

THE FAREWELL SERMON OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD

May Allah's Peace and Blessings be Upon Him (PBUH)

The Farewell Sermon (Arabic: Khtbatul Wada'), was delivered on the Ninth Day of Thul Hijjah 10 A.H. (632 CE.), in the 'Uranah valley of Mount Arafat' (in Makkah).

After praising and thanking Allah (God), the Final Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said:

"O People, just as you regard this month, this day, 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. Allah has forbidden you to take usury (interest, Arabic: Riba); 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 usury (interest) and that all interest due to Al Abbas Ibn Abd Al Muttalib (the prophet's uncle) shall henceforth be waived. Beware of Satan for the safety of your religion. He has lost hope that he will be ever be able to lead you astray in big things, so beware of following him in small things.

O People, it is true that you have certain rights in 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 permission. If they abide by your right then 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 anyone of whom you do not approve, as well as never be unchaste.

O People, listen to me and in earnest, worship Allah, perform your five daily prayers (Salah), fast during the month of (Ramadan), and give from your wealth in Alms (Zakat). Perform Pilgrimage (Hajj) if you can afford to. O People, your God (Allah) is One, all mankind is from Adam , an Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab has any superiority over an Arab; also a white has no superiority over a black, nor a black has any superiority over a white except by piety 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. Remember one day you will appear before Allah and answer for your deeds. So beware, do not stray from the path of righteousness after I am gone.

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 Qur'aan and my example the (Sunnah), and if you follow these you will never go astray.

All those who listen to me shall pass on my words to others and those to others again; perhaps some of those who receive my words would understand them better than those who listened to me directly."

As part of this sermon, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) recited to them a Revelation from God (Allah) which he (PBUH) had just received:

"...This day, those who disbelieved have given up all hope of your religion; so fear them not, but fear Me. This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion..." (The Noble Qur'aan 5:3).

Towards the end of his sermon, the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) asked:

"O people, have I faithfully derived to you my message?"

A powerful murmur of assent "O Allah, Yes", arose from thousands of pilgrims and the vibrant words rolled like thunder throughout the valley.

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: "Be my witness O Allah, that I have conveyed your message to your people."