

Rabi' II 2, 1441 – Allah Al-Wadud

إن الحمد لله نحمده ونستعينه ونستغفره ونستهديه، ونعوذ بالله من شرور أنفسنا ومن سيئات أعمالنا من يهده الله فلا مضلّ له ومن يضلّ فلا هادي له، وأشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له وأشهد أن محمداً عبده ورسوله وصفيّه من خلقه وخليله صلى الله وسلم وبارك عليه وعلى آله وأصحابه وسلم تسليماً كثيراً

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءً ۗ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا

“O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, who created you from a single person, and from him He created his wife, and from them both He created many men and women; and fear Allah through Whom you demand your mutual rights, and do not Cut the relations of kinship. Surely, Allah is an All-Watcher over you.”

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا * يُصْلِحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ۗ وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا

“O you who believe! Keep your duty to Allah and fear Him, and always speak the truth. He will direct you to do righteous good deeds and will forgive your sins. And whosoever Obeys Allah and His Messenger (SAWS) he has indeed achieved a great achievement.”

أما بعد ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters ...

In our previous Khutbahs we talked about **Loving Allah** SWT, and how this love is the true power for worshiping Allah. Loving Allah SWT allows us to worship him the right way and increases our level of Iman. We also emphasized that **Knowing Allah** is the way to love him, and that the best way to know him is through his names and attributes, by affirming the Names and Attributes which Allah has affirmed for Himself in a manner befitting His majesty.

So today we continue our discussion regarding the beautiful and majestic names of our creator Allah SWT and one of the names that are mentioned in the Quran is the name Al-Wadud. The name Al-Wadud comes from the verb “wadd” and the verb “wadd” usually means **to love**. But it is not just any type of love, we all know that the main word for love in Arabic is "mahabba" and “7obb” but Al-Wadud is not from this same verb (حَبَّ، يَحِبُّ).

Al-Wadud it is from another verb “وَدَّ” so it belongs to the names of Allah that deal with love, but it is not the primary verb for love it is another verb.

So, what is the difference between "**mahabba**" and "**wud**" what is the difference of Allah's name that are derived from the primary verb of love in Arabic, which is mahabba, and this verb “wud” that Allah uses to derive his name from?

Our scholars have mentioned that the Arabic word “hub” or “mahabba” can be used for any type of love, it is the most generic verb for love. Whereas “wud” is a specific subset of love. Wud is a special type of love that has its own specialties, and one of these specialties of wud is that when you have this type of love you want to benefit the person whom you have this wud for. In addition, it is a nurturing love and that is why it's very common to use this verb to describe the love that a mother has for her child. It's a nurturing love. Not only that, but one of the unique things about the verb Waad, ya-Wud and ma-Waada is that it doesn't have a romantic or sensual connotation, whereas the word mahabba is very common to have a romantic connotation. So, the word mawada has no romantic meaning, it is a **noble love**, it is a love where you want to genuinely benefit the other.

Some of our linguists have said that one of the characteristics of the word mawada is that you actually want to be with the other person or you have a desire or yearning to be with that person either in thought or in proximity. So, Allah SWT is Al-Wadud and of the differences between wud and mahabba, our scholars have said, mahabba is what is in the heart and wud is what is shown in your actions of love.

So, Allah's love is demonstrated and not just abstract, whereas mahabba could be in the heart but never demonstrated. The name Al-Wadud reflects a special type of love, showing that Allah's love is manifested in action whereas mahabba is not necessarily manifested in action.

When it comes to Allah SWT, the name Al-Wadud has two meanings. Number one; the one who shows love and number two; the one upon whom love is shown. So, Allah is Al-Wadud that he shows love to the creation and Allah is Al-Wadud that the creation, or at least the righteous creation, loves him. And this is an interesting name as well because there

is unfortunately a common misunderstanding, especially amongst some non-muslims, that the Quranic God is not a God of love, that our God (the God of Muslims) is not a God of love. And we can easily see that this is absolutely incorrect, because of the names of Allah, the 99 majestic names of Allah, we have a name that translates as (the love) the one who loves and the one who is beloved; Al-Wadud is the one who shows love, and Al-Wadud the one who is the most beloved.

So let's dive deeper in these two meanings, the first meaning is the one who shows love for his servants; this means that Allah SWT desires good for them and Ibn Alqaim comments that it is not strange for the servant to love the master, it is not strange for any created being to love that which is taking care of it, because the servant is taken care of by the master, or the animal is taken care of by the owner that's not strange. What is amazing is when the Creator who has no need of the creation chooses to love the creation, even though there's no benefit that the creation can give back to the Creator! and this is the meaning of Al-Wadud that Allah loves the creation even though there's no selfish reason for that love.

