

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّ أَوَّلَ بَيْتٍ وُضِعَ لِلنَّاسِ لَلَّذِي بِبَكَّةَ مُبَارَكًا وَهُدًى لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ﴿٩٦﴾  
فِيهِ آيَاتٌ بَيِّنَاتٌ مَّقَامُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَمَنْ دَخَلَهُ كَانَ آمِنًا وَلِلَّهِ عَلَى النَّاسِ  
حِجُّ الْبَيْتِ مَنِ اسْتَطَاعَ إِلَيْهِ سَبِيلًا وَمَنْ كَفَرَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَنِيٌّ عَنِ  
الْعَالَمِينَ

وَقَالَ النَّبِيُّ ﷺ: بُنِيَ الْإِسْلَامُ عَلَى خَمْسٍ شَهَادَةِ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ  
وَأَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا رَسُولُ اللَّهِ وَإِقَامَ الصَّلَاةِ وَإِيتَاءَ الزَّكَاةِ وَالْحَجَّ وَصَوْمَ  
رَمَضَانَ

### Respected Believers!

Today's khutbah will focus on the act of worship known as Hajj. Hajj is a great act of devotion through which a Muslim beautifully demonstrates servitude to Allah. It is not merely a physical journey but a spiritual one that involves the heart, soul, and intention.

Our noble religion of Islam is built upon five fundamental pillars: the declaration of faith (Shahada), prayer (Salah), fasting (Sawm), charity (Zakah), and Hajj. Hajj is a sacred duty—both financial and physical—obligatory once in a lifetime for every Muslim who has the means.

The month of Shawwal, in which we currently find ourselves, along with Dhul-Qa'dah and Dhul-Hijjah, are the months of Hajj. These are blessed times when believers intending to perform Hajj enter the state of Ihram and set out toward the sacred lands.

### Dear Brothers!

Allah ﷻ informs us in the Holy Qur'an about how Hajj should be performed: "**Hajj is [during] well-known months, so whoever has made Hajj obligatory upon himself therein [by entering the state of ihram], there is [to be for him] no sexual relations and no disobedience and no disputing during Hajj. And whatever good you do - Allah knows it. And take provisions, but indeed, the best provision is fear of Allah. And fear Me, O you of understanding**" (Al-Baqarah 197)

This noble verse draws our attention not only to the outward form of worship but also to its inner depth. Hajj is not just a physical journey; what truly matters is the turning of the heart and soul toward Allah. Every step taken in piety is valuable and accepted in the sight of Allah.

### Valuable Believers!

Hajj is a believer's preparation to meet their Lord. Through Hajj, a servant repents for past mistakes and makes a fresh start. Hajj strengthens the bonds of brotherhood among people and reinforces equality and humility in society. Millions of Muslims, regardless of color, language, race, or status, stand before Allah in the same attire, reciting the same supplications.

For Hajj to become obligatory, certain conditions must be met: being Muslim, being of sound mind and maturity, being free, being healthy, having safe travel conditions, and possessing sufficient financial means. If a person has the financial capacity to cover both the journey and their family's basic needs, then Hajj becomes obligatory for them. If they delay despite having the means and later lose the opportunity, Hajj remains a debt upon them until fulfilled.

### My Brothers!

Embarking on this blessed journey is not only about material means but also requires strong faith and submission. Hajj demands patience, sacrifice, and sincere devotion. At the end of this spiritual journey, the servant emerges as if reborn, purified.

I conclude my khutbah with a noble hadith. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "**Just as water cleanses dirt, Hajj cleanses sins.**" (At-Targhib wat-Tarhib, Vol. 2, p. 166)