

Date: 16-06-2024

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
لَنْ يَنَالَ اللَّهُ لُحُومَهَا وَلَا دِمَائُهَا وَلَكِنْ يَنَالُهُ التَّقْوَى
مِنْكُمْ كَذَلِكَ سَخَّرَهَا لَكُمْ لِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَى مَا هَدَيْكُمْ
وَبَشِّرِ الْمُحْسِنِينَ.
قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
مَنْ وَجَدَ سَعَةً فَلَمْ يُصْحِحْ فَلَا يَقْرَبَنَّ مُصَلَّاتَنَا.

THE FEAST OF SACRIFICE (‘ĪD AL-ADḤĀ)

Allah ﷻ says the following in the Qur’ān: **“It is not their flesh nor their blood that reaches Allah, but what reaches Him is the *taqwā* of you.”**¹ According to a *ḥadīth*, the Prophet Muḥammad ﷺ said the following: **“Man does not perform an act on the day of sacrifice that is more beloved to Allah than sacrifice.”**²

Dear brothers and sisters!

While feast days are days of happiness, rest, joy, unity and solidarity, holidays are also days of obedience and surrender to Allah ﷻ. The Feast of Sacrifice reminds us that this feast means that when Ibrāhīm came face to face with a great trial, he obeyed Allah ﷻ without any hesitation. Ibrāhīm was commanded to sacrifice his own son for Allah ﷻ, and he asked his son Ismā’īl for his opinion. The prophet Ismā’īl, showing the same devotion and sincerity, gave an answer that is a lesson for us. He told his father to do as he was commanded. When Ibrāhīm had prepared his son Ismā’īl for sacrifice, Allah ﷻ said: **“O Ibrāhīm! Verily, you have fulfilled the dream.”**³ With that, Allah ﷻ informed that Ibrāhīm and his son Ismā’īl had passed their trial.

Dear believers!

Feast days are also days of *muhabba*, of showing love. Those days are an opportunity to visit our relatives, neighbours and friends and console us with their good supplications. We must give these days their rights and we must put an end to any resentment between them. Holidays are days of *rahma*, *baraka* and *infāq*. With the sacrifices made during these valuable days, we should make happy the poor and the orphans. After all, joy and happiness increase as they are shared with others. For this reason, we should share our sacrifices with our relatives, neighbours and orphans and we should share their grief.

Dear Muslims!

Every day on which Allah ﷻ is obeyed, surrendered to Him and shown patience in the face of calamity, is a day of joy for the *mu’min*. So let’s review our intentions and let’s resolve to spend this worldly life in obedience and surrender to Allah ﷻ forever. During the Feast of Sacrifice and afterwards, let us not forget our parents, relatives, orphans, poor and lonely people. Let us also share our joy with them.

Dear believers!

Do not forget to say the *takbīrāt al-tashrīq* after every obligatory prayer, which began yesterday after the morning prayer (*ṣalāt al-fajr*) and ends after the late afternoon prayer (*ṣalāt al-‘aṣr*) of the fourth feast day. May Allah ﷻ bless you and accept your sacrifices. *Āmīn*. I wish everyone a happy Feast of Sacrifice: *‘īd mubārak*.

Redaction & translation: Ahmed Bulut

Translation Commission ISN

¹ Al-Ḥajj, 22: 37.

² Al-Tirmidhī, Al-Aḍḥāḥī, 1.

³ Al-Ṣāffāt, 37: 104-105.