

Eid-ul-Adha Sermon

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حَامِدًا وَمُصَلِّيًا أَمَّا بَعْدُ

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La Illaha Illa Allah. Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Wa Lillahir Hamd. (Three Times)

Allah is the Most Great indeed, and to Allah goes all the praise. With His Grace all the righteous actions are accomplished. I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship except Allah, I also bear witness that our Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is the servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad, his pure family and companions.

Allah swt says:

لَنْ يَنَالَ اللَّهَ لُحُومُهَا وَلَا دِمَاؤُهَا وَلَكِنْ يَنَالُهُ التَّقْوَىٰ مِنْكُمْ كَذَلِكَ سَخَّرَهَا لَكُمْ لِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَاكُمْ وَيَبَشِّرِ الْمُحْسِنِينَ⁽¹⁾

Allah swt says, ***“Their (sacrificed animal’s) meat will not reach Allah, nor will their blood, but what reaches Him is piety from you. Thus have We subjected them to you that you may glorify Allah for that [to] which He has guided you; and give good tidings to the doers of good.” (Al-Hajj: 37).***

First, I would like to say ***Eid Mubarak*** to you on this sacred festival, the blessed Eid Al Adha, asking Allah, the Almighty, to bless you with ***Peace and happiness***. Indeed, this day is amongst the best days in the sight of Allah, the Most Exalted, as the Messenger of Allah

pbuh said, *“Amongst the greatest days in the sight of Allah, the Glorified and Exalted is He, is the day of sacrifice.”*

Truly, these special days of Dhul-Hijjah are *Season for good deeds* and time for engaging further in acts of obedience. During these days, pilgrims visited the sacred House of Allah and stood on the Mount of Arafat. On the Day of Arafah, many of us observed fasting and occupied themselves in acts of worship, and thus, won the greatest and most rewarding recompense of Allah. The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said in this regard, *“There is no day when Allah saves more servants from the punishment of the Hellfire than on the Day of Arafat.”*

In this same day in the tenth year of Hijra (migration), the Messenger of Allah (pbuh) delivered the Hujjat Al Wadaa (*the Farewell Sermon*) in which he made clear the great teachings of Islam and instilled the meanings of kindness and peace. In his farewell speech, the Prophet (pbuh) also highlighted the *values of mercy and compassion*, and explained the concepts of moderation, tolerance and peaceful co-existence amongst people. The Prophet (pbuh) said:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، إِنَّ رَبَّكُمْ وَاحِدٌ، وَإِنَّ أَبَاكُمْ وَاحِدٌ... إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاهُمْ⁽¹⁾

“O people! Your God is one; your father is one (Adam)... Verily the most honored of you is the most righteous.”

So, the rights of all people are safeguarded.

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La Illaha Illa Allah. Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Wa Lillahil Hamd

Today is a day of celebration, a day in which we reap the fruits of piety and righteous acts. It's a season for performing rites and acts of worship, Dhikr (remembrance of Allah), affection, delight, celebration and happiness. About these days, The Messenger of Allah pbuh said:

أَيَّامُ أَكْلٍ، وَشُرْبٍ، وَذِكْرِ اللَّهِ⁽²⁾

(1) شعب الإيمان للبيهقي 289/4.

(2) الموطأ : 836.

“These days are days of eating, drinking and Dhikr.”

Truly, in this there is an indication to the leniency, tolerance, mercy and easiness of Islam. Setting a role model for humanity, the Prophet pbuh said:

إِنَّ فِي دِينِنَا فَسْحَةً، إِنِّي أُرْسِلْتُ بِخِفْيَةٍ سَمْحَةٍ⁽¹⁾

“There is flexibility in our religion. Verily, I have been sent with a lenient, upright religion.”

That is to say: our religion is one that is straight forward and easy and, thus, loved by Allah, the Most Exalted and High. Indeed, Allah, Glorified and Exalted is He, likes to see His servants showing mercy to one another. The Most High says in this regard:

فَمَنْ عَفَا وَأَصْلَحَ فَأَجْرُهُ عَلَى اللَّهِ⁽²⁾

“but whoever pardons and makes reconciliation - his reward is [due] from Allah.”

This means that Allah the Almighty will never waste the reward of merciful people and those who forgive.

In fact, the real life is full of examples of how tolerance could melt the ice of discord, revive affection and strengthen the bonds of accord amongst people. In return, such tolerant people won the mercy and forgiveness of Allah the Almighty. This was emphasized by the Messenger of Allah pbuh as he said:

ارْحَمُوا تُرْحَمُوا، وَاعْفُوا يَغْفِرَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ⁽³⁾

“Show mercy and you will be shown mercy. Forgive and Allah will forgive you.”

(1) أحمد : 24855.

(2) الشورى : 40.

(3) البخاري في الأدب المفرد : 138/1 وأحمد : 6698.

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, La Illaha Illa Allah. Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Wa Lillahil Hamd.

Please know that the day of Eid is a precious opportunity for reflecting the values of kindness. As such, one should show gentleness to their parents in line with Allah's orders:

وَاعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا⁽¹⁾

“Worship Allah and associate nothing with Him, and do good to your parents.”

