

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Victory Comes From No One Except Allaah

Khutbah from al-Masjid al-Haraam
delivered by ash-Shaykh Saalih aal Taalib
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Translated by Aboo Shaybah

All praise is due to Allaah. He is the Most Exalted, above the heavens. His supremacy and invincibility are apparent throughout His creation. All good in the vast expanses of this world come from Him. I testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allaah alone, without any partner. There is no one else to place hope in during difficulties, and nowhere else to turn for assistance and victory. I further testify that Muhammad is Allaah's worshipping servant and Messenger. The best path that leads to Allaah is the path he traversed. He was a source of good that will never dry up, and there were no righteous deeds better than his. O Allaah, send salaah and salaam upon him, his family, Companions, and followers until the Day of Reckoning.

All praise is due to Allaah. Our Lord, You deserve all praise. You created us, sustained us, guided us, taught us, rescued us, and removed difficulty from us. You deserve all praise for granting us Islaam and the Qur'aan. You deserve all praise for granting us our families, property, and well-being. You defeated our enemies, provided for us generously, granted us safety, united us, and protected us from harm. Our Lord, You have granted us all we asked of You, and You deserve abundant praise for that. You deserve all praise for every blessing we have, whether recent or old, hidden or apparent, specific or general, in this life or after we pass away, in our presence or our absence. You deserve all praise until You are pleased, and You deserve further praise even after You are pleased.

People, observe taqwaa of Allaah and remain mindful that He is aware of all you do. Obey His command and do not disobey Him. Prepare your hereafter and do not be distracted by this world and its luxuries. The true distinction between rich and poor will come after all people are presented before Allaah and they then turn to their destinations: either Jannah or the hellfire. "On that Day, the people will proceed in scattered groups to be shown their deeds. Thus, whoever does even the tiniest amount of good shall see it, and whoever does even the tiniest amount of evil shall see it." [az-Zalzalah:6-8].

Dear Muslims, the days of the Storm and decisive decisions have passed. We praise Allaah that they have been followed by victory which has brought happiness to many, and victory comes from no one except Allaah, the Almighty and Most Wise. We praise and thank Allaah for His blessings and guidance. He exposed the strength of the Sunnah and Eemaan, as well as the feebleness of evil, oppression, and hostility. There was no day when the Kingdom called for war, and its history does not contain oppression and aggression. However, when nothing is left except taking up arms, what else can someone do when he has no other option?

The Kingdom led the coalition to defend the truth and defeat wrongdoing, so as to protect the Muslims and all they hold sacred, and to assist the oppressed people of Yemen. Allaah allowed the objective to be achieved and placed much good in those involved as well as the preparations made, and all praise is due to Allaah, Lord of all creation. The Kingdom announced the Storm's beginning and has now announced its conclusion. Allaah allowed it to remain in control and raise the banner of tawheed and victory. Strength in the stance taken and firmness in making decisions – that is Allaah's favour which He grants whoever He wills.

Dear Muslims, among the blessings produced by the Storm is that hearts have been rejuvenated with hope after having been worn out by the darkness of despair. They saw a night which appeared like all the other nights of oppression and hopelessness, but not even half of it elapsed before it became a night to be recorded in history. It was one which brought glad tidings, removed humiliation, shifted the balances, and altered policies. The awakening of the Ummah is nearer than those in despair may imagine, and the Ummah can readily make a swift comeback even faster than the demoralized may think. However, Allaah has decreed spans of time that must pass and conditions that must be fulfilled in order for our Ummah to prevail. There were only a mere fifteen years between the Prophet ﷺ being expelled from Makkah and his state later extending over

the empires of Persia and Rome. We hope that Allaah completes His favour and grants safety to us and to all Muslim lands.