Usually, we love because there's always something coming back to us. We love money we love comfort we love water we love food we love our children! we love things that will benefit us, there's a selfish element in each and every love. But Allah's love is unselfish because Allah doesn't need us, we need him. So, Al-Wadud is the one who shows love and Allah SWT mentions in the Quran that he created us to show us this love and mercy this is a Quranic concept as Allah says in the Quran

إِلَّا مَنْ رَحِمَ رَبِّيكَ وَلِذَلِكَ خَلَقَهُمْ

Except those whom Allah has shown mercy to, and to show mercy is why Allah created the creation.

Allah created the creation and the default situation is that Allah will love and show mercy to his creation. But some of the creation choose to reject that mercy, some of them choose to reject Allah and live sinful lives, so that group will get what they deserve.

But *the default* (ولذلك خلقهم) I created them for what? to show them Rahma to show them my kindness and my generosity. So, Allah SWT is Al-Wadud and every single aspect of our

creation demonstrates this. Our khalq our entire body! Allah says in the Quran that he is the one who created us and he perfected the creation, Allah fashioned me and fashioned you in the best of forms, Allah says in the Quran

اللَّهُ الَّذِي جَعَلَ لَكُمْ الْأَرْضَ قَرَارًا وَالسَّمَاءَ بِنَاءً وَصَوَّرَكُمْ فَأَحْسَنَ صُورَكُمْ
 وَرَزَقَكُمْ مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ ذَٰلِكُمْ اللَّهُ رَبُّكُمْ فَتَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ رَبُّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٦٤﴾

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It is Allah who made for you the earth a place of settlement and the sky a ceiling and formed you and perfected your forms and provided you with good things. That is Allah, your Lord; then blessed is Allah, Lord of the worlds.

We are in the best fashions and the best mold, Allah says in the Quran don't you look at yourselves? didn't we give you eyes and we gave you a tongue to speak we gave you this we gave you that, we gave you intelligence. Allah's blessings are mentioned as a manifestation of his love. Allah also mentions in the Quran; didn't we create for you the heavens and the earth didn't we alternate the night and the day for you so that you can rest in the night and work in the day so every component of creation is a manifestation of Allah's love. Allah says in the Quran that of his blessings

وَاللَّهُ جَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا وَجَعَلَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَزْوَاجِكُمْ بَنِينَ وَحَفَدَةً
 وَرَزَقَكُمْ مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ أَفَبِالْبَاطِلِ يُؤْمِنُونَ وَبِنِعْمَتِ اللَّهِ هُمْ يَكْفُرُونَ ﴿٧٢﴾

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And Allah has made for you from yourselves mates and has made for you from your mates sons and grandchildren and has provided for you from the good things. Then in falsehood do they believe and in the favor of Allah they disbelieve?

Every parent knows the greatest love in our hearts is the love of our children, so Allah gave us that and he gave us every other blessing we have, so this really demonstrates the first meaning of the name of Allah Al-Wadud the one who shows love.

The second meaning of Al-Wadud is the one who is shown love by the creation. So, Al-Wadud the one who shows love also Al-Wadud means the one upon whom love is shown or being the object of love or the beloved. Of course Allah SWT mentions in the quran that loving him is the primary element of worship, our love for Allah is the most important

manifestation of our belief in him. Allah says in the Quran there are those who worship false gods and they love them along with loving Allah

وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَتَّخِذُ مِن دُونِ اللَّهِ أَندَادًا يُحِبُّونَهُمْ كَحُبِّ اللَّهِ وَالَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَشَدُّ حُبًّا لِلَّهِ

And [yet], among the people are those who take other than Allah as equals [to Him]. They love them as they [should] love Allah. But those who truly believe are stronger in love for Allah

Those who love Allah they love Allah more than those people love their false gods, so *loving* Allah is a primary concept of *believing* in Allah SWT. Ibn Tamiya mentions that the love of Allah SWT is a unique love because only Allah is loved for who he is. Every other object that you love, and we mentioned this before, has an element of selfishness involved, but Allah Azza WA JAL is loved for his perfection, and the love of Allah will never come and hurt and harm us. Ibn Taymiya mentions that there is no love that you have for any created object except that this very love will end up hurting you.

