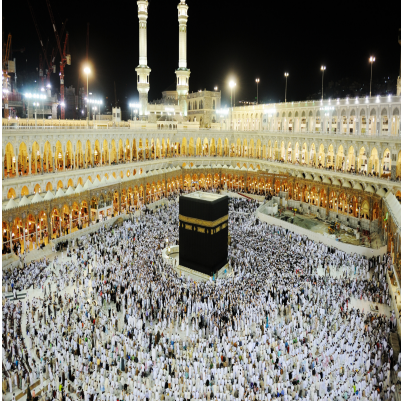




263: The Final Pilgrimage – A Charter for Eternity

Description

Each year, as millions of Muslims converge on the blessed city of Makkah for the sacred pilgrimage of Hajj, the global Ummah is taken back to one of the most important moments in Islamic history, the **Farewell Pilgrimage of the Prophet Muhammad** (*peace be upon him*) in the year 10 Hijri (632 CE).

This was no ordinary journey. It marked the culmination of 23 years of divine revelation, tireless sacrifice, and prophetic guidance. More than 120,000 companions accompanied the Prophet (*peace be upon him*) on this sacred journey, witnessing his final pilgrimage, a model for all future generations.

Yet beyond the rites and rituals, it was his final public address, **the Farewell Sermon** (*Khutbatul Wadaa'*), that endures as a timeless charter for human dignity, social justice, and spiritual accountability.

The Farewell Sermon: A Universal Ethical Charter

Delivered on the plains of Arafat, this sermon was not merely a parting message, it was the Prophet's (*peace be upon him*) final will and testament to humanity. Its principles remain as relevant today as they were over 1,400 years ago. Let us revisit the core teachings of this profound message and reflect on the timeless wisdom it imparts:

1. Human Equality

“All mankind is from Adam and Eve. An Arab has no superiority over a non-Arab, nor does a non-Arab have any superiority over an Arab...”

? Lesson: Islam abolishes racism, tribalism, and all forms of supremacy. In a world still grappling with prejudice and injustice, these words reaffirm the fundamental equality of all human beings, regardless of race, ethnicity, or social standing.

2. The Sanctity of Life and Property

“Just as this month, this day, and this city are sacred, so too are the lives, property, and honour of every Muslim sacred.”

? Lesson: Human life, dignity, and possessions are to be respected and protected. This is a powerful call to uphold justice, safeguard rights, and live with integrity. Causing harm, whether physical, emotional, or financial, is categorically prohibited.

3. Economic Justice

“All forms of usury (riba) are abolished... The first usury I abolish is that of my uncle, Abbas ibn Abdul Muttalib.”

? Lesson: A bold stand against exploitation and financial oppression. Ethical conduct in finance, fairness in transactions, and the pursuit of shared prosperity are foundational to a just society.

4. Women’s Rights and Marital Responsibility

“Treat women kindly, for they are your partners and committed helpers.”

? Lesson: At a time when women were widely marginalized, this statement was revolutionary. It affirms the dignity, rights, and status of women as equal partners, and calls for a society built on compassion, respect, and fairness in family life.

5. Personal Accountability

“You will meet your Lord, and He will ask about your deeds.”

? Lesson: Every believer is individually responsible for their actions. This instils a profound sense of moral consciousness... Our conduct matters, both in this world and in the Hereafter.

6. Unity of the Ummah

“Do not turn back after me and strike the necks of one another.”

? Lesson: Division and sectarianism are among the gravest threats to the Muslim Ummah. The Prophet (*peace be upon him*) emphasized unity, mutual respect, and peaceful resolution of conflict, values that must be revived and upheld in our time.

7. Adherence to the Qur’an and Sunnah

“I leave behind me two things: the Qur’an and my Sunnah. If you hold fast to them, you will never go astray.”

? Lesson: The bedrock of Islamic life is adherence to divine revelation and prophetic example. In an age of confusion and disinformation, these sources offer clarity, guidance, and truth.

8. The Duty to Convey the Message

“Let those who are present convey this message to those who are absent.”

? Lesson: Every Muslim carries the responsibility of upholding and transmitting this legacy. The message of Islam is not merely spoken, it is lived through character, conduct, and commitment.

A Message for All Time

The Farewell Sermon transcends time and geography. It is a moral and ethical compass for all of humanity, addressing the universal challenges of racism, inequality, corruption, and social injustice.

As pilgrims walk between Safa and Marwah, stand upon the plains of ?Araf?t, and circle the Ka?bah, they do more than perform sacred rituals, they walk in the footsteps of the Final Messenger (*peace be upon him*), carrying forward his eternal message of mercy, justice, and unity.

A Journey of Body and Soul

Hajj is not only a physical voyage but a journey of both body and soul. It reminds us of our shared origins, the fleeting nature of life, and our collective duty as members of one Ummah. Whether standing on ?Araf?t or living within our communities, the Prophet’s (peace be upon him) voice still calls out:

“O People! Listen to my words carefully, for I do not know whether I shall ever meet you again in this place after this year...”

May Allah accept the Hajj of all the pilgrims, bless the Ummah with unity, and grant us all the ability to live by the light of this Final Message.

Eid Mubarak and Hajj Mabroor to all the Hujjaj from the SANHA Trustees, Management, Staff, Certified Plants, and Well-Wishers.