People of eemaan, although there was clear victory and the upper hand was acquired, the perspective of a mu'min should not go beyond the teachings of the best of Messengers. That was the Messenger whom Allaah blessed us with the honour of following his Sunnah and establishing his laws. How could it be otherwise when Allaah warned us, "Do not be like those who departed from their homes arrogantly and wanting to be seen by others." [al-Anfaal:47]. Allaah also told us, "If Allaah assists you and grants you victory, no one can overcome you. However, if He forsakes you, who else can grant you victory?" [Aal 'Imraan:160].

Moreover, something clearly stands out in the aayaat about the Battle of Badr and the victory of the Prophet ﷺ and his esteemed Companions. Those aayaat did not commend them for their courage and expertise. On the contrary, Allaah concluded them by saying, "Victory comes from no one except Allaah." [Aal 'Imraan:126, al-Anfaal:10]. He also said, "It was not you who threw when you threw. Rather, it was Allaah who threw." [al-Anfaal:17]. Allaah further said, "Allaah certainly granted you victory at Badr although you were few and weak." [Aal 'Imraan:123]. In addition, the Prophet ﷺ entered Makkah victorious, surrounded by his noble Companions riding and marching before him, and Makkah along with all its nobles had yielded to him. However, the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ entered on that day – the Conquest of Makkah – riding his camel and reciting Soorah al-Fath. (Collected by al-Bukhaaree). Muhammad ibn Ishaq said, "Abdullaah ibn Abee Bakr narrated to me that the Messenger of Allaah ﷺ lowered his head in humility to Allaah when he saw the victory that Allaah had granted him. It was so low that his beard almost touched his saddle." Al-Bayhaqee collected that Anas ؓ narrated, "The Messenger of Allaah ﷺ entered Makkah on the Day of the Conquest and his chin was on his saddle out of humility."

Dear Muslims, a mu'min is not to suffice himself with victory in merely a single battle. Rather, his entire life is to be one of victory and dignity. The greatest victory is adhering to one's principles and constantly conforming to Allaah's directives. It must be borne in mind that the struggle between right and wrong shall remain until the end of this world. Allaah said, "Such are the days we cause to alternate between people in order for Allaah to make known those who have eemaan and to take martyrs from among you. And Allaah does not love the oppressive. Furthermore, Allaah does that to test and purify the people of eemaan, and to decimate those who reject Him. Did you think you would enter Jannah without Allaah making known which of those among you truly struggle in his cause, and making known those who persevere?" [Aal 'Imraan:140].

Ultimately, the result of the promise which Allaah never breaks, and the victory which He grants, is that the best ending will be for the people of taqwaa. Allaah stated, "We will certainly assist and grant victory to Our Messengers and the people of eemaan, in this world and on the Day when witnesses stand forth." [Ghaafir:51]. Whatever may happen, the inescapable final result is contained in the statement of Allaah, "We have already given Our irrevocable word to Our servants whom We sent as Messengers, telling them that they will most certainly be victorious and that Our troops will indeed prevail." [as-Saaffaat:171].

In a single aayah of the Qur'aan, Allaah gave us the most comprehensive command of how to effectively manage combat. He said, "People of eemaan, if you encounter a faction, remain firm and make much thikr of Allaah in order to be successful. Furthermore, obey Allaah and His Messenger, and do not dispute among yourselves lest you fail and be deprived of your strength. Also, patiently persevere. Indeed, Allaah is with those who patiently persevere." [al-Anfaal:45]. Allaah gave the mujaahideen (those who struggle in His path) five commands. If they fulfil these directives, they will be successful even if their enemy greatly outnumbers them. These five directives are: remaining firm, engaging in much thikr of Allaah, obeying Allaah and His Messenger, remaining

united and avoiding division which leads to weakness and failure, and patiently persevering. These five are the foundations of victory. When any of them are missing, victory will be deficient in proportion to the deficiency of these foundations. When these elements all existed completely among the Companions, no other people could stand against them. Thus, they conquered the world, and lands and people yielded to them. However, when those foundations weakened in later generations, the outcome was different.