Let's think about this, what hurts us the most? it's what you love when it's taken away from you or when it causes you pain, right? the most painful problems are spousal problems, children problems, parental problems, why? Because we love them the most! and Ibn Taymiya mentions that there is no love (that is a worldly love) except that you will also be stung by that very love.

So, there is only one love that you will never be stung by and that is the love of Allah SWT, and every love that you have if you do not link it with Allah's love it is going to cause you harm in the long run. Every love that exists must be linked with Allah's love so when you love your children, you link it with the love of Allah. I'm gonna be good to my children because that's my responsibility to raise them as good worshippers to Allah SWT. You love your parents, you link it to love of Allah, you love money so you link it to the love of Allah (I will only earn halal money and spend it on what Allah wants me to spend and I'll be generous with my money in good deeds) and so on. Allah is the one who is the most beloved and to show love to Allah means to obey his commandments and to praise Him.

The name Al-Wadud occurs with two other names in the Quran, as it occurs only twice in the Quran. The first time it occurs with the name Raheem, Raheem Wadud

وَاسْتَغْفِرُوا رَبَّكُمْ ثُمَّ تُوبُوا إِلَيْهِ إِنَّ رَبِّي رَحِيمٌ وَدُودٌ ﴿٩٠﴾

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And ask forgiveness of your Lord and then repent to Him. Indeed, my Lord is Merciful and Affectionate."

Allah is merciful we talked about Raheem before. So, Allah says I am Raheem I show you Rahma I show you mercy and Allah says he is Wadud so he is loving and he is merciful and the two obviously correlate because the one who loves shows mercy and the one who is merciful shows love.

The second pairing that occurs with the name Al-Wadud is Al-Ghafoor

إِنَّهُ هُوَ يَبْدِئُ وَيُعِيدُ ﴿١٣﴾ وَهُوَ الْعَفُورُ الْوَدُودُ ﴿١٤﴾

Indeed, it is He who originates [creation] and repeats. And He is the Forgiving, the Affectionate,

He is the one who forgives and he's the loving and we discussed the name Al-Ghafoor before. So Allah SWT links the name Al-Wadud to the name of forgiveness and this demonstrates for us when should we use the name Al-Wadud in our dua'.

First, when we need some blessing from Allah Al-Rahim Al-Wadud; when we need a job, when we are tired or hungry or sick, we can use this name; ya-Wadud we need your help you're the one who shows love.

Secondly, we use this name when we ask for **forgiveness** when we need to be forgiven we raise our hands and we ask Allah ya-Wadud ya-Ghafoor forgive us. Another manifestations that Allah is Wadud, is that he has placed love in our hearts for other creatures. This wud that we have, comes from up there because Allah is Al-Wadud so he places wud in my heart and your heart. If Allah was not Al-Wadud we would not have this love. Allah mentions this in the Quran explicitly in multiple times. For example when it comes to spouses as the spouses' love is a very special love. What does Allah say of his miracles is that

he has created for you spouses from amongst yourselves and he has placed between you two wud (وجعل بينكم مودة ورحمة) Allah who is Al-Wadud has placed that (مودة) in the hearts of the spouses and that is the miracle of marriage otherwise marriage would never last, it would not last but Al-Wadud has placed the wud of the two parties between each other. And the wud also exists between the family members in another verse in the Quran

ذَلِكَ الَّذِي يُبَشِّرُ اللَّهَ عِبَادَهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ قُلْ لَا أَسْأَلُكُمْ عَلَيْهِ أَجْرًا إِلَّا الْمَوَدَّةَ فِي الْقُرْبَىٰ
وَمَنْ يَقْتَرِفْ حَسَنَةً نَّزِدْ لَهُ فِيهَا حُسْنًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ شَكُورٌ

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It is that of which Allah gives good tidings to His servants who believe and do righteous deeds. Say, [O Muhammad], "I do not ask you for this message any payment [but] only good will through kinship." And whoever commits a good deed - We will increase for him good therein. Indeed, Allah is Forgiving and Appreciative.

Some scholars have interpreted (مودة في القربى) that Allah is asking us to have wud for our family members. Another the famous verse in the Quran that shows the miracle of Allah of making two parties became brothers together, it is about a story in the Seiera about the groups that were having a friction between them Allah brought their hearts together and Allah says if you were to spend all the money in the world you would not have brought about that camaraderie (friendship) between them but Allah, who is Al-Wadud, is the one who brought that camaraderie and love between them, as Allah said

وَأَلَّفَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِهِمْ لَوْ أَنفَقْتَ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مَّا أَلَّفْتَ بَيْنَ قُلُوبِهِمْ وَلَٰكِنَّ اللَّهَ أَلَّفَ
بَيْنَهُمْ إِنَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

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And brought together their hearts. If you had spent all that is in the earth, you could not have brought their hearts together; but Allah brought them together. Indeed, He is Exalted in Might and Wise.

