

وَاعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَبِذِي  
الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسَاكِينِ وَالْجَارِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْجَارِ  
الْجُنُبِ وَالصَّاحِبِ بِالْجَنبِ وَابْنِ السَّبِيلِ وَمَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يُحِبُّ مَنْ كَانَ مُخْتَالًا فَخُورًا.  
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، أَفْشُوا السَّلَامَ، وَأَطْعِمُوا الطَّعَامَ، وَصِلُوا  
الْأَرْحَامَ، وَصَلُّوا بِاللَّيْلِ وَالنَّاسُ نِيَامٌ، تَدْخُلُوا الْجَنَّةَ بِسَلَامٍ.

### EID AL-FITR

#### Honorable Muslims!

Today is Eid al-Fitr. On the one hand, we experience the peace of having observed the Ramadan al-Sharif, and on the other hand, we experience the joy of reaching the Eid.

Eids are days of unity and togetherness. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (saw) invites us to brotherhood by saying: **“Do not cut off one another, nor desert one another, nor hate one another, nor envy one another. Be you, O worshippers of Allah, brothers.”**<sup>1</sup> As the ummah of Muhammad, if we can bring an end to resentments among ourselves and set aside division and discord, we will feel the joy, delight, and happiness of the Eid even more deeply. If we remain vigilant against those who wish to sow the seeds of discord and corruption among us and sincerely open our hearts to one another, we can make every day a day of Eid.

#### Dear Believers!

Eids are special days when we gather with our families, breathe the same air, and share love and affection. They are blessed days in which we attain the pleasure of our parents, kiss their hands, and receive their prayers and blessings.

Eids are days when we uphold the rights of kinship and neighborliness by following the advice of the Messenger of Allah (saw): **“O people! Spread greetings of peace among yourselves, feed others, maintain your ties of kinship, and perform prayer while people are asleep, and you will enter Paradise in peace.”**<sup>2</sup>

#### Esteemed Muslims!

Eids are days when, as a community, we strive to relieve the difficulties of those in need, to soothe the wounds of those in distress, and provide remedy for the troubles of our brothers and sisters who live under

oppression—hoping to attain the glad tidings of our Noble Prophet (saw): **“Whoever fulfills the need of his brother, Allah the Almighty will fulfill his need.”**<sup>3</sup>

Eids are also days when we visit the graves of our noble martyrs who sacrificed their lives for sacred values, our heroic veterans who have passed on to the Hereafter, and our forebears who made it possible for us to reach these days, and when we offer prayers for them.

#### Honorable Believers!

The example of Prophet Muhammad (saw), who said to a child left orphaned after the Battle of Uhud, **“Would you not like me to be your father and Aisha to be your mother?”**<sup>4</sup> determines how we should treat orphans. Today, by adopting the character of our Noble Prophet (saw), let us extend our care and protection to orphans and share in their joy of Eid. With the youth and the elderly, the sick and the healthy, together with orphans and all children, let us make this Eid al-Fitr a true festival for one another.

#### Noble Muslims!

Masjid al-Aqsa has been closed for days. The oppressors disregard the sanctity and inviolability of Masjid al-Aqsa, which is our sacred sanctuary. However, it must not be forgotten that places of worship must never be violated; their dignity must not be harmed, nor may the performance of worship within them be prohibited. Therefore, Masjid al-Aqsa must be opened immediately. Muslims must be able to perform their acts of worship freely in their own mosques. Concerning this matter, the warning of Allah the Almighty is perfectly clear: **“Who does more wrong than those who prevent Allah’s Name from being mentioned in His places of worship and strive to destroy them?”**<sup>5</sup>

With the hope that oppressed lands—foremost among them Masjid al-Aqsa—those who groan under oppression, and all people who have been left without a homeland may reach better days, we extend our congratulations on the occasion of Eid al-Fitr.

We conclude our khutbah with the following noble verse of Allah the Almighty: **“Worship Allah ‘alone’ and associate none with Him. And be kind to parents, relatives, orphans, the poor, near and distant neighbors, close friends, ‘needy’ travelers, and those ‘bondspeople’ in your possession. Surely Allah does not like whoever is arrogant, boastful.”**<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Tirmidhi, Birr wa Sila, 24.

<sup>2</sup> Ibn Majah, At’imah, 1.

<sup>3</sup> Muslim, Birr, 58.

<sup>4</sup> Ibn Hajar, Isaba, I, 302.

<sup>5</sup> Baqarah, 2/114.

<sup>6</sup> Nisa, 4/36.

