

The Farewell Sermon

His last public counsel to the community, gathered from the authentic narrations — no single report carries it whole.



Life, property and honour

فَإِنَّ دِمَاءَكُمْ وَأَمْوَالَكُمْ وَأَعْرَاضَكُمْ عَلَيْكُمْ حَرَامٌ، كَحُرْمَةِ يَوْمِكُمْ هَذَا، فِي بَلَدِكُمْ هَذَا فِي شَهْرِكُمْ هَذَا

“Your blood, your property and your honour are sacred to one another, as this day of yours is sacred, in this land of yours, in this month of yours.”

Sahih al-Bukhari 1739 (Ibn Abbas), the Day of Sacrifice; also Muslim 1218 (Jabir) & Muslim 1679 (Abu Bakrah) • sahih

The old feuds and riba end here

أَلَا كُلُّ شَيْءٍ مِنْ أَمْرِ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ تَحْتَ قَدَمِي مَوْضُوعٌ وَدِمَاءُ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ مَوْضُوعَةٌ ... وَرَبَّاءُ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ مَوْضُوعٌ وَأَوَّلُ رَبِّبٍ أَضْعُ رَبِّبَانَا رَبِّبَ عَبَّاسِ بْنِ عَبْدِ الْمُطَّلِبِ فَإِنَّهُ مَوْضُوعٌ كُلُّهُ

Every claim of blood from the age of ignorance is under his feet, abolished — and the first riba he cancelled was the riba owed to his own uncle.

Sahih Muslim 1218 (Jabir bin Abdullah), Arafah • sahih

Fear Allah concerning women

فَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ فِي النِّسَاءِ فَإِنَّكُمْ أَخَذْتُمُوهُنَّ بِأَمَانِ اللَّهِ وَاسْتَحْلَلْتُمْ فُرُوجَهُنَّ بِكَلِمَةِ اللَّهِ ... وَلَهُنَّ عَلَيْكُمْ رِزْقُهُنَّ وَكِسْوَتُهُنَّ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ

“You took them as a trust from Allah... Their right over you is their provision and their clothing, in a reasonable manner.”

Sahih Muslim 1218 (Jabir bin Abdullah), Arafah • sahih

Treat women well

أَلَا وَاسْتَوْصُوا بِالنِّسَاءِ خَيْرًا فَإِنَّمَا هُنَّ عَوَانٌ عِنْدَكُمْ ... أَلَا وَحُتُّهُنَّ عَلَيْكُمْ أَنْ تُحْسِنُوا إِلَيْهِنَّ فِي كِسْوَتِهِنَّ وَطَعَامِهِنَّ

“Indeed, I enjoin you to treat women well, for they are in your care... their right over you is that you treat them well in their clothing and their food.”

Sunan at-Tirmidhi 1163 ('Amr bin al-Ahwas), the Farewell Hajj • hasan sahih (at-Tirmidhi)

Hold to the Book of Allah

وَقَدْ تَرَكْتُ فِيكُمْ مَا لَنْ تَضِلُّوا بَعْدَهُ إِنْ اعْتَصَمْتُمْ بِهِ كِتَابَ اللَّهِ

“I have left among you something you will never go astray after, if you hold fast to it: the Book of Allah.”

Sahih Muslim 1218 (Jabir bin Abdullah), Arafah • sahih

No people above another

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ أَلَا إِنَّ رَبَّكُمْ وَاحِدٌ وَإِنَّ أَبَاكُمْ وَاحِدٌ أَلَا لَا فَضْلَ لِعَرَبِيٍّ عَلَى أَعْجَمِيٍّ وَلَا لِعَجَمِيٍّ عَلَى عَرَبِيٍّ وَلَا لِأَحْمَرَ عَلَى أَسْوَدَ وَلَا أَسْوَدَ عَلَى أَحْمَرَ إِلَّا بِالتَّقْوَى

“Your Lord is one and your father is one. No Arab has merit over a non-Arab, nor a non-Arab over an Arab, nor red over black, nor black over red — except by taqwa.”

Musnad Ahmad 23489 (a Companion, via Abu Nadrah), the middle of the Days of Tashriq • sahih (Shu'ayb al-Arna'ut: its chain is sahih)

Do not turn on each other

لَا تَرْجِعُوا بَعْدِي كُفَّارًا يَضْرِبُ بَعْضُكُمْ رِقَابَ بَعْضٍ

“Do not return after me as disbelievers, striking the necks of one another.”

Sahih al-Bukhari 1739 (Ibn Abbas) & 1741; Muslim 66 (Ibn Umar) • sahih

Time has come full circle

إِنَّ الزَّمَانَ قَدْ اسْتَدَارَ كَهَيْئَتِهِ يَوْمَ خَلَقَ اللَّهُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ السَّنَةُ اثْنَا عَشَرَ شَهْرًا مِنْهَا أَرْبَعَةٌ حَرَمٌ ثَلَاثَةٌ مُتَوَالِيَاتٌ ذُو الْقَعْدَةِ وَذُو الْحِجَّةِ وَالْحَرَمِ وَرَجَبٌ شَهْرٌ مُضَرٌ الَّذِي بَيْنَ جُمَادَى وَشَعْبَانَ

The year is twelve months, four of them sacred: three consecutive — Dhul-Qa'dah, Dhul-Hijjah and Muharram — and Rajab, between Jumada and Sha'ban.

Sahih Muslim 1679 (Abu Bakrah), the Day of Sacrifice; Bukhari 4406 • sahih

“O Allah, bear witness”

وَأَنْتُمْ تُسْأَلُونَ عَنِّي فَمَا أَنْتُمْ قَائِلُونَ ... قَالُوا نَشْهَدُ أَنَّكَ قَدْ بَلَغْتَ وَأَدَيْتَ وَنَصَحْتَ ... اللَّهُمَّ اشْهَدْ اللَّهُمَّ اشْهَدْ

“You will be asked about me — what will you say?” They said: we bear witness that you have conveyed the message, discharged the trust and counselled the community.

Sahih Muslim 1218 (Jabir bin Abdullah), Arafah • sahih