

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ عِدَّةَ الشُّهُورِ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ اثْنَا عَشَرَ شَهْرًا فِي كِتَابِ اللَّهِ يَوْمَ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ  
وَالْأَرْضَ مِنْهَا أَرْبَعَةٌ حُرُمٌ ذَلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ فَلَا تَظْلِمُوا فِيهِنَّ أَنْفُسَكُمْ  
وَقَاتِلُوا الْمُشْرِكِينَ كَافَّةً كَمَا يُقَاتِلُونَكُمْ كَافَّةً وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الْمُتَّقِينَ

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: يُكْفَرُ السَّنَةُ الْمَاصِيَةِ. أَفْضَلُ الصِّيَامِ بَعْدَ رَمَضَانَ شَهْرُ اللَّهِ  
الْمُحَرَّمُ وَأَفْضَلُ الصَّلَاةِ بَعْدَ الْفَرِيضَةِ صَلَاةُ اللَّيْلِ،

### Esteemed Muslims!

There are four sacred months: Dhul-Qadah, Dhul-Hijjah, Muharram (three consecutive months), and Rajab. These months are called "sacred" because their virtues are high, and sins committed in them are considered greater. The most virtuous months after Ramadan are the sacred months; among them, Muharram is the most virtuous. The tenth day of Muharram, Ashura, holds great respect and blessings. This blessed day has witnessed many great events throughout history.

This year, Ashura falls tomorrow, Saturday, July 5th.

Allah (c.c) created the Throne, the Footstool, the heavens and the earth, the sun, the moon, the stars, and Paradise on this day.

Prophet Adam (a.s) was created, placed in Paradise, and his repentance was accepted on this day.

Prophet Ibrahim (a.s) was born on this day and saved from Nimrod's fire. Prophet Musa (a.s) and his people were saved from Pharaoh on this day, and Pharaoh and his army were drowned in the sea.

Prophet Isa (a.s) was born on this day and ascended to heaven. Prophet Nuh's (a.s) ark settled on Mount Judi on this day.

Prophet Suleyman (a.s) was granted sovereignty on this day. Prophet Yunus (a.s) was saved from the belly of the fish on this day.

Prophet Yaqub's (a.s) eyes were opened, and Prophet Yusuf (a.s) was pulled out of the well on this day.

Prophet Ayyub (a.s) found healing on this day. The first rain from the sky fell on this day. And sadly, our master, Imam Hussein (r.a), was martyred in Karbala on this day.

### Esteemed Believers!

Fasting on the Day of Ashura is a Sunnah (prophetic tradition). However, fasting *only* on the 10th day is considered Makruh (disliked). To avoid resembling the Jews, it is recommended to fast either on the 9th and 10th, or the 10th and 11th days together.

Our Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said: **"Fast the Ashura fast; but act differently from the Jews by fasting a day before or a day after!"** (Ahmad, I, 241; Bazzar, no. 1052)

Our Master (peace and blessings be upon him) took care not to resemble non-Muslims even in his acts of worship. We, too, should avoid resembling them not only in our acts of worship but in all our states and behaviors. For it is stated in a Hadith Sharif: **"Whoever imitates a people is one of them."** (Abu Dawud, Libas, 4031)

### Dear Brothers!

It is recommended to revive this blessed day with the following deeds: Fasting, visiting relatives and maintaining kinship ties, engaging in knowledge, giving charity, spreading greetings, being generous to the family, taking a shower (ghusl), and doing household shopping with the intention of blessing.

Our Master (peace and blessings be upon him) said: **"Whoever is generous to his family and household on the Day of Ashura, Allah Almighty will grant him blessings and abundance in his sustenance for the entire year."** (At-Targhib wa'l-Tarhib, 2/116)

Today, it is also customary to offer Ashura pudding made with various grains. This is merely a beautiful custom and tradition; it is not an act of worship or a Sunnah.

The martyrdom of our master, Imam Hussein (r.a) in Karbala is a great sorrow. However, it is not permissible in our religion to harm one's body or mourn excessively because of this pain; this is a bid'ah (innovation). If mourning were to be done, it would first be for the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him). What is asked of us is to love our Master and his Household (Ahl al-Bayt), to adorn ourselves with their morals and manners, and to adhere to his Sunnah.

I conclude my khutbah with a Hadith Sharif: **"The most virtuous fasting after the Ramadan fast is the fast of Allah's month of Muharram. And the most virtuous prayer after the obligatory prayers is the Tahajjud prayer."** (Muslim, Siyam 202, 203; Nasai, Qiyam al-layl, 6)