إِنَّمَا الْمُؤْمِنُونَ إِخْوَةً فَاَصْلِحُوا بَيْنَ اَخَوَيْكُمْ. وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: تَصَافَحُوا يَذْهَبِ الْغِلُّ وَتَهَادَوْا تَحَابُوا وَتَذْهَبِ الشَّحْنَاءُ.

# **EID AL-FITR: DAYS OF JOY, PEACE AND BROTHERHOOD**

### **Honorable Muslims!**

Today, we celebrate the 'Eid al-Fitr, a time of joy, peace, and brotherhood. Endless praise and thanks be to our Lord (swt), who has allowed us to experience another 'eid morning after Ramadan, the month of mercy, blessings, and forgiveness. Peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw), who taught us the value of these days. Ramadan Mubarak!

#### **Dear Muslims!**

Eids are days when love and respect, friendship and affection, compassion and mercy, fidelity and loyalty are at their peak. So, today, let us respectfully kiss the hands of our parents, the reason for our existence, and receive their prayers. Let us show our love to our spouse, with whom we share the burden of life, with our smiling faces. Let us share the joy of 'eid with our children, the sparkle of our eyes, with our pleasant words. Let us visit our relatives and neighbors and increase the joy of 'eid. Let us remember our deceased people with the wishes of good and mercy upon them, and let them benefit from our prayers.

### **Esteemed Believers!**

'Eids are days of sharing, helping, and solidarity. So let us bring the joy of 'eid to the shining eyes of orphans. Let us reach out to the needy, the victimized, and the orphaned; and let them experience the peace and happiness of 'eid. Let us carry the joy of 'eid from our households to our buildings, neighborhoods, cities, our country, and the whole world. Let us pray that all our oppressed and victimized brothers and sisters around the world can celebrate the 'eid freely, so that our 'eid will be celebrated in the best way!

#### **Dear Muslims!**

'Eids are the days of unity, solidarity and brotherhood. Our Almighty Lord (swt) states in the Holy Qur'an, "The believers are but one brotherhood, so make peace between your brothers."<sup>1</sup> So today, let us put an end to

resentment and bitterness. As believers, let us strive to make amends between those who are offended, starting with our families. Let us open our hearts to each other with compassion and affection. Let us be united, let us be brothers and sisters, let us build a community of brothers and sisters! So that our 'eid will be celebrated in the best way!

# **Honorable Believers!**

'Eids are days of repentance, forgiveness, and cleansing from sins. Allah the Almighty (swt) states, Successful indeed" قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ تَزَكِّي. وَذَكَرَ اسْمَ رَبِّهِ فَصَلَّى are those who purify themselves, remember the Name of their Lord, and pray."<sup>2</sup> Dear brothers and sisters who fill our mosques with the joy of 'eid! Regardless of the extent of our mistakes and sins, let us take refuge in the vast tolerance and mercy of our Almighty Lord (swt), who says, "My mercy encompasses everything."<sup>3</sup> Let us seek our future, peace, and hope in the mercy-laden messages of Islam. Let us purify ourselves from all kinds of evil, haram, and violating the rights of other people and the public. Let us find peace in the remembrance of Allah. Let us approach our Lord (swt) with prayer, worship, charity, and good deeds. So that our 'eid will be celebrated the best way!

## **Dear Brothers and Sisters!**

We have just performed our 'eid prayer, shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart. Soon we will make supplication to our Lord with takbirs and salawat. But let us not leave our mosque immediately, let us not move away from each other. Let us remember this hadith of the Messenger of Allah (saw): "Shake hands and rancor will disappear. Give presents to each other and love each other, and enmity will disappear."<sup>4</sup> So let us start sharing the joy of 'eid in this blessed place of worship. Let us shake hands and embrace each other. Let us show our smiling faces to the brother next to us. So that our 'eid will be celebrated in the best way!

#### **Esteemed Muslims!**

'Eids are the harbingers of eternal 'eids. So let us spend the 'eid properly. Let us extend the beauties of Ramadan and 'eid throughout our lives. So that our place in the Hereafter will be paradise and our destiny will be 'eid. 'Eid Mubarak!

General Directorate of Religious Services

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hujurat, 49/10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A'la 87/14,15.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A'raf, 7/156.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Muwatta', Husn al-Khulq, 4.