On this great occasion, one should also be good towards their daughters, sons, sisters and brothers. This can be achieved by honouring them through addressing them with pleasant words and by giving gifts to them. The Prophet pbuh said:

يَدُ الْمُعْطِي الْعُلْيَا، وَأَبْدَأُ بِمَنْ تَعُولُ⁽²⁾

“The hand which gives is the upper hand. Start with those who are under your guardianship.”

Furthermore, amongst the other people one should treat in goodness are his neighbors. Indeed, the relationship between neighbors is criteria according to which good neighborliness can be distinguished from the bad one. On this account, it was narrated that a man said to the Messenger of Allah pbuh, “How can I know when I have done well and when I have done something bad?” The Prophet pbuh said:

إِذَا سَمِعْتَ جِيرَانَكَ يَقُولُونَ: قَدْ أَحْسَنْتَ فَقَدْ أَحْسَنْتَ، وَإِذَا سَمِعْتَهُمْ يَقُولُونَ: قَدْ أَسَأْتَ

فَقَدْ أَسَأْتَ⁽³⁾

(1) النساء : 36.

(2) النسائي : 2532.

(3) ابن ماجه : 4223 ، وأحمد 3885.

“If you hear your neighbours saying that you have done well, then you have done well, and if you hear them saying that you have done something bad, then you have done something bad.”

More to the point, in a broader view, the approach of kind treatment extends to encompass all the people. This was illustrated by Allah, the Almighty, for He says:

وَقُولُوا لِلنَّاسِ حُسْنًا⁽¹⁾

“And speak nicely with other people [with kind words].”

Thus, one should show kindness towards others both in words and in deeds, treat the members of their community in lenient and tolerant manner, and spend in charity to help the needy, the poor and the less fortunate people. Allah swt says:

الَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ فِي السَّرَّاءِ وَالصَّرَّاءِ وَالْكَاطِمِينَ الْغَيْظَ وَالْعَافِينَ عَنِ النَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ
الْمُحْسِنِينَ⁽²⁾

“Those who spend [in charity] during ease and hardship and who restrain anger and who pardon the people - and Allah loves the doers of good.” (Al Imran: 134).

As a recompense for their kindness, Allah the, Most Gracious, will increase his bounties upon them (**and We will increase the doers of good [in goodness and reward].**) (Al-Baqara: 58).

Allah swt says:

لِلَّذِينَ أَحْسَنُوا الْحُسْنَىٰ وَزِيَادَةٌ وَلَا يَرْهَقُ وُجُوهَهُمْ قَتَرٌ وَلَا ذِلَّةٌ أُولَٰئِكَ أَصْحَابُ الْجَنَّةِ هُمْ فِيهَا
خَالِدُونَ⁽³⁾

“For them who have done good is the best [reward] and extra. No darkness will cover their faces, nor humiliation. Those are companions of Paradise; they will abide therein eternally.”

(1) البقرة : 83.

(2) آل عمران : 134

(3) يونس : 26 .

As far as the ethics of slaughtering the sacrifices is concerned, it is advised to eat from the meat and give away part of it to the poor, needy and destitute. A part of Qurbani meat should also be gifted to the extended family, relatives, friends, neighbours. While doing this, one should have sincere intent, hoping for reward from Allah swt.

With this in mind, let us pray that Allah swt make our Eid a happy one and guide us all to the best of deeds and the sweetest of words.

May Allah guide us all obey him to obey Him and obey His Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those He have commanded us to obey in line with His orders: ***“O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you.”*** (An-Nisaa: 59). Please bear in mind that you are instructed to invoke peace and blessings on the Prophet (pbuh). Allah, the Most Sublime, says:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا⁽¹⁾

“Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace.”

On the same matter, the Prophet pbuh said:

مَنْ صَلَّى عَلَيَّ صَلَاةً صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ بِهَا عَشْرًا⁽²⁾

“For everyone who invokes a blessing on me will receive ten blessings from Allah.”

O Allah, please confer Your blessings and grant peace upon our Prophet Muhammad pbuh, his family and all of the companions.

(1) الأحزاب : 56 .

(2) مسلم : 384 .

Eid-ul-Adha Sermon

عيد الأضحي

O Allah, we seek Your favour to bless for us this day and make it a witness for us (on the Day of Judgment). O Allah, we implore to You to grant us peace of mind, good living and acceptance of our good deeds.

O Lord, we pray to You to accept from us our prayer, Zakat, Takbir and sacrifices. O Allah, please accept from the pilgrims their pilgrimage, protect them and grant for them to return to their homes with safety.

O, Allah, remove the pandemic from us and give shifa and speedy recovery to those are suffering from this disease, you can answer our Dua.

O Lord You have blessed us with tolerance and love, so we seek Your favour to make forgiveness one of our qualities and tolerance as part of our character and personality.

May Allah increase us in happiness, tranquillity and delight. O Allah, please continue blessing on our homes, families, community and society with happiness.

May Allah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger pbuh.

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.