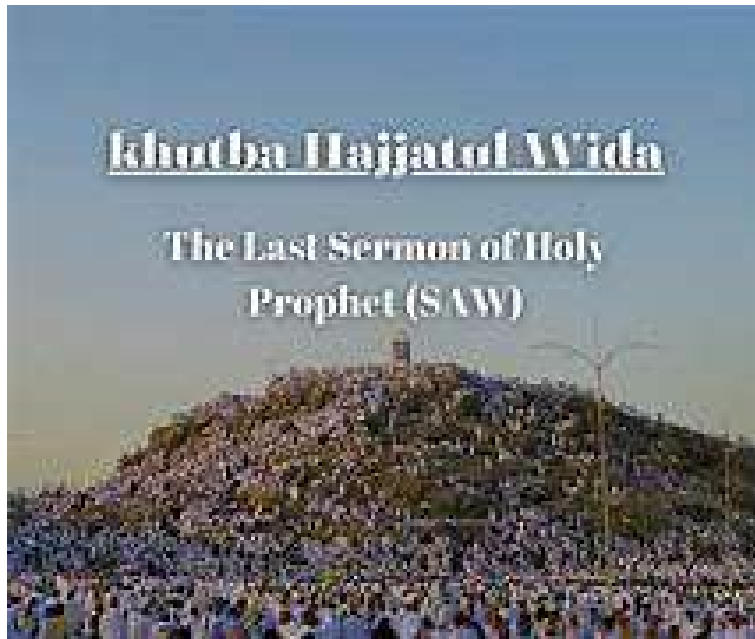


# Khutba Hajja tul Wida



[Al-Jahiz](#) in the [Kitāb al-Bayān wa-al-Tabyīn](#) presents the following text of the Farewell Sermon, also mentioned in Musnad of Imam Ahmad (hadith no.19774), as translated and annotated by [Nuh Ha Mim Keller](#):

All praise is Allah's. We praise Him, seek His help, ask His forgiveness and we repent unto Him. We seek refuge in Allah from the evils of ourselves and our bad actions. Whomever Allah guides none can lead astray, and whomever He leads astray has no one to guide him. I testify that there is no god but Allah alone, without any partner, and I testify that Muhammad is his slave and messenger. I enjoin you, O servants of Allah, to be god-fearing towards Allah, I urge you to obey Him, and I begin with that which is best.

To commence: O people, hear me well: I explain to you. For I do not know; I may well not meet you again in this place where I now stand, after this year of mine.

O people: your lives and your property, until the very day you meet your Lord, are as inviolable to each other as the inviolability of this day you are now in, and the month you are now in. Have I given the message? O Allah, be my witness. So let

whoever has been given something for safekeeping give it back to him who gave him it.

Truly, the usury of the [Era of Ignorance](#) has been laid aside forever, and the first usury I begin with is that which is due to my father's brother ['Abbas ibn 'Abd al-Muttalib](#). And truly the blood-vengeance of the Era of Ignorance has been laid aside forever, and the first blood-vengeance we shall start with is that which is due for the blood of [my kinsman] ['Amir ibn Rabi'a ibn Harith ibn 'Abd al-Muttalib](#). Truly, the hereditary distinctions that were pretensions to respect in the Era of Ignorance have been laid aside forever, except for the custodianship of the [Kaaba](#) [by [Bani 'Abd al-Dar](#)] and the giving of drink to pilgrims [by al-'Abbas].

A deliberate murder is subject to retaliation in kind. An accidental death from a deliberate injury means a death resulting from [something not usually used or intended as a deadly weapon such as] a stick or a rock, for which the indemnity is one hundred camels: whoever asks for more is a person of the Era of Ignorance.

O people: the Devil has despaired of ever being worshipped in this land of yours, though he is content to be obeyed in other works of yours, that you deem to be of little importance.

O people: postponing the inviolability of a sacred month [claiming to postpone the prohibition of killing in it to a subsequent month, so as to continue warring despite the sacred month's having arrived] is a surfeit of unbelief, by which those who disbelieve are led astray, making it lawful one year and unlawful in another, in order to match the number [of months] Allah has made inviolable. Time has verily come full turn, to how it was the day Allah created the heavens and the earth. Four months there are which are inviolable, three in a row and forth by itself: Dhul Qa'da, Dhul Hijja, and Muharram; and Rajab, which lies between Jumada and Sha'ban. Have I given the message? O Allah, be my witness.

O people: verily you owe your women their rights, and they owe you yours. They may not lay with another men in your beds, let anyone into your houses you do not want without your permission, or commit indecency. If they do, Allah has given you leave to debar them, send them from your beds, or [finally] strike them

in a way that does no harm. But if they desist, and obey you, then you must provide for them and clothe them fittingly. The women who live with you are like captives, unable to manage for themselves: you took them as a trust from Allah, and enjoyed their sex as lawful through a word [legal ruling] from Allah. So, fear Allah in respect to women, and concern yourselves with their welfare. Have I given the message? O Allah, be my witness.

O people, believers are but brothers. No one may take his brother's property without his full consent. Have I given the message? O Allah, be my witness. Never go back to being unbelievers, smiting each other's necks, for verily, I have left among you that which if you take it, you will never stray after me: the Book of Allah. Have I given the message? O Allah, be my witness.

O people, your Lord is One, and your father is one: all of you are from Adam, and Adam was from the ground. The noblest of you in Allah's sight is the most god-fearing: Arab has no merit over non-Arab other than god-fearing. Have I given the message? O Allah, be my witness. At this, they said: "Yes."

He said: "Then let whomever is present tell whomever is absent."

O people, Allah has apportioned to every deserving heir his share of the estate, and no deserving heir may accept a special bequest, and no special bequest may exceed a third of the estate. A child's lineage is that of the [husband who owns the] bed, and adulterers shall be stoned. Whoever claims to be the son of someone besides his father or a bondsman who claims to belong to other than his masters shall bear the curse of Allah and the angels and all men: no deflecting of it or ransom for it shall be accepted from him.

And peace be upon all of you, and the mercy of Allah.