

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF FARMERS**  
**15 ZULHIJAH 1443H/15 JULY 2022M**

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ  
سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.  
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ  
وَرَسُولُهُ.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. May we receive forgiveness by Him in this life and the hereafter.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

One of the noble fields of occupation is the field of animal husbandry/livestock breeding. It is the earliest human occupation since the time of the Prophet Adam Alaihi Salam.

Livestock breeding is also a noble field of work engaged in by all the Prophets and Messengers. Imam Al-Bukhari narrated a hadith from Abu Hurairah that the Prophet (pbuh) said:

“ مَا بَعَثَ اللَّهُ نَبِيًّا إِلَّا رَعَى الْغَنَمَ، فَقَالَ أَصْحَابُهُ: وَأَنْتَ؟ فَقَالَ:

نَعَمْ، كُنْتُ أَرْعَاهَا عَلَى قَرَارِيطَ لِأَهْلِ مَكَّةَ “ .

**Which means:** *“Allah did not send any prophet but shepherded sheep. His companions asked him, “Did you do the same?” The Prophet replied, Yes, I used to shepherd the sheep of the people of Mecca for some Qirats.*

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Livestock breeding is a respected occupation; whether it involves keeping large animals such as cows, buffaloes and goats or small animals such as chickens, ducks, rabbits and so on.

Among the advantages of raising animals is that it makes it easier for the public to obtain food supplies consisting of meat, milk, eggs and others sourced from livestock; to provide income opportunities and to guarantee the country's food needs.

However, farmers need to be reminded that this field of breeding requires them to be responsible in taking care of and controlling the animals well so that the animals do not bother others.

Let it not be that the animals wander to other peoples' homes, eat peoples' crops, destroy various equipment and throw faeces everywhere because we do not provide proper cages or coop.

It is even more upsetting when the pile of faeces happens to be in the front yard of a neighbor's house, the yard of a mosque, on the road and so on.

Livestock farmers should be blamed for letting their livestock roam without proper control especially on roads causing fatal accidents. Every livestock farmer needs to take care for the safety of others. Their negligence can cause harm to the public. The offense for letting an animal roam unsupervised can be prosecuted under the law.

The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Ibn Majah which is a great guideline in the science of islamic jurisprudence (*fekah*):

“ لَا ضَرَرَ وَلَا ضِرَارَ ”

**“Which means:** *“must not harm oneself and must not harm others.”*

Don't we feel guilty when road accidents caused by our stray animals happens, leading to deaths, children losing their parents and become orphans? It all stems from the negligence of the farmers.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 6 (surah Al-An'am) verse 142:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمِنَ الْأَنْعَامِ حَمُولَةٌ وَفَرَشَاتٌ كُلُوا مِمَّا رَزَقَكُمُ اللَّهُ وَلَا  
تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُّبِينٌ ﴿١٤٢﴾

**Which means:** “Of the cattle there are some for carrying burdens and some for food. Eat what Allah has provided for you, and do not follow in Satan’s footsteps; for he is a declared enemy of yours.”

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ  
الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ  
الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ  
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ  
الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.