

## First Kutba

### Introduction

1- Brothers and sisters, Allah AWG says in the holy Quran

قُلْ إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقَائِمُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيَخْتَارُ أَلَمْ يَعْلَمِ بِمَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ ذَكِيمٌ

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This what may be interpreted to:

1. Blessed be He In whose hands is Dominion; and He over all things hath Power;-
2. He who created death and life, that He may test which of you is best in deed: and He is the all-mighty, the Oft-Forgiving.

So, brothers and sisters, this verse tells us that every one will certainly undergo a test by Allah in this life in order to assess how strong his faith is, and how good your deed is.

Allah says also in Surat Alankabut:

قُلْ إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقَائِمُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيَخْتَارُ أَلَمْ يَعْلَمِ بِمَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ ذَكِيمٌ

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1. A.L.M.
2. Do men think that They will be left alone on saying, "We believe", and that They will not be tested?
3. We did tested those before them, and Allah will certainly know those who are true from those who are liars.

And this test by Allah is called in Arabic Ibtla2, which is an inevitable custom put by Allah AWG on the earth to be applied on all the man-kind even on Allah's profits and messengers inspit of their exalted rank at Allah AWG, and because it is inevitable test, we should start prepare for it from this moment hoping that Allah leads us the right answer when we take this test.

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3- (Types of Ibtla2) So, brothers and sisters, in order to be able to confront Ibtela2 we have first to know in what forms we can see it. Ibtla2 can come to you and me in three forms: evil, good and sins. You may find the first two from mentioned together explicitly in the more than one place in the Holy Quran like:

قُلْ إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ هُوَ الْمَلِكُ الْقَائِمُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَهُوَ الَّذِي يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ وَيَخْتَارُ أَلَمْ يَعْلَمِ بِمَنْ فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ ذَكِيمٌ

35-and we test you by evil and by good by way of trial. to us must you return.

While the third one was mentioned implicitly in some stories as will be illustrated later ISA.

**The first form of Ibtela2** is the most common one, in which you get some sort of distress, affliction or suffer from bad circumstances like being in bad need for money, losing a close person (mother, father, son), etc. In such case, brothers and sisters, most people seek the refuge from Allah, because in hard times you might not find any one that you ask for help but Allah, and you start getting closer to Allah by your heart to release you from this affliction as Allah says:

بقره ٤٦ زاعوا ان دعوا اليه (في) بقره ٤٦ بقره ٤٦ بقره ٤٦

قوله # qax B x FM\$

67. When distress seizes you at sea, those that you call upon - besides Allah - leave you In the lurch! but when Allah brings you back safe to land, you turn away (from Him). Most ungrateful is man!

**The second form**, you may consider it a tricky one in the sense that you might not detect it easily. In this kind of Ibtela2 Allah bestows some of his blessings upon you and see if you really be thankful for him or not. As Allah says on Profit Solomon when he saw the throne of queen of Saba' placed firmly before him.

تخ` Bu (3) h p z a e o s j R s t s o ` Bu (a o c P s a o a p t e u) i u e o s ` B # v l A s %

قوله k x Q x ' i u b f a

He said: "This is by the Grace of Allah!- to test me whether I am grateful or ungrateful! and if any is grateful, truly His gratitude is a gain for His own soul; but if any is ungrateful, truly My Lord is free of all needs, Supreme In honour !"

and you have to pay extreme caution for this for not being drifted to a way only Allah who knows where it leads, as he says, warning us from this :

قوله u i z u A S B ` B 3 i h / e % j R s j R b q d t e Q i E A u m Q n O j t h v ' u b e o x e

قوله b r a e o v @ n z o s u b m a i s e

- 54. But leave them In their confused ignorance for a time.
- 55. Do They think that because we have granted them abundance of wealth and sons,
- 56. We would hasten them on In every good? Nay, They do not understand.

So, brothers and sisters, always remember that all what you have is from Allah and that he can restore what he granted you whenever he wants, and always thank him for that before time is over, where regret is invain.

