

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ ذِي الْفَضْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ، وَالْجُودِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا
إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُ
اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ، صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ، وَعَلَى مَنْ
تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

All praise is due to Allah, Bestower of bounties and blessings, the Grantor of unlimited favours. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates.

I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the Servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his pure blessed family and companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

الشُّكْرُ : عِرْفَانِ النِّعْمَةِ وَإِظْهَارُهَا - الشُّكْرُ مِنَ اللَّهِ : الرُّضَا وَالثَّوَابُ - / شَكَرَ اللَّهُ : حَمِدَهُ ، ذَكَرَ نِعْمَتَهُ وَأَثْنَى عَلَيْهِ

- Shukr is genuine thanks, an expression of gratitude and contentment, it is the constant remembrance and praise of the blessings of Allah ﷻ
- Shukr is performed both publically and privately - Shukr is the Izhaar al-Ni'mah – revealing the blessing and the opposite of Shukr is Kufr – Ikhfa al-Ni'ma, the concealment of the blessing. كَفَرَ الشَّيْءُ : سَتَرَهُ ، غَطَّاهُ كَفَرَ عَلَيْهِ
- **1. We can never count Allah's Blessings** – but we should at least attempt to. Be ever grateful to Allah ﷻ for everything that you possess including your wealth, health, status, intellectual abilities and life.

وَأَن تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا وَإِن تَعُدُّوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ لَا تُحْصُوهَا Even if you try to count Allah's blessings, you could never compute them" (16:18)

The Biggest Ni'ma to mankind is the Prophet ﷺ

لَقَدْ مَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِّنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ وَإِن كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Certainly did Allah confer [great] favour upon the believers when He sent among them a Messenger from themselves, reciting to them His verses and purifying them and teaching them the Book and wisdom, although they had been before in manifest error. (3:164)

- **2. Shaytan's primary mission is to make human beings ungrateful:** From the very beginning of the human being's creation, the issue of gratefulness and vs ungratefulness has ensued. Remember when Satan refused to bow down to Adam and made a vow:

ثُمَّ لَأَتِيَنَّهُمْ مِّن بَيْنِ أَيْدِيهِمْ وَمِنْ خَلْفِهِمْ وَعَنْ أَيْمَانِهِمْ وَعَنْ شَمَائِلِهِمْ وَلَا تَجِدُ أَكْثَرَهُمْ شَاكِرِينَ

"Then I will certainly come to them from before them and from behind them, and from the right-hand side and from the left-hand side, and You (Allah) shall not find most of them thankful." (Al-Araf 7:17)

- **3- The opposite of Shukr (gratitude) is Kufr (disbelief):**

فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوا لِي وَلَا تَكْفُرُونِ

"Then remember Me; I will remember you. Be grateful to Me, and do not reject Me" (2:152)

- **4- We thank Allah ﷻ for our own benefit:** If you are ungrateful, Allah ﷻ is unaffected. If you become grateful, then you benefit yourself.

وَمَنْ يَشْكُرْ فَإِنَّمَا يَشْكُرُ لِنَفْسِهِ وَمَنْ كَفَرَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَنِيٌّ حَمِيدٌ

And whoever is grateful is grateful for [the benefit of] himself. And whoever denies [His favour] - then indeed, Allah is Free of need and Praiseworthy. (31:12)

- **5- Shukr leads to Allah's pleasure:** The Prophet ﷺ said: "Allah is pleased with His servant if, when he eats something, he thanks Allah for it, and when he drinks something, he thanks Allah for it" (Muslim).

” مَنْ قَالَ رَضِيْتُ بِاللَّهِ رَبًّا وَبِالْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا وَبِمُحَمَّدٍ رَسُولًا - وَجَبَتْ لَهُ الْجَنَّةُ ”

If anyone says "I am pleased with Allah as Lord, with Islam as religion and with Muhammad ﷺ as Apostle" Paradise will be his due. (Tirmidhi)

- **7- Shukr is a quality of success in this life and in the Hereafter:** The Prophet ﷺ said: "There are four qualities, whoever is given them has truly been given the best in this world and the next. They are: a grateful heart a remembering tongue, an enduring body, and a faithful wife that helps him with his faith." (Tirmidhi)

أَفْضَلُهُ لِسَانٌ ذَاكِرٌ وَقَلْبٌ شَاكِرٌ وَزَوْجَةٌ مُؤْمِنَةٌ تُعِينُهُ عَلَى إِيْمَانِهِ

- **8- Shukr leads to abundance in Allah's favours:** If you appreciate Allah's favours, Allah's reward for your gratitude is unlimited and unconditional.

وَإِذْ تَأَذَّنَ رَبُّكُمْ لَئِن شَكَرْتُمْ لَأَزِيدَنَّكُمْ وَلَئِن كَفَرْتُمْ إِنَّ عَذَابِي لَشَدِيدٌ

And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favour]; but if you deny, indeed, My punishment is severe.' (14:7)

- The Prophet ﷺ was always grateful for the ease and hardships in his life
”Should I not be a grateful slave?” (Bukhari) أَفَلَا أَكُونُ عَبْدًا شَكُورًا
- You as children/students/siblings/couples/parents/citizens/Muslims have so much to be grateful for, especially in this country – we must show our thankfulness and gratitude to people as well to Allah ﷻ
- Shukr is **not restricted to a specific time or place**, but it can be celebrated on times/days/moments of blessings. Its expression must remain **constant, positive and beneficial**. Whenever you remember a blessing or are reminded of a blessing then you should turn to Allah ﷻ

9- Three ways to express Shukr:

- Shukr of the heart (**Qalb**), which is achieved by harboring and intending good for all of Allah's creation.
- Shukr of the tongue (**Lisan**), which involves celebrating the praises of Allah, such as utterance of Alhamdulillah, and expressing gratefulness to Allah with our tongue.
- Shukr of the limbs (**Jawarih**), which is fulfilled by using our external senses to do good. Every time Allah gives us a blessing, we must use it in a way that benefits humanity and that pleases Allah.