يَسْ لِللَّهُ الْمُوْالَيْتِيَبَ إِنَّ اللَّهِينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ ... وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: مَنْ رَضِيَ بِاللَّهِ رَبَّا وَبِالْإِسْلاَمِ دِينًا وَبِمُحَمَّدٍ نَبِيًّا وَجَمَتْ لَهُ الْجَنَّةُ.

ISLAM:

THE ONLY RELIGION IN THE SIGHT OF ALLAH

Honorable Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, Allah the Almighty (swt) states, "Indeed, the religion in the sight of Allah is Islam."¹

In the hadith I have read, the Messenger of Allah (saw) says, **"Whoever cheerfully accepts Allah as his Lord, Islam as his religion and Muhammad as his Messenger is necessarily entitled to enter Paradise."**²

Dear Believers!

Islam is the way of life the Last Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (saw) communicated to all humanity. It is the final and perfectly complete version of the revelations which have been delivered to humans starting with the Prophet Adam.

Islam is a holy invitation to guide humans to Allah's (swt) blessings in this world and in the Hereafter. It is a truly straight path leading to peace and salvation. It is the only true religion valid until the Last Day, which every soul wants and every human being with common sense seeks.

Dear Believers!

Islam offers convincing answers to people who want to make sense of the purpose of life and the wisdom underlying the creation. Islam makes life meaningful. It always calls people to what is good and benevolent. It commands the protection of life, property, mind, religion, and lineage. It gives strength to overburdened hearts and endurance to suffocating souls. It guides people in establishing a healthy communication with their own selves, their Lord (swt), other people, and all living beings. It teaches people the ways to build a livable world by using their hearts and minds.

Dear Muslims!

The spirit of Islam, which is sent to all humanity, is all about tawhid, sincerity, and the true path. Right, the spirit of our sublime religion entails believing in the oneness of Allah wholeheartedly and not attributing any partners to Him (swt). It entails not being servant of anybody but Him (swt) and worshiping only Him (swt). It is about following the path of righteousness in all affairs and in every state. In this regard, when a Companion said to our beloved Prophet, "Tell me of a word in Islam I will not need to ask of anyone after you.", he (saw) said, آمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ قُلْ

نَعْمَ اسْتَقِمْ "Say, 'I have faith in Allah,' and

then remain steadfast."3

Dear Muslims!

Our sublime religion of Islam is the religion of good morals. It is the religion of the right, the truth, the innate nature, and the life. It is the religion of justice, mercy, affection, and compassion. It is the religion of welfare, peace, tranquility and reliability. It is the religion of knowledge, wisdom, moderation, and easiness.

Today, what falls upon us is to be cognizant that Islam is a unique blessing. We should always be thankful to our Lord Almighty (swt) for creating us as Muslims. We should reflect the high values and delicacies of Islam on our lives. We should not stray from the truly straight path of Islam and strive to live our life in the direction of Islam.

It should not be forgotten that Islam and its life-giving teachings are the sources of all humanity's peace and renewal. It should also be remembered, "If anyone desires a religion other than Islam, never will it be accepted of him; and in the Hereafter, he will be in the ranks of those who have lost (all spiritual good)."⁴

¹ Al-i 'Imran, 3/19.

² Muslim, Imarah, 116.

³ Ibn Hanbal, III, 413.

⁴ Al-i 'Imran, 3/85.