We will continue in the second Khutbah InShaaAllah I ask Allah for forgiveness, He is the Most Forgiving, Most Merciful.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ مِنْ كُلِّ ذَنْبٍ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

Second Khutbah

الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على سيد المرسلين وعلى آله وأصحابه أجمعين.

So, a final point brothers and sisters, how then do we get to love Allah? how do we increase that love of Allah in our hearts?

Number one is by studying Allah's names and attributes, and inshaallah even though only a few lessons have gone by, I hope that every one of us has the love for Allah increased simply hearing his names, so number one we increase our love of Allah by studying his names and attributes.

Number two, we increase our love of Allah by loving his Rasul

قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحِبُّكُمْ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ ﴿٣١﴾

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Say, [O Muhammad], "If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful."

It vert clear and explicit! say if you love Allah follow me, Allah will love you. So, by reading about the Prophet SAW and by loving and following the Prophet SAW we will increase our love for him.

Number three, a love of good deeds like reading Quran, continous ziker, charity and sponsoring orphans, as Allah says

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ سَيَجْعَلُ لَهُمُ الرَّحْمَنُ وُدًّا ﴿٩٦﴾

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Indeed, those who have believed and done righteous deeds - the Most Merciful will appoint for them affection.

Those who believe and do good deeds Allah will bless them with wud (with love). What does this mean that Allah will give them wud? Our scholars say those who believe and do good deeds Allah will love them and the angels will love them and mankind will love them.

The love that we have for particular people, especially the righteous, their love is a sign of divine love those who believe and do good deeds Allah will write for them love.

So, by doing good deeds we will increase our love to Allah.

And the final point that I will mention of increasing our love for Allah, is that we should raise our hands up to Allah and ask him, like the Prophet SAW did (as he used to say)

اللهم إني أسألك حبك .. وحب من يحبك .. وحب عمل يقربني إلى حبك

O allah, I ask for your love, and those who love you I want their love and I want them to love me, and I want to love the good deeds that bring me closer to your love. What a beautiful duaa' let's memorize it

اللهم إني أسألك حبك .. وحب من يحبك .. وحب عمل يقربني إلى حبك

So, remember this beautiful name of Allah SWT that we should invoke to bring about peace in our hearts, and we must spread love and wud to all creatures.

I ask Allah to grant us his love may he place it our hearts and the love for the prophet SAW

هَذَا وَصَلُّوا وَسَلِّمُوا عَلَى مَنْ أَمَرَكُمْ رَبُّكُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَالسَّلَامِ عَلَيْهِ، فَقَالَ عَزَّ مِنْ قَائِلٍ: (إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا) اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى عَبْدِكَ وَنَبِيِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ، وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنِ الْخُلَفَاءِ الرَّاشِدِينَ، الْأَئِمَّةِ الْمُهَدِيِّينَ: أَبِي بَكْرٍ، وَعُمَرَ، وَعُثْمَانَ، وَعَلِيٍّ، وَعَنْ سَائِرِ الصَّحَابَةِ، وَالتَّابِعِينَ لَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَصْلِحْ لَنَا دِينَنَا الَّذِي هُوَ عِصْمَةُ أَمْرِنَا، وَأَصْلِحْ لَنَا دُنْيَانَا الَّتِي فِيهَا مَعَاشُنَا، وَأَصْلِحْ لَنَا آخِرَتَنَا الَّتِي إِلَيْهَا مَعَادُنَا، وَاجْعَلِ الْحَيَاةَ زِيَادَةً لَنَا فِي كُلِّ حَيْرٍ، وَالْمَوْتَ رَاحَةً لَنَا مِنْ كُلِّ شَرٍّ. (رَبَّنَا اغْفِرْ لَنَا وَلِإِخْوَانِنَا الَّذِينَ سَبَقُونَا بِالْإِيمَانِ وَلَا تَجْعَلْ فِي قُلُوبِنَا غِلًّا لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ رَءُوفٌ رَحِيمٌ) (رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ) (سُبْحَانَ رَبِّكَ رَبِّ الْعِزَّةِ عَمَّا يَصِفُونَ * وَسَلَامٌ عَلَى الْمُرْسَلِينَ * وَالْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ). وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