

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَنْ يَتَالَ اللَّهُ لُحُومَهَا وَلَا دِمَائُهَا وَلَكِنْ يَتَالُهُ التَّقْوَى مِنْكُمْ كَذَلِكَ سَعَّرَهَا لَكُمْ
لِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَى مَا هَدَيْكُمْ وَبَشِّرِ الْمُحْسِنِينَ.
وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: إِنَّ أَوَّلَ مَا تَبْدَأُ بِهِ فِي يَوْمِنَا هَذَا أَنْ نُصَلِّيَ، ثُمَّ نَرْجِعَ فَنَتَخَرَّ، فَمَنْ
فَعَلَ فَقَدْ أَصَابَ سُنَّتَنَا

Dear Believers!

All praise is due to our Supreme Lord, who created us from nothing, honored us with the blessing of faith, and enabled us to reach another morning of Eid al-Adha in health and well-being. May peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa, who taught us submission, loyalty, and good character, and upon his family, his companions, and all believers who follow his path until the Day of Judgment. May your Eid be blessed.

Today, we are perceiving the blessed Eid al-Adha, which Allah the Exalted has bestowed upon His believing servants. Eids are not merely days of joy, but also exceptional times when we take account of our servitude, strengthen our brotherhood, and draw closer to our Lord.

The act of sacrifice teaches us: the submission of Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him), the loyalty of Prophet Ismail (peace be upon him), and what complete devotion to Allah means. Sacrifice is not merely slaughtering an animal; it is the name of subjugating the desires of the inner-self called nafs to the command of Allah the Exalted.

Indeed, our Lord states in the Noble Qur'an: "So pray to your Lord and sacrifice [to Him alone]." (Al-Kawthar, 108:2)

Dear Muslims!

Offering the sacrifice, according to the Hanafi school of thought, is an obligatory (wajib) act of worship for believers who are considered wealthy according to religious criteria. This act of worship is an indication of gratitude for blessings, submission to our Lord, and our responsibility towards those in need.

Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said: "The son of Adam performs no deed on the Day of Sacrifice (Eid al-Adha) that is more beloved to Allah than shedding blood (offering the sacrifice). The sacrificed animal will come on the Day of Resurrection with its horns, its hair, and its hooves (as a witness). Indeed, the blood of the sacrifice is accepted by Allah before it falls to the ground. So let your hearts be pleased with the sacrifice." (Tirmidhi, Adahi, 1)

In another noble hadith, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "Whoever has the means but does not offer the sacrifice, let him not approach our place of prayer." (Ibn Majah, Adahi, 2)

My Respected Brothers and Sisters!

Let us not forget that our Lord has no need for the flesh nor the blood of the sacrifices. What is valuable in the sight of Allah is our sincerity, our genuineness, and our righteousness (taqwa).

Our Lord states: "Their flesh and blood do not reach Allah, but your righteousness (taqwa) reaches Him. Thus He has subjected them to you so that you may proclaim the greatness of Allah for having guided you. And give glad tidings to the doers of good." (Al-Hajj, 22:37)

Therefore, let us offer our sacrifices not for show, but to attain the pleasure of Allah. Let our sacrifices be abundance on the table of the poor, joy in the heart of the orphan, and hope in the home of the needy.

Dear Brothers and Sisters!

Today, millions of our believing brothers and sisters who are in the sacred lands to perform the obligatory duty of Hajj have stood at Arafat, turned to their Lord in Muzdalifah, and declared their submission by stoning the devil in Mina and offering their sacrifices. Here, we too join in their excitement by performing our Eid prayers.

Eid is a day of forgiveness, sharing, and winning hearts. Come, let us seek the prayers of our parents, visit our relatives, bring joy to children, and not forget the orphans and those in need. Let us set aside grudges. Let us not damage Islamic brotherhood for trivial and egoistic reasons.

Let us also not neglect the Tashreeq Takbirs (declarations of God's greatness). Let us recite the takbirs after every obligatory prayer, starting from the morning prayer on the Day of Arafah until the afternoon prayer on the fourth day of Eid. Let us revive these blessed days with remembrance (dhikr), gratitude, and worship.

I pray to Allah (swt) to make Eid al-Adha a means of purification for our souls, peace for our hearts, abundance for our homes, and well-being for our bodies; to grant the Ummah of Muhammad unity, brotherhood, and security; to deliver help and victory to our oppressed and innocent brothers and sisters; and to accept the sacrifices we have offered in His lofty presence. I congratulate you all on your Eid.