**The third form of Ibtela2**, which is with sins. In this type, Allah may test your strength to fight some sort of sins or lusts which you may like to do or be used to do. And if you be obedient to Allah in response to this type of sins and prefer Allah's satisfaction for you desire, then you pass. This from of Ibtela2 was mentioned in the Quran in a well known story about Bani Israel. Allah says in Surat Al2a3raf:

وَأَمَّا الْيَهُودُ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا فَلَيْسَ لَهُمْ جَزَاءٌ إِلَّا أَنْ يَكُونَ لَهُمْ أَلْسُنٌ حَامِيَةٌ

وَالَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ لَيَعْلَمُونَ الْبُرْءَ الَّذِي كَفَرُوا بِهِ وَلَا يَكْتُمُونَ لَهُمْ جِزْيَتَهُمْ وَلَا يَكُونُوا فِيهَا مِنْ مَكْرُومٍ

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163. Ask them concerning the town standing close by the sea. When they transgressed In the matter of the Sabbath (Saturday). for on the Day of their Sabbath their fish did come to them, openly holding up their heads, and did not come on the Day They had no Sabbath. Thus we make a trial of them, for They were given to transgression.

Briefly, this verse mentions the story of a group of people belonging to BaniIsrael who used to live in a village Called “أَيْلَهُ” that was close to the sea, and we all know that BaniIsreal was commanded not to work on Saturadays. Their test was as following, on Sat. Allah inspired fish to come close to the shore rising their heads and appearing clearly out of the sea surface, where it is very easy to catch, and on all the other days this does not happen. So, their test was to leave the easy catch for the sake of Allah, and be patient to do more effort to get fish on the other days. But unfortunately the did not, one of them came on a saturday, and caught a fish easily and tied it to a wedge on the sea shore till next day, such that he can catch it easily, and in the same time he consider himself did not fish on Sat. On the next day people was asking how this guy got his fish. This man continued doing so without even telling anybody about his idea till his act was discovered. Good people advised him to stop doing this but he did not listen to them. On the other hand some other men started doing like him till it became a well-known trick and most of the people did it publicly without fearing Allah. At this moment Allah punished them for not being patient to his test.

4- Now, that we knew in what forms we may see Ibtela2, we may ask ourselves, will we be all in the same degree of Ibtela2?, meaning that, not all the situations are the same, so losing an amount of money is not like losing all of your money, losing you friend is not like losing your son, and all could be an Ibtela2 but for different types of people. Allah’s messenger (PBUH) says

أشد الناس بلاء الأتبياء ثم الأمتل فالأمتل، يبتلى الرجل على قدر إيمانه، فإن كان في دينه صلبا اشتد بلاؤه، و إن كان في دينه رقة ابتلى حسب دينه، فلا يبرح البلاء بالعبد حتى يتركه يمشى على الأرض ما عليه خطيئة.

“Prophets are the people who get the hardest tests by Allah AWG (Ibtela2), then gradually according to level of righteousness. A man is tested based on his level of faith. So, if he has a strong faith, his test gets harder, and if he has a soft faith (can’t bear hard tests), he gets his test suitable for that. And Allah will not stop testing his slaves till he purifies them from their sins. “

So, brothers and sisters, according to your level of faith you will get Ibtela2, and the higher faith you reach, the harder Ibtela2 you may get. BUT, Don’t worry the reward you will get ISA will depend on how much Ibtela2 you got, as Allah’s messenger (PBUH) said:

إن عظم الجزاء مع عظم البلاء، و إن الله إذا أحب قوما ابتلاهم، فمن رضى فله الرضا و من سخط فله السخط.  
“the harder test you get, the higher reward you deserve. And when Allah likes a group of people he gives them a test (to purify them). So, whoever accepts his fate, he deserves to have satisfaction form Allah, and whoever does not accept it, he will have discontent from Allah”

Here we may raise an important question, brothers and sisters: As we see, Allah’s messenger (PBUH) says that if Allah likes a group of people he may test them, so we may say that a test can be a sign of Allah’s love to you, and we all may hope that Allah loves us as we love him. Besides, there will be ISA a great reward for those who succeed in Allah’s test. So, can I ask Allah to test me in order to show him how strong am I?

