

Eid al-Adha 1438 Hijriah (2017 A.D)

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ

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وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ
تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ أَوْصِيكُمْ وَرِيَايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us all increase our obedience towards Allah the Almighty by doing everything that He prescribes and avoiding all that He prohibits. Hopefully we will receive His forgiveness in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, all Muslims come together to express gratitude and obedience to Allah the Almighty. Starting today, for the next 3 days, Muslims are strongly encouraged to recite *takbir* (Allah is the greatest), *tahlil* (there is no God but Allah), *tasbih* (glory be to Allah), and *tahmid*

(all praises be to Allah) to exalt Allah the Almighty. With enthusiasm, the following Arabic version of *Eid-al-Adha takbir* is loudly chanted.

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

Understanding the interpretation of *takbir* helps a believer to really feel the greatness of Allah the Almighty which assists him in removing his arrogance and narcissism. Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam Muslim:

وَلَا يَدْخُلُ الْجَنَّةَ أَحَدٌ فِي قَلْبِهِ مِثْقَالُ حَبَّةٍ خَرَدَلٍ مِنْ كِبْرِيَاءٍ

Which means: “No one who has the weight of a seed of arrogance in his heart will enter Paradise.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Indeed, the celebration of *Eid-al-Adha* is a reminder for all of us regarding the story of the sacrifice made by the family of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham). This story is so noble that it is recorded in our five daily prayers. Prophet Ibrahim’s family is a role model for believers because they chose to abide by all Allah’s commands regardless of circumstances, to prove that Islam is the truth. Allah the Almighty mentioned in the Quran in Chapter 2 (Surah al-Baqarah), verses (ayats) 130 to 131:

وَمَنْ يَرْغَبْ عَنْ مِلَّةِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ إِلَّا مَنْ سَفِهَ نَفْسَهُ، وَلَقَدِ اصْطَفَيْنَاهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا وَإِنَّهُ فِي الْآخِرَةِ لَمِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١٣٠﴾

إِذْ قَالَ لَهُ رَبُّهُ أَسْلِمْ قَالَ

أَسْلَمْتُ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٣١﴾

Which means: *And who would be averse to the religion of Abraham except one who makes a fool of himself. And We had chosen him in this world, and indeed he, in the Hereafter, will be among the righteous. When his Lord said to him, "Submit", he said "I have submitted [in Islam] to the Lord of the worlds."*

While millions of Muslims are gathering in Mecca to complete the pilgrimage, we are encouraged to carry out the ritual sacrifice of animals (*qurban*). Both acts of pilgrimage and animal sacrifice connect us with the story of the sacrifice that was made by the family of Prophet Ibrahim who obeyed Allah's command without hesitation. The story began with the sacrifice of Prophet Ibrahim's wife Siti Hajar (Hagar) who was left in the middle of the desert place with her baby son Ismail (Ishmael) who was still nursing. The place was later developed into the thriving city of Mecca, the center for Muslims. In addition to that, they were also subjected to Allah's command to slaughter their beloved son Ismail. This is the perfect model of a righteous family which obeyed Allah's command without hesitation as recorded in the Quran in Chapter 37 (Surah al-Soffat), verses (*ayats*) 102 to 105:

فَلَمَّا بَلَغَ مَعَهُ السَّعْيَ قَالَ يَبْنَئِي إِنِّي أَرَى فِي الْمَنَامِ أَنِّي أَذْبَحُكَ فَانظُرْ مَاذَا
تَرَى ۚ قَالَ يَتَأْتٍ أَفْعَلُ مَا تُؤْمَرُ سَتَجِدُنِي إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ مِنَ الصَّابِرِينَ ۝۱۰۲ فَلَمَّا
أَسْلَمَا وَتَلَّهُ لِلْجَبِينِ ۝۱۰۳ وَنَدَيْنَاهُ أَنِ يَا بَرَهَيْمُ ۝۱۰۴ قَدْ صَدَّقَت الرُّؤْيَا إِنَّا كَذَلِكَ
نَجْزِي الْمُحْسِنِينَ ۝۱۰۵

And when he reached with him [the age of] exertion, he said, "O my son, indeed I have seen in a dream that I [must] sacrifice you, so see what you think." He said, "O my father, do as you are commanded. You will find me, if Allah wills, of the steadfast." And when they had both submitted and he put him down upon his forehead, We called to him, "O Abraham, You have fulfilled the vision." Indeed, We thus reward the doers of good.

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In conjunction with the celebration of *Eid al Adha*, let us reflect on the extent we have sacrificed for our religion. How much have we done for our religion as compared to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) who had even shed his blood for the sake Islam? How much money have we donated as compared to Abu Bakar (one of the great companions of the Prophet) who handed over all his wealth for the success of the religion? How much of our children's and family's interests have we sacrificed for the benefit of Islam as compared to the sacrifices made by Prophet Ibrahim, his wife Siti Hajar and his son Prophet Ismail?

Muslims today stress their logical reasoning more than following the command of Allah the Almighty. For example, they put emphasis more on their political victory than the unity of Muslims. It is time that we sacrifice our own political interests and instead, we must think of the future of Muslims, especially the Malays, who need unity in order to save this country from the hands of others. Let us not conspire and support any party who tries to eradicate the teachings of Islam and the political power of the Malays. As a result, Muslims are being ridiculed and our religion is humiliated. Examples include a request that illegitimate children be legitimized by being given the name of the man who had unlawful intercourse with their mother, Malay language is marginalized, *jawi* text is abolished, the Malay customs are denounced, and the sovereignty of the royal institution is degraded.

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To end today's *Eid al Adha khutbah* (sermon) let us call upon Muslims to come forward with opportunities to sincerely sacrifice for the sake of our beloved religion. Allah reminds us to be obedient to Him as He mentioned in the Quran in Chapter 33 (Surah al-Ahzab), verse (*ayat*) 71:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا ﴿٧١﴾

Which means: *He that obeys Allah and His Messenger, has already attained the highest achievement.*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ. وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ.

وَتَقَبَّلَ اللَّهُ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُوكَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمَ لِي

وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوكَ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ

الرَّحِيمُ