Dear Muslims, there is a constant battle against falsity that our Ummah faces as it defends the true deen of Allaah, defends its sacred sites, and protects the Muslims and their lands. Despite the means, forces, direction, and willpower that Allaah has blessed us with, we do not forget that we all belong to Allaah and are powerless without Him. We are an Ummah that follows the course of the Final Prophet and adheres to the Book of Allaah and Sunnah of His Messenger ﷺ. The people of an Ummah that fulfils this description should strive to draw nearer to their Lord more than ever, and also endeavour to pursue the means Allaah prescribed to attain victory.

Tawheed and obeying Allaah are the greatest means to victory and being established. “Allaah has promised those among you who have eemaan and do righteous deeds that He will certainly grant them successive authority upon the earth as He granted succession to those before them. He has further promised them that He will certainly establish the religion which He is pleased for them to practice. He also promised them to change their former state of fear into one of safety. That applies when they worship Me and not associate anything as a partner along with Me.” [an-Noor:55]. There is a stark contrast between someone who worships Allaah alone and defends the Qur’aan and Sunnah, and someone else who gives full authority to his own inclinations and Allaah leaves him astray as a result.

Recognize your Lord’s blessings upon you as He has guided you. Adhere to the path He blessed you with. Draw near to Him with righteous deeds. Stay away from sins and disobeying Allaah, especially in the open, because that produces humiliation and tragic results. There are causes behind the humiliation Allaah has placed upon Muslims. One such cause which affects all Muslims, no matter how far apart they may be, is that some of them openly perpetrate sins and no one expresses criticism or offers sincere advice. Unfortunately, this occurs much in Muslim countries, prolonging the humiliation of Muslims, delaying Allaah’s assistance, and taking His blessings away from us. There is a saheeh hadeeth which states, “When people see wrongdoing and do not change it, they are on the brink of Allaah sending His punishment which would encompass all of them.” Allaah said, “The people who oppose Allaah and His Messenger shall be among those who are humiliated. Allaah has written, ‘I shall most certainly prevail and so shall My Messengers.’ Indeed, Allaah is Almighty and Most Powerful.” [al-Mujaadilah:20].

None can overcome Allaah. He has full authority and control of his servants. Nothing in His creation moves or remains still except by His permission. “Place your trust in the Ever-Living who never dies, declare Him free of all imperfections, and praise Him. He is sufficient to have complete knowledge of His servants’ sins.” [al-Furqaan:58].

O Allaah, we have no movement or might by ourselves. We seek them from You. Upon Allaah we place full reliance. Our Lord, do not make us a test for oppressive people, and save us by Your mercy from people who reject You.

We also call upon all Muslims to remain united around their authorities: their leaders and scholars. Today we must remain united. Do not dispute lest you fail and be deprived of your strength. Unity is to be maintained within each Muslim society, and between the various Muslim societies as well. We must rise above all disputes, and we must remain united to deal with what we currently face. We must beware of all that leads to division, defeat, and internal destruction. Put your quarrels aside and overlook your disputes. You are not to let differences of opinion cause you to

turn against one another. Every one among you has a role to play in protecting the Muslims and remaining on guard against attacks. Also, beware of circulating rumours and falsified news. Do not let your desire to be first in circulating a story cause you to spread false information without verifying its accuracy. Many news items come from opponents, while their victims unwittingly take the initiative of spreading that information among themselves, only leading to their own weakness and detriment.

You are support for your troops. Pray for their perseverance, support and assist those who are on the frontlines and guarding the borders, and take of their families well in their absence.

It is also necessary to remember the brotherhood that ties us to the people of Yemen who have been tested with these events. This battle is not a war against Yemen. On the contrary, it is one for the sake of Yemen and its people. The Yemeni people are all our brothers, whether they live with us here or in their country. Our enemy and their enemy is one, and our interests and their interests are one. Beware of the opportunistic who wish to incite prejudice and partisanship. Today all of us are Yemen.

