

Arab Republic of Egypt

Ministry of Awqaf

Muharram 17, 1444 A.H./ August 4, 2023 C.E

Praising Allah in the Qur'an and Sunnah

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Ever Glorious Book, **“He is Allah; there is no god but Him; all praise belongs to Him in this world and the next; His is the Judgement; and to Him you shall be returned.”** I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that Muhammad is His Servant and Messenger. May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow their path to the Day of Judgment.

The Almighty Allah is the Praised One, Who is alone worthy of Praise and thanks for His perfection and Majesty, and for His graces and blessings. He praised Himself from the beginning of time, and His creatures praise Him forever. Allah said, **"Allah is self-sufficient and worthy of all praise."** Allah also said, **"Allah is self-sufficient, worthy of all praise."**

When reviewing the Qur'an, one finds that Allah has started five *Surahs* of the Qur'an with praise, due to its great reward. For Example, Allah says in the beginning of *Surat al-Fatiha*, **"Praise be to Allah, Lord of the Worlds."** *Surat al-An'am* starts with, **"Praise belongs to Allah who created the heavens and the earth and made darkness and light; yet the disbelievers set up equals to their Lord."** In the beginning of *Surat al-Kahf*, Allah says, **"Praise be to Allah, who sent down the Scripture to His servant and made it unerringly straight."** Also, *Surat Saba'* starts with, **"Praise be to Allah, to whom belongs all that is in the heavens and earth, and praise be to Him in the life to come. He is the All Wise, the All Aware."** Also, *Surat Fatir*, starts with, **"Praise be to Allah, Creator of the heavens and earth, who made angels messengers with two, three, four [pairs of] wings. He adds to creation as He will: Allah has power over everything."**

The Almighty Allah also concluded four chapters of His Glorious Book with praise. At the End of *Surat al-Saffat*, Allah says, **"And praise be to Allah the Lord of all the Worlds."** Also, at the End of *Surat al-Israa*, Allah says, **"And say, ‘Praise belongs to Allah, who has no child nor partner in His rule. He is not so weak as**

to need a protector. Proclaim His limitless greatness!" *Surat al-Zumar* ends with, "True judgement will have been passed between them, and it will be said, 'Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds.'" Also, *Surat al-Naml* ends with, "Say, 'Praise belongs to Allah: He will show you His signs so that you will recognize them.' Your Lord is never unmindful of what you all do."

Praising Allah is one of the most important forms of mentioning the Name of Allah (Dhikr) by Prophets. The Almighty says about Prophet Noah, "When you and your companions are settled on the Ark, say, 'Praise be to Allah, who delivered us from the wicked people.'" Allah reported the statement of Prophet Abraham saying, "Praise be to Allah, who has granted me Ishmael and Isaac in my old age: my Lord hears all requests." Allah also said, "We gave knowledge to David and Solomon, and they both said, 'Praise be to Allah, who has favoured us over many of His believing servants.'"

In addition, praising Allah is also the continued practice of the close Angels, as the Almighty Allah said, "You [Prophet] will see the angels surrounding the Throne, glorifying their Lord with praise. True judgement will have been passed between them, and it will be said, 'Praise be to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds.'" Allah also said, "The angels proclaim the praises of their Lord and ask forgiveness for those on earth. Allah is indeed the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful." In another verse, Allah said, "Those [angels] who carry the Throne and those who surround it celebrate the praise of their Lord and have faith in Him. They beg forgiveness for the believers: 'Our Lord, You embrace all things in mercy and knowledge, so forgive those who turn to You and follow Your path. Save them from the pains of Hell.'"

The Glorious Qur'an tells us that the people of Paradise always praise their Lord for the graces He has blessed them with. Allah says in the Qur'an, "They will say, 'Praise be to Allah, who has separated us from all sorrow! Our Lord is truly most forgiving, most appreciative.'" Allah also said, "They will say, 'Praise be to Allah who has kept His promise to us and given us this land as our own. Now we may live wherever we please in the Paradise.' How excellent is the reward of those who labour." In another verse, Allah also said, "Their Prayer in it (Paradise) will be, 'Glory be to You, Allah!' their greeting, 'Peace,' and the last part of their prayer, 'Praise be to God, Lord of the Worlds.'"

All praise is due to Allah, Lord of the Worlds; may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon him, his family, companions and whoever follows their guidance to the Day of Judgment.

When contemplating the Sunnah of the Prophet (PBUH), one realizes that our Prophet (PBUH) guided us to the virtue and importance of praising Allah, as our Prophet (PBUH) said, "Purity is half of *Iman* (faith). '*Al-hamdu lillah* (all praise and gratitude belong to Allah)' fills the scales, and '*subhan-Allah*' (how far is Allah from every imperfection) and '*Al-hamdulillah* (all praise and gratitude belong to Allah)' fill that which is between heaven and earth." The Prophet (PBUH) also said, "He who recites in the morning and in the evening the statement: '*Subhan-Allahi wa bihamdihi* (Allah is free from imperfection and I begin with praising Him)' one hundred times, will not be surpassed on the Day of Resurrection by anyone with better deeds than one who utters the same words or utters more of these words." Also, the Prophet (PBUH) said, "There are two statements that are light for the tongue to remember, heavy in the Scales and are dear to the Merciful: '*Subhan-Allahi wa bihamdihi, Subhan-Allahil-Azim* [Glory be to Allah and His is the praise, (and) Allah, the Greatest is free from imperfection]'."

Also, our Prophet (PBUH) taught us to praise Allah in all cases, and in all circumstances. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah is pleased with His slave who eats a meal and praises Him for it; and takes a drink and praises Him for it." Also, our Prophet (PBUH) taught us to say, "Praise be to Allah Who has clothed me with this (garment) and provided it for me, though I was powerless myself and incapable." In another Hadith, the Prophet (PBUH) said, "When a man's child dies, Allah, the Exalted, asks His angels, 'Have you taken out the life of the child of My slave?' and they reply in the affirmative. He (Glory be to Him) then asks, 'Have you taken the fruit of his heart?' and they reply in the affirmative. Thereupon He asks, 'What did my slave say?' They say: 'He praised You and said: *Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi raji'un* (We belong to Allah and to Him we shall return).' Allah says: 'Build a house for my slave in the Paradise and name it *Baitul-Hamd* (the House of Praise)."

O Lord, make us among those who praise You!

We ask Allah to protect Egypt and raise its flag high among all countries of the world!!