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) gives us the answer in this hadith:

Once prophet Muhammad (PBUH) was visiting a sick man who became so slender because of his sickness. He asked the man was you asking Allah AWG for something special?, and he answered “Yes, I used to ask Allah to punish my for all his sins in Donia instead of the hereafter such that he dies with no punishments waiting for him. (hasten all the punishments I was supposed to have in the hereafter, and do them to me in Donia). Prophet Muhammad said

قال: فدعا ((!سبحان الله! لا تطيقه، أفلا قلت: اللهم آتنا في الدنيا حسنة وفي الآخرة حسنة وقنا عذاب النار؟))

الله له، فشفاه

“Sobhan Allah”, you don’t bear it. Don’t you say”

قُلْ رَبِّ اِنِّى سَأَلْتُكَ الْخَيْرَ فَأَنْصَبْ لِىَ قَدْرًا مِّنْ فَضْلِكَ وَسِعَتْ تُرَابُكَ الْعُوقَالَ

"Our Lord! give us good In This world and good In the Hereafter, and defend us from the torment of the Fire!"

This is fairly reasonable brothers and sisters because you don’t know what your test will be, and what will be you behavior in response to it. Second, Allah’s mercy is larger than you imagine, he has the complete capability to forgive your sins without giving you any sort of punishments, so don’t you ask him that!!

And it was prophet Muhammad (PBUB) habit to always ask Allah “العفو و العافية” forgiveness and health, although Allah forgave him all his past and future sins, so are you better than him?

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## Second Khutba

5- Now, brothers and sister, what we have to do when we undergo this test from Allah. As Allah told us that all of us will certainly some day undergo this test, and that this test may be hard for ourselves to bear, Allah with all his mercy would not leave us without a prescription of how to deal with this test

The most important thing that you have to do when we get Ibtela2 is to have patience and accept your fate. So, why is this the most important thing?, because, being patient or not what Allah wants to do will happen whatever you accept or not. But if you accept Allah's willing you will get the high reward Allah has prepared for patients, and on the other hand if you did not, you will not be able to change anything, and in the same time you will lose your reward.

The very good news, brothers and sisters, is how amazing what Allah gives for those who had patientce upon Ibtela2, and that Allah gave us this good omen in many places in Quran, to encourage us to be that, Allah says:

مَا كَانَ لِأَنَّكَ عَابِدًا أَن تَكُونَ مِنَ السَّاجِدِينَ ﴿١٠٠﴾ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا ﴿١٠١﴾  
 وَإِذَا نَادَى السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَالْجِبَالُ وَنَحْنُ نَدَىٰ ﴿١٠٢﴾ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا ﴿١٠٣﴾  
 وَإِذَا نَادَى السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَالْجِبَالُ وَنَحْنُ نَدَىٰ ﴿١٠٤﴾ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا ﴿١٠٥﴾

- 9. If we give man a taste of Mercy from ourselves, and then withdraw it from him, verily he is despairing ungrateful.
- 10. But if we let him taste good after evil has touched him, he is sure to say, "All evil has departed from me:" He is exultant and boastful.
- 11. Except those who show patience and do good deeds, for them is forgiveness (of sins) and a great reward.

And says:

وَإِذَا نَادَى السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَالْجِبَالُ وَنَحْنُ نَدَىٰ ﴿١٠٦﴾ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا ﴿١٠٧﴾

Only those who are patient will receive their reward in full without reckoning.  
And

وَإِذَا نَادَى السَّمَاءُ وَالْأَرْضُ وَالْجِبَالُ وَنَحْنُ نَدَىٰ ﴿١٠٨﴾ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ سَمِيعًا عَلِيمًا ﴿١٠٩﴾

111. "I have rewarded them This Day for their patience and constancy: They are indeed the ones that have achieved Bliss..."