At all times in general, and at these times in particular, it is also imperative to invoke Allaah earnestly and draw near to him by doing righteous deeds. Sincere hearts and righteous prayers comprise the army that cannot be overpowered, and victory comes from no one except Allaah, the Almighty and Most Wise.

May Allaah bless us all by the Qur'aan and Sunnah, and allow us to glean benefit from the *ayaat* and wisdom they contain. I say this much, and I seek forgiveness from Allaah for myself and you.

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All praise is due to Allaah alone. He granted His servant victory, gave strength to His troops, and singlehandedly defeated those who allied themselves against Him. All praise is due to Allaah who guided us to tawheed, directed us to His religion, and blessed us to follow the Sunnah of His Prophet. I testify that none has the right to be worshipped except Allaah alone, without any partner, and I testify that Muhammad is Allaah's worshipping servant and Messenger. O Allaah, send salaah, salaam, and blessings upon Your worshipping servant and Messenger, Muhammad, as well as his family, Companions, and all who follow their path.

This country and its allies endeavoured to achieve the noble objectives of establishing safety in Yemen, eliminating the hostilities of oppressors, and removing the tremendous danger posed to the Muslim Ummah and what it holds sacred. Since the objective has been accomplished there is no further desire to prolong war or fighting. It is now time to restore hope to the dear people of Yemen. We ask Allaah to bless the efforts undertaken, allow hopes to be realized, and all praise is due to Allaah, Lord of all creation. This is where the principles of the Kingdom shine through in ending the Storm which reached its goal in less than a month and stopped at the point of accomplishing its objective. Events have exposed the faults and false claims of those wishing to spread corruption, and all praise is due to Allaah, Lord of all creation.

We say to the Custodian of the Two Sacred Mosques: you are the king who hastened to answer the call of San'aa' after it had been affected by adversity and weakened by illness for a long time. Its Arab people complained of outsiders who targeted them to accomplish ulterior motives. The outsiders were unaware that the noble people in Yemen would refuse those who reject (i.e. the Rawaafid). Thus, you took up the task of counteracting those assailants until their wrong was undone and they had been restrained and subdued. They did not anticipate their schemes would be undone by a people who would awaken and stand against them. In addition, the region of ash-

Shaam is gravely wounded, causing the face of life to wince in anger and pain. It yearningly looks to you and complains, and is consoled by this action you took. Oppressive aggressors are in control there and have no concern for anyone's dignity or property. Their gang of treachery massacred a people who stood against them in spite of great difficulty. Mercy drained out of those aggressors until it completely disappeared. They evicted families from their own lands, forcing them to leave with great pain. Death unsheathed its sword in every corner of the land, and starvation bared its fangs to bite at the bellies of infants. Perhaps decisiveness may come to remove the terminal illnesses affecting ash-Shaam. That would restore happiness and brightness to faces that have grown pale. Allaah is above all people and He knows who answers and who objects. He is the Most Perfect King of all kings, and there is no substitute for the relief and rescue He sends.

We also say to our courageous fighters and troops on the frontlines: you have warded off harm from the lands of Muslims, raised the banner of truth and justice, and reached the highest distinction of excellence. Indeed, we truly hope that your deeds are accepted as Jihaad, your victory as a conquest, and your deceased as martyrs. Hope for your reward from Allaah and patiently persevere, and Allaah is indeed with those who persevere. Your moving forward has caused hope to bloom in the Ummah, and your decisiveness has revived its long standing aspirations. We hope your firm resolve will reinstate rights and restore dignity. Do not allow arrogance or conceit to affect you because Allaah took the best of Mujaahideen to account when they were complacent due to their large numbers, and Allaah did not allow even the presence of the Prophet ﷺ to avail them. "On the Day of Hunayn when you were deceived into being complacent because of your large number, but it did not avail you in any way." [at-Tawbah:25]. May Allaah be with you all.

