

DATE: 16.07.2021

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

قُلْ إِنَّ صَلَاتِي وَنُسُكِي وَمَحْيَايَ وَمَمَاتِي لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ۝

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

اللَّهُمَّ مِنْكَ وَلَكَ عَنْ مُحَمَّدٍ وَأُمَّتِهِ بِاسْمِ اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ.

## A SYMBOL OF TAWHID AND A PILLAR OF ISLAM: SACRIFICE (QURBANI)

### Dear Muslims!

It was an eid morning in Madinah. Believing hearts were filled to the fullest with the excitement and exhilaration for the Eid. Young and old, men and women, and children all performed the eid prayer at the prayer site next to the Masjid al-Nabawi. After the Prophet Muhammad (saw) delivered the khutbah, it was time to do the slaughtering. As was customary for him, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) had prepared two animals for sacrifice. He gently placed down the rams brought to him by having them face the qiblah and recited the following verses: **“I have turned my face [i.e. self] toward He who created the heavens and the earth, inclining toward truth, and I am not of those who associate others with Allah.”**<sup>1</sup> **“Indeed, my prayer, my rites of sacrifice, my living and my dying are for Allah, Lord of the worlds. No partner has He.”**<sup>2</sup> Then, the Messenger of Allah (saw) prayed as follows and did the slaughtering by mentioning the name of Allah (swt): **“O Allah! These sacrifices are for you. They are presented for your pleasure by Muhammad and his ummah.”**<sup>3</sup> **“O, Allah! Accept these sacrifices on behalf of Muhammad, the family of Muhammad and the ummah of Muhammad!”**<sup>4</sup>

### Dear Believers!

Endless thanks and praise be to our Lord Almighty (swt) for enabling us to reach another eid. We as the Islamic world will enjoy the Eid al-Adha next Tuesday. Together we will feel the consciousness of unity and the awareness of being brothers/sisters and an ummah. Although we are not able to perform hajj, we will add our earnest prayers to the prayers offered in the holy lands. We will once again show our servitude and obedience to Allah (swt) with our qurbanis.

### Dear Believers!

The worship of qurbani (sacrifice), which incorporates deep memories, has been an obligation for every community from the time of the Prophet Adam (as) to the present. It is a symbol of tawhid and an important pillar of the perspicuous religion of Islam.

Qurbani is an endeavor to gain the pleasure of Allah (swt) and piety. It is a declaration of ikhlas and sincerity, loyalty and submission, and gratitude and devotion to the Almighty Creator. It is the demonstration of the will to sacrifice, without reservation, everything we possess in the way of Allah (swt).

### Dear Muslims!

The worship of sacrifice enables us to feel the happiness of spending from our wealth for the pleasure of Allah (swt) and sharing with others. It protects us from the illness of stinginess and being enslaved by worldly possessions. Our sacrifices bring us closer to our Lord (swt) while also bringing affection and happiness into the homes of those who are in need. Our sacrifices enable us to build bridges of the heart that cross geographical boundaries. Our sacrifices allow us to share the sorrows of many of our brothers and sisters, whether we know them or not, and to extend a hand of goodwill and charity to them. With the worship of qurbani, we strengthen our unity and togetherness while also keeping the spirit of helping and solidarity alive.

### Honorable Believers!

The Presidency of Religious Affairs, in cooperation with the Turkiye Diyanet Foundation, continues to carry out its organization of qurbani by proxy this year, too, just as it has been for the past years. The qurbanis entrusted to us by our august nation, with the motto “Qurbani Shared, Brotherhood Cherished”, will be slaughtered according to Islamic rites and delivered to many of our brothers and sisters who are in need in our country and across the world. With your donations, you may help to build the bridges of love and brotherhood among Muslims by applying directly to our mufti offices until the evening of the first day of Eid, or by donating online through Turkiye Diyanet Foundation’s website.

### Dear Believers!

As I conclude this Friday’s khutbah, I would like to make an important point. Many of our brothers and sisters will be traveling during the Eid. At this point, let us stick to the traffic rules, be patient and cautious, and protect one another’s rights. Let us not let traffic accidents turn the peace and joy of the Eid into pain and suffering!

May our Lord Almighty (swt) keep us safe from any accident, trouble, and misfortune. May Allah (swt) let us make it to the Eid in peace and well-being!

<sup>1</sup> An’am, 6/79.

<sup>2</sup> An’am, 6/162-163.

<sup>3</sup> Ibn Majah, Adahi, 1; Abu Dawud, Dahaya, 3-4.

<sup>4</sup> Muslim, Adahi, 19.