And may Allah allow us to meet Him while He is pleased with us, Ameen.

## End of First Khutbah — Seeking Forgiveness

**Aqoolu qawlee haadhaa,**
**wa astaghfirullaha lee wa lakum,**
**wa li saa’i-ril muslimeena min kulli dhanb.**
**Fastaghfirooh, innahu huwal ghafoorur raheem.**

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا، وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

*Sit briefly between the two khutbahs.*

## Second Khutbah — Arabic Opening

**Alhamdulillahi rabbil ‘aalameen, was-salaatu was-salaamu ‘alaa ashrafil anbiyaa’i wal mursaleen, nabiyyinaa Muhammadin, wa ‘alaa aalihi wa sahbihi ajma‘een.**

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى أَشْرَفِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ، نَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Ash-hadu an laa ilaaha illallahu wahdahu laa shareeka lah, wa ash-hadu anna Muhammadan ‘abduhu wa rasooluh. Ammaa ba‘d.**

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

## Second Khutbah — English

My dear brothers in Islam,

Again, I advise myself and all of you to have taqwa of Allah.

We have spoken about the importance of repentance and the mercy of Allah.

But now we need to ask ourselves a simple question.

**What are we going to change in our lives?**

Because listening to a reminder is not enough if we continue doing the same things afterwards.

My dear brothers in Islam,

If you have been neglecting your salah, make a sincere decision to establish your prayers.

If you have been earning money through haram means, begin taking steps towards a halal income.

If you have been watching things that Allah has forbidden, remove them from your phone and protect your eyes.

If you have been speaking badly about others, stop spreading gossip and begin protecting their honour.

And if you have hurt your parents, your spouse, your children or someone else, make an effort to put things right.

My dear brothers in Islam,

We do not need to wait for a special day to repent.

We do not need to wait for Ramadan.

We do not need to wait until we become older.

And we do not need to wait until something terrible happens before we turn to Allah.

**We can begin today.**

Start by finding a quiet moment and sincerely asking Allah to forgive you.

Think about the mistakes you have made.

Feel regret for them.

Ask Allah to help you leave them behind.

And then take real steps to change.

Sometimes that means changing the people we spend time with.

Sometimes it means removing things from our phones.

Sometimes it means avoiding places that lead us into sin.

And sometimes it means admitting that we have been wrong and asking another person for forgiveness.

My dear brothers in Islam,

We should also teach our children about repentance.

Do not allow them to grow up believing that making a mistake means they are a bad person who can never change.

Teach them that Allah is merciful.

Teach them to take responsibility for their actions.

Teach them to apologise when they hurt someone.

And teach them that when they fall into sin, they should return to Allah rather than run further away from Him.

My dear brothers in Islam,

In Surah At-Tahrim, (verse 8), Allah commands the believers:

**"Believers, turn to Allah in sincere repentance."**

This command is for all of us.

Not just those who have committed major sins.

Not just those who have stopped praying.

Not just those who have moved far away from their religion.

All of us.

My dear brothers in Islam,

One day, our opportunity to repent will come to an end.

A time will arrive when we can no longer go back and correct our mistakes.

But today, Allah has given us another opportunity.

Another day to pray.

Another day to seek forgiveness.

Another day to do good.

And another day to change.

**Let us not waste it.**

May Allah accept our repentance.

May Allah forgive the sins of our parents and families.

May Allah guide those who have moved away from Islam back to the straight path.

May Allah protect our children from sin and make them among the righteous.

And may Allah allow our final deeds to be among our best deeds, Ameen.

## Closing Dua — Arabic Transliteration

**In-nal-laaha wa ma-laaa-e-ka-ta-hoo yu-sal-loo-na 'alan-na-bee, yaaa ay-yu-hal-la-thee-na aa-ma-noo sal-loo 'a-lay-hi wa sal-li-moo tas-lee-maa.**

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ، يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Allah humma Sali wa salam wa barik ala Muhammadin wa ala alley Muhammad**

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Allahummaghfir lil-muslimeena wal-muslimaat, wal-mu'mineena wal-mu'minaat, al-ahyaa'i minhum wal-amwaat.**

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Rabbanaa zalamnaa anfusanaa, wa illam taghfir lanaa wa tarhamnaa, lanakoonanna minal-khaasireen.**

رَبَّنَا ظَلَمْنَا أَنْفُسَنَا وَإِنْ لَمْ تَغْفِرْ لَنَا وَتَرْحَمْنَا لَنَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Rabbanaa aatinaa fid-dunyaa hasanah, wa fil-aakhirati hasanah, wa qinaa 'adhaaban-naar.**

رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

## Final Khutbah Closing

**Ibaadallah,**
**innallaha ya’muru bil-‘adli**
**wal-ihsaani**
**wa eetaa’i dhil-qurbaa,**
**wa yanhaa ‘anil fahshaa’i wal-munkari wal-baghy.**
**Ya‘izukum la‘allakum tadhakkaroon.**

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَاءِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ، وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ، يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ.

▶ Listen to pronunciation

**Wa akhiroo da3wanal humdoolilahi rubul Alameen.**
**Wa Aqimis-salaah.**

وَآخِرُ دَعْوَانَا أَنِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ. وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ.

▶ **Listen to pronunciation**