And Allah's messenger said

عَجَبًا لِأَمْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ، إِنَّ أَمْرَهُ كُلَّهُ لَهُ خَيْرٌ، إِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ ضَرَاءٌ صَبَرَ فَكَانَ خَيْرًا، وَإِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ سَرَاءٌ شَكَرَ فَكَانَ خَيْرًا، قَالَ،  
 رَوَاهُ مُسْلِمٌ ((خَيْرًا لَهُ))

“Believer’ affairs are so strange; all what happens to him is for his own goodness. If he got an evil, and showed patience it is good for him, and if he got a blessing and showed gratefulness to Allah, this is also good for him”

Brothers and sisters, another important point that should be mentioned here, which is how can we be patient?, is it easy?. Let's have an example (may someone gets some bad news about something, for instance losing his dad or mom, or even failing in an exam, and when knows this, he may start crying (which is not wrong if this is it) but in other situations or other people he may go further than this. He may shout or curse, he may drink or gamble, and after he comes down and perceives that he would not have to do what he did, he says "hey, I am patient". So, do you think that this will be the same as the one who was controlled his temper from the first moment?, let's listen to this hadith. )

Once a day, prophet Mu...

"إنما الصبر عند الصدمة الأولى"

It is the considered level of patience that you show upon the first shock.

Everything in the world, brothers and sisters, starts small , and then grows up with time, except grief, it starts big, and then shrinks and gets smaller with time passing till it eventually disappears. That's why, being patient or not depends heavily on your behavior upon the first shock.

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Finally, brothers and sisters, if you accept the Ibtela2 and kept your patience, Allah will not only give you the high reward in the hereafter, but also give you some ways to mitigate the sadness that you may suffer from because of the Ibtlea2, and he may also compensate what you lost with a better replacement.

Allah's messenger says:

ما من عبد تصيبه مصيبة فيقول : إنا لله و إنا إليه راجعون، اللهم أجرني في مصيبتى و أخلص لي خيرا منها إلا أجره الله تعالى و أخلصه خيرا منها"

No man gets an evil and says "from Allah we came, and to him we shall return. O'Allah, reward me for my patience to this evil, and give me good out of it", Allah we eventually give him his reward, and give him good out of it.

The narrator of this hadith is Om Salama said, that when her husband Abu Salam passed away, she thought whoever on the earth will be better than Abu Salama. But when she said this Do3aa, Allah AWG gave her Allah's messenger instead of Abu Salama who is for sure better than him and all of us. Always remember this word, brothers and sisters, and ask Allah to help remember in hard times.

The point, brothers and sisters, is that you have to believe that Allah will not ever cause you any harm, it is us who bring harm to our selves because of our actions. Allah says:

79. Whatever good, happens to you, is from Allah. but whatever evil happens to you, is from yourself.

And here is prophet Muhammad (PBUH) tells us what to do when we get some depression or sadness. He tells to supplicate with this Do3aa as he says:

ما أصاب المسلم هم و لا غم فقال " من قال هذا الدعاء أذهب الله همه و غمه و حزنه، و أبدله مكانه فرحا

No Muslim gets sorrow or grief and says "dsv", but Allah will let that sorrow and grief go away, and replace it with happiness.

Last but not the least, brothers and sisters, in order to be well prepared for this test, always keep a strong connection with your God, always do good deeds followed by other good deeds, and always supplicate with Allah's messenger (PBUH) Do3aa:

اللهم يا مقلب القلوب ثبت قلبي على دينك، اللهم يا مصرف القلوب صرف قلبي إلى طاعتك

8- Summary

و فى هذا القدر كفاية لمن أراد التوفيق و الهداية

9-Suplication

10- Br. Kacem from the islamic relief will be visiting us today to collect donations for Gaza, and it is worthy to say that Islamic Relief is the ONLY organization that is authorized to enter Gaza currently.

عباد الله إن الله يأمر بالعدل والإحسان وإيتاء ذى القربى، وينهى عن الفحشاء والمنكر والبغى يعظكم لعلكم تذكرون، اذكروا الله العظيم بذكركم، و استغفروه يغفر لكم، و اسألوه يعطكم، و أكثروا من الصلاة و السلام على رسول الله صلعم فى هذا اليوم الأغر الأزهر، فإن صلاتكم معروضة عليه، و أقم الصلاة.