

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالْفَجْرِ ۝١٦ وَلَيْلِ عَشْرِ ۝١٧ وَالشَّفْعِ وَالْوَتْرِ ۝١٨ وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا يَسْرِ ۝١٩ هَلْ فِي ذَلِكَ قَسَمٌ لِّذِي حِجْرِ ۝٢٠

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: مَا مِنْ أَيَّامٍ أَغْظَمَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ، وَلَا أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنَ الْعَمَلِ فِيهِنَّ مِنْ هَذِهِ الْأَيَّامِ الْعَشْرِ، فَاتَّكِفُوا فِيهِنَّ مِنَ التَّهْلِيلِ، وَالتَّكْبِيرِ، وَالتَّحْمِيدِ.

Respected Muslims!

As of the evening of Wednesday, May 27th, we will have entered the month of Dhul-Hijjah, which contains the days most beloved to Allah ﷻ.

Dhul-Hijjah is the month in which we perform the Hajj pilgrimage and offer sacrifices, and like other sacred months, its virtue is immense. As the twelfth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, it is a blessed period during which the Hajj is performed and Eid al-Adha is observed.

The first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah are among the most virtuous times for worship. In the Holy Qur'an, our Almighty Lord swears by the importance of these days: **"By the dawn, and by the ten nights, and by the even and the odd, and by the night as it recedes. Is there in this an oath for one of understanding?"** (Surah Al-Fajr, 1-5)

Regarding the virtue of these ten days, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **"There are no days in which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allah than these ten days (of Dhul-Hijjah). Each day of fasting during them is equivalent to fasting for a year, and every night spent in prayer is equal to standing in prayer on Laylat al-Qadr."** (Tirmidhi, Sawm, 52)

Dear Believers!

Certain nights of Dhul-Hijjah are immense blessings in terms of virtue and glad tidings. The eighth night is the Night of Tarweeyah, the ninth is the Night of Arafah, and the tenth is the Night of Eid al-Adha. Those who observe these blessed nights are promised Paradise.

The Prophet ﷺ said: **"Whoever worships in four important nights will be guaranteed Paradise: the Night of Tarweeyah, the Night of Arafah, the Night of Eid al-Adha, and the Night of Eid al-Fitr."** (Jāmi' al-Saghīr)

Among these ten virtuous days, there is one day that surpasses all others in merit—the Day of Arafah, the 9th of Dhul-Hijjah.

The Prophet ﷺ said about this day: **"Fasting on the Day of Arafah expiates the sins of the past year and the coming year."** (Targhīb wa Tarhīb, II, 457)

Dear Brothers,

Let us make the most of these precious days of Dhul-Hijjah through fasting, repentance, seeking forgiveness, remembrance (dhikr), and worship. Let us purify our souls and turn our hearts to Allah. Let us benefit from the blessings of these days, each filled with mercy and every night with forgiveness.

Respected Believers!

I also remind you that sacrifice (Qurban) is not merely about slaughtering meat and blood. Rather, it is a manifestation of drawing closer to Allah, gratitude, submission, and consciousness of servitude. It is an obligatory act of worship for financially capable believers.

May Allah accept the Hajj of our brothers and sisters who are performing it this year and accept the sacrifices we offer.

I conclude my khutbah with this verse from our Almighty Lord: **"Neither their meat nor their blood reaches Allah, but what reaches Him is your piety."** (Surah Al-Hajj, 37)