



...وَيَذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ فِي أَيَّامٍ مَّعْلُومَاتٍ عَلَىٰ مَا رَزَقَهُمْ مِنْ
بَهِيمَةِ الْأَنْعَامِ فَكُلُوا مِنْهَا وَأَطِعُوا الْبَوَائِسَ الْفَقِيرِ.
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
إِنَّ أَوَّلَ مَا تَبَدَّأُ بِهِ فِي يَوْمِنَا هَذَا أَنْ نُصَلِّيَ، ثُمَّ تَرَجَّعَ فَتَنْخَرَ،
فَمَنْ فَعَلَ فَقَدْ أَصَابَ سُنَّتَنَا.

‘EID AL-ADHA

Dear Muslims!

Praise be to Allah the Almighty, Who has created us from nothing, honored us with faith, and granted us the joy of ‘eid once again.

Peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw), who has left us the legacy of ‘eid as a celebration of the loyalty of Prophet Ibrahim, the sincerity of Hajar, and the submission of Prophet Isma‘il.

May Allah’s peace, mercy, help, and blessings be upon us all! ‘Eid Mubarak; I wish you all a happy ‘eid!

Dear Believers!

The Prophet (saw) addressed the believers on the morning of ‘Eid al-Adha saying, **“The first thing to be done on this day is to perform the ‘eid prayer; and after returning from prayer, we slaughter our sacrifices. Whoever does so, he acted according to our sunnah.”**¹ Today, we have gathered to uphold the sunnah of the Messenger of Allah (saw). We have stood shoulder to shoulder before our Lord (swt) and left behind all worldly positions. Alhamdulillah, we performed the ‘eid prayer together in peace and attentive humility. Soon, we will perform the sacrifices that will bring us closer to our Lord (swt) by reciting Basmalah, takbir, and supplications, Insha Allah. May Allah the Almighty accept all our worships in His Exalted presence.

Dear Muslims!

Qurbani is a unique act of worship that leads to earning the pleasure of Allah, attaining His mercy and forgiveness, and spreading goodness and benevolence. It symbolizes loyalty and selflessness,

and it signifies piety and submission. Therefore, let us treat our sacrificial animals with compassion and mercy. Let us entrust the slaughtering process to capable and qualified people. Let us be careful about environmental cleanliness. Let us share the sacrificial meat with our needy brothers and sisters as stated in the following verse: **“...And pronounce the Name of Allah on appointed days over the sacrificial animals He has provided for them. So eat from their meat and feed the desperately poor.”**² Let us deepen the kindness and affection between our hearts.

Dear Believers!

We should not see the days of ‘eid as a time of vacation when we drift apart from one another. Because ‘eid becomes more blessed and finds its true meaning when celebrated with our family, relatives, neighbors, and friends. So let us use the days of ‘eid as an opportunity to visit our elders, relatives, and neighbors, win their hearts, and be included in their prayers. Let us commemorate our ancestors with gratitude. Let us make our children happy with gifts and make the ‘eid an unforgettable memory in their minds. Let us share the joy of the ‘eid with orphans. Let us share its joy with the elderly and the sick as well. Let us reconcile the offended; let us be forgiving and mend broken hearts. In short, let us strive to reflect the peaceful and loving atmosphere of the ‘eid in our homes, streets, and cities.

Dear Believers!

Unfortunately, this ‘eid, our brothers and sisters in Gaza are still in sorrow. The oppressors who have perpetrated one of the greatest atrocities in history continue to mercilessly kill our brothers and sisters, regardless of women, children, or the elderly, all before the eyes of the entire world. We have full faith that the oppressors will be defeated and the oppressed will achieve victory. Our duty is to fulfill our humanitarian and conscientious responsibilities to stop this massacre and to stand on the right side.

I pray to our Almighty Lord that ‘Eid al-Adha brings tranquility to our souls, peace to our hearts, well-being to our bodies, abundance to our homes, and serves as a means of salvation for oppressed and innocent lands.

¹ Bukhari, ‘Eidayn, 3.

² Hajj, 22/28.