

Dear Jama'ah!

The Companions did not only hear the Adhan, they lived by it. It is narrated that when 'Umar ibn al-Khattab (ra) heard the words of the Adhan that 'Abdullah ibn Zayd (ra) had related, he hurried to the Messenger of Allah (saw) and excitedly said that he had seen the very same words in a dream. Thus, the hearts of the Companions were united upon the same divine call. Another moving scene took place years later. After the passing of Rasulullah (saw), Bilal al-Habashi (ra) left Madinah and did not call the Adhan for a long time. Years later, when he returned to Madinah, he agreed to call the Adhan again at the request of Hasan and Husayn (ra). As he called the Adhan for the Fajr prayer and reached the words: **"Ashhadu anna Muhammadan Rasulullah"** the people of Madinah were overcome with emotion. Many thought, for a moment, that the Messenger of Allah (saw) had returned to them. The entire city was moved to tears. For them, that blessed voice did not only call people to prayer, it reminded them of the Messenger of Allah himself.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

When the Adhan is being called, it is Sunnah to pause and listen attentively, repeat the words of the mu'adhdhin and then supplicate to Allah. The Messenger of Allah (saw) said: *"When you hear the mu'adhdhin, repeat what he says."*⁵ He also gave the glad tidings that the dua made after the Adhan is accepted. Therefore, let us not listen to the Adhan as though it were just another sound. With every "Allahu Akbar," let us reflect upon the greatness of Allah. With every "Hayya 'ala as-Salah," let us feel that Allah is calling us into His presence. And with every "Hayya 'ala al-Falah," let us renew our belief that true success and salvation lie in worshipping Allah alone.

O Allah! Revive our hearts with the meanings of the Adhan. Make us among those whose eyes long for the prayer and whose ears respond eagerly to the call of the Adhan. Make us among Your servants whose lives are shaped by Your call and guided by Your divine guidance. Ameen.

⁴ Buhârî, Ezân, 5⁵ Buhârî, Ezân, 7; Müslim, Salât, 11

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
وَإِذَا نَادَيْتُمْ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ اتَّخَذُوهَا هُزُوءًا وَلَعِبًا ذَلِكِ بِأَنَّهُمْ قَوْمٌ لَا يَفْقَهُونَ ﴿٥٨﴾
سورة المائدة ، ٥٨

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ
"لَوْ يَعْلَمُ النَّاسُ مَا فِي النِّدَاءِ وَالصَّفِّ الْأَوَّلِ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَجِدُوا إِلَّا
أَنْ يَسْتَهْمُوا عَلَيْهِ لَاسْتَهْمُوا، وَلَوْ يَعْلَمُونَ مَا فِي التَّهَجِيرِ
لَاسْتَبَقُوا إِلَيْهِ، وَلَوْ يَعْلَمُونَ مَا فِي الْعَتَمَةِ وَالصُّبْحِ لَأَتَوْهُمَا
وَلَوْ حَبَوَا"

البخاري، الأذان، ٩؛ مسلم، الصلاة، ١٢٩

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Every day, people hear countless voices calling them to worldly pursuits. Yet among them is one call that has awakened hearts and guided souls to their Allah for centuries, the Adhan of Muhammad (saw). The Adhan is more than a call to prayer, it is the declaration of Tawhid, a call to worship Allah and one of the greatest symbols of the Muslim identity. Allah (swt) says in the Qur'an: **"When you call to prayer, they take it in ridicule and amusement."**¹ Therefore, the Adhan and the prayer serve as a clear distinction. For the believers, they are a call to worship, for the disbelievers, they become a test that exposes the reality of their rejection.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

The origin of the Adhan is a remarkable event full of wisdom. As the Muslim community in Madinah grew, the Companions sought a way to call people to prayer. While various ideas were discussed, Allah honoured this Ummah with a unique call. Abdullah ibn Zayd (ra) saw the words of the Adhan in a dream, which the Prophet (saw) confirmed as true, and Bilal al-Habashi (ra) was chosen to proclaim it. From the moment the first Adhan echoed across Madinah, it became not only a call to prayer but a timeless call to faith that will continue until the Day of Judgment.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Regarding the virtues of the Adhan, the Messenger of Allah (saw) said: *"If people knew the reward of calling the Adhan and of standing in the first row (of prayer), they would draw lots for it if they could find no other way to attain it."*²

In another hadith, he said: *"The mu'adhdhin will have the longest necks on the Day of Resurrection."*³ Our scholars have explained this hadith to mean that the mu'adhdhins will be honoured with a high rank and great distinction on the Day of Judgment. The Messenger of Allah (saw) also said: *"Every human, jinn, stone, and tree that hears the voice of the mu'adhdhin will bear witness in his favour on the Day of Resurrection."*⁴ The voice of the mu'adhdhin is not only heard by people, it is a testimony that reaches all of creation.

¹ Surah Al-Ma'idah, 5:58² Buhârî, Ezân, 9; Müslim, Salât, 129³ Müslim, Salât, 14