We also pray for all our security forces within the country and guarding the borders. May Allaah protect you all, assist you, grant you victory, grant you immense reward, and record you among the Mujaahideen and Muraabiteen. We ask Allaah to complete His blessings of assistance, victory, and wellbeing upon us and the entire Muslim Ummah.

In closing, invoke salaah and salaam upon the best of all creation, Muhammad ibn 'Abdillaah. O Allaah send salaah, salaam, and blessings upon Your worshipping servant and Messenger, Muhammad, and upon his pure family, his wives – the mothers of the mu'mineen –, his righteous Companions, and those who follow their path until the Day of Reckoning. O Allaah, be pleased with his four successors – Aboo Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmaan, and 'Alee – and all the Companions of Your Prophet. O Allaah, Most Merciful, be pleased with us along with them.

O Allaah, grant strength to Islaam and the Muslims, and bring humiliation to all who deny You, all who oppress others, and all who spread corruption.

O Allaah, Lord of all creation, bless this Ummah with leadership such that those who obey You are respected, those who disobey You are guided, all things right would be enforced, and all things wrong would be prevented.

O Allaah, Lord of all creation, if others desire harm for us, our lands, Islaam, or Muslims, busy them with their own selves, turn their plots and evil against them, and make that a cause for their own destruction.

O Allaah, Lord of all creation, assist and grant victory to the Mujaahideen who struggle for Your cause in Palestine and everywhere else. O Allaah, release al-Masjid al-Aqsa from the aggression of the oppressors who have occupied it without right.

O Allaah, show Your mercy to our brothers and sisters in Syria, Burma, Central Africa, and everywhere else. O Allaah, alleviate their suffering and grant them relief soon. O Allaah, defeat the tyrants and oppressors, as well as all who support them. O Allaah, grant victory to Your religion, Your book, the Sunnah of Your Prophet, and Your believing worshipping servants.

O Allaah, guide our leader, to all that You love and are pleased with. Lead him so that he

obeys You and avoids disobeying You. O Allaah, guide him, his two deputies, their brothers, and their aides to all that would produce good for the Muslims and their lands. O Allaah, guide the Muslim leaders to govern by Your laws, and to follow the Sunnah of Your Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and make them a mercy to your believing worshipping servants.

O Allaah, spread security and prosperity throughout our country and throughout all lands of the Muslims, and protect us from the evil of those who do wrong, as well as the plots of those who disobey You.

Our Lord, grant us good in this world, good in the hereafter, and protect us from the torment of the hellfire. Our Lord, forgive us our sins, and our transgressing the bounds You have set for us. Make our feet firm, and grant us victory over the people that deny You. O Allaah, forgive our sins, conceal our faults, facilitate our affairs, and allow us to accomplish our aspirations which please You.

O Allaah, forgive us, our parents, and their parents. O Allaah have mercy upon them as they raised us when we were young. O Allaah, if they are still alive, grant them well-being and continuous obedience to You. O Allaah, if they have passed away, shower Your mercy upon them, grant them light and spaciousness in their graves, make their graves gardens of Jannah for them, and unite us with them in the abode where You bestow Your kindness. O Allaah, forgive us, our parents, forefathers, spouses, and children. Indeed, You hear our prayers and know all things.

O Allaah, forgive us. O Allaah, forgive us. O Allaah, forgive us. None is worthy of worship except You, the Ever-Living, Self-Sufficient Sustainer, and we repent to You. O Allaah, none is worthy of worship except You. You need none, but we are in dire need of you. Send the rains for us and do not make us among those who lose hope. O Allaah grant us rainfall that is beneficial, not harmful, through which You provide water for people, and life for crops. O Allaah, make it a rainfall of mercy, not one of punishment, destruction and loss of property or lives.

O Allaah, accept our deeds, as You most certainly hear and know all things. Accept our repentance, as You most certainly accept repentance and are the Most Merciful.

Our Lord, the Almighty is absolved from all the wrong which people say. May He grant protection to the Messengers, and all praise is due to Allaah, Lord of all creation.