

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

لَنْ يَتَالَ اللَّهُ لِحُومِهَا وَلَا دِمَائِهَا وَلَكِنْ يَتَالُهُ التَّقْوَى مِنْكُمْ...

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

مَا عَمِلَ آدَمِيُّ مِنْ عَمَلٍ يَوْمَ النَّحْرِ أَحَبَّ إِلَى اللَّهِ مِنْ إِهْرَاقِ

الدَّمِ...

QURBANI: DESIRE TO ATTAIN PIETY

Honorable Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, our Lord Almighty (swt) states, **“Their meat will not reach Allah, nor will their blood, but what reaches Him is piety from you...”**¹

In the hadith I have read, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) says, **“The son of Adam does not do any deed on the Day of Sacrifice that is dearer to Allah than sacrificing an animal for Him.”**²

Dear Believers!

The shadow of the month of Dhu al-Hijjah is upon us. The month of Dhu al-Hijjah is an exceptional month that includes the hajj season and ‘Eid al-Adha days in it. For today’s khutbah, let us talk about the worship of qurbani that is as old as humanity. Let us remember the points that we should pay attention to in the performance of this worship.

Dear Muslims!

Qurbani means divine closeness, the effort of servants to get closer to Allah, the desire to achieve piety, and to strive to be the recipient of divine grace.

Qurbani is about being loyal and putting Allah the Almighty’s (swt) consent above everyone and everything else.

Qurbani means submission, and shows that a believer is willing to give up on their wealth and life lovingly for Allah (swt).

Qurbani implies being grateful and understanding the worth of the countless blessings our Lord (swt) has bestowed upon us. It entails avoiding succumbing to one’s cravings and lusts, greed and avarice, and eliminating any impediments between Allah (swt) and us.

Dear Believers!

Qurbani worship, like any other, is subject to specific conditions and requirements. Muslims who are sane, has reached the age of puberty, and are regarded wealthy by the religious measures take our Prophet (saw) as an example and perform the worship of qurbani. According to Islam, the sacrificial animal must be from the ovine or bovine family. It is critical for both the worship and our health that the animal to be sacrificed be healthy, with all of its organs intact, and well fed. The animal to be sacrificed must be of a certain age, as indicated in our Prophet’s (saw) sunnah. It is a religious and moral responsibility for the seller to observe these criteria carefully and for the buyer to do the necessary research. Furthermore, female animals should not be chosen in order to secure the continuance of the animal population.

Dear Muslims!

The worship of qurbani is performed by slaughtering a sacrificial animal on specified days with the intention of sacrificing it. This worship of qurbani is not performed by donating the cost of it without a sacrificial animal being slaughtered. One should avoid such practices.

Qurbani is, above all, a form of worship, not meat trading. Therefore, practices such as limiting the worship of qurbani, so to speak, to the sale of a certain kilogram of meat are contrary to the intent and spirit of this worship. Each sacrificial animal and its shareholders must be definitely specified before the slaughtering. It is absolutely not permissible to blend the qurbani meat so that the amount of meat reaches a previous commitment.

Dear Believers!

Qurbani is also about fostering the sense of brotherhood and promoting the spirit of helping one another and solidarity. It is about building heart bridges among believers, and acting as a beacon of hope for people in need in our country as well as all those oppressed and victimized across the globe. What remains for us from the animals we sacrifice is not what we eat and consume, but what we give away. In this respect, when our Prophet (saw) once asked if there was anything left from the animal he sacrificed, our mother ‘A’isha (ra) replied, “Nothing, except the shoulder.” Thereupon, the Messenger of Allah (saw) said, **بَقِيَ كُلُّهَا غَيْرَ**

كِنْفِهَا “All of it is left except its shoulder.”³

Dear Muslims!

The best way to perform the worship of qurbani is to experience the sense of worship fully by participating directly in each stage of the procedure, such as purchasing the sacrificial animal, slaughtering it, and distributing its meat. In addition, it may be performed via the intermediary of reliable individuals or institutions, namely by proxy. The Türkiye Diyanet Foundation will be once again at the service of our great country for individuals who want to perform the qurbani worship by proxy, as it does each year, much like several other foundations and NGOs. With the motto “Share Your Qurbani, Get Closer to Your Brothers and Sisters”, we will not only distribute portions of meat from the qurbani to those in need all over the world, but we will also share our state’s helpfulness and our wonderful nation’s charity with them. Each sacrificial animal you entrust to us will be slaughtered in a clear and transparent manner according to Islamic procedures, and distributed in your name to the oppressed, victimized, and those in need. This way, our sense of brotherhood will get stronger, and the joy and happiness of the ‘eid will reach the saddened hearts insha Allah. I would like to take this opportunity to invite you, our dear congregation, to join this caravan of charity through applying to our religious officials, provincial and district mufti offices, or online at the website of our Foundation. May Allah (swt) allow us to reach the ‘Eid in good health, peace, and happiness.

¹ Hajj, 22/37.

² Tirmidhi, Adahi, 1.

³ Tirmidhi, Sifat al-Qiyamah, 33.