

# EID QURBAN: LOVE, SACRIFICE AND PIETY

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## I. INTRODUCTION

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ . نَحْمَدُهُ وَ نَسْتَعِينُهُ وَ نَسْتَغْفِرُهُ . وَ نَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا  
وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا . مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ .  
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى  
سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ كَمَا صَلَّيْتَ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ وَعَلَى آلِ  
سَيِّدِنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ فِي الْعَالَمِينَ إِنَّكَ حَمِيدٌ مَجِيدٌ أَمَّا بَعْدُ

فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ . اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ , اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ  
مُسْلِمُونَ . أعوذ بالله من الشيطان الرجيم , بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم,

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَى وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ  
أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

SAHIH INTERNATIONAL

O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted.

Al-Hujurat (49):13.

Sodaqullahul azim

## II. MAIN KHOTBAH

*Maasiral Muslimin, Jamaah Jumah Rahimakumullah,*

*Dear Brothers and sisters,*

In the next few days, we will celebrate one of our holy days, which is Eid Qurban. This special day is based on a story of Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) AS and his lovely Son-Ismail AS.

Why is this story very important for moslems? The answer is because it has a strong, powerful and deep messages of love, sacrifice and piety (*taqwa*): three values that we have to have in our life.

Qur'an recorded the Ibrahim and his son story in Surah ASH-SHAFFAT (37): 100-111, particularly in ayah 102 which says:

فَلَمَّا بَلَغَ مَعَهُ السَّعْيَ قَالَ يَبْنَئِي إِنِّي أَرَىٰ فِي الْمَنَامِ أَنِّي أَذْبَحُكَ فَانظُرْ مَاذَا تَرَىٰ ۗ قَالَ يَا بَتِ أِفْعَلْ مَا تُؤْمَرُ ۖ سَتَجِدُنِي إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ مِنَ الصَّابِرِينَ

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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."

This ayah clearly shows that how Ibrahim AS asked his son about his dream that he must sacrifice him. Prophet Ibrahim, as a father, indeed loves his son wholeheartedly. Furthermore, Prophet Ibrahim had waited for ages until he was quiet old to get a son. His first marriage with Sarah, initially had no baby. Then, Sarah asked Ibrahim to marry Hajar-his second wife. And then, from this second marriage, they were granted a son-Ismail AS and not long after Ismail was born, Ibrahim had his second son-Ishaq from his first wife-Sarah.

In surah ASH-SHAFFAT (37): 100 and 101, Qur'an records how Ibrahim really wanted a descendant. Prophet Ibrahim prayed to Allah with a very famous dua:

رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١٠٠﴾

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My Lord, grant me [a child] from among the righteous."

Then, Allah accepted this wish as recorded in the next ayah:

فَبَشَّرْنَاهُ بِغُلَامٍ حَلِيمٍ ﴿١٠١﴾

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So We gave him good tidings of a forbearing boy.

Hence, it is clear that Ibrahim highly expected a baby, a descendant for a very such a long period.

Therefore, he definitely loved his son very much. You can imagine how deep this love was.

Due to this deep love, then Allah tested Prophet Ibrahim by asking him to sacrifice his son, his lovely little boy which was recorded at Surah ASH-SHAFFAT (37): 102,

فَلَمَّا بَلَغَ مَعَهُ السَّعْيَ قَالَ يَبْنَئِي إِنِّي أَرَىٰ فِي الْمَنَامِ أَنِّي أَذْبَحُكَ فَانظُرْ مَاذَا تَرَىٰ ۗ قَالَ يَا بَتِ أِفْعَلْ مَا تُؤْمَرُ ۖ سَتَجِدُنِي إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ مِنَ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٠٢﴾

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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."

Imagine ourselves if we were in Ibrahim's position: a condition when we had waited something for such a long time, not in days, neither weeks, nor months, yet it took years to get what he wished. What would we do if we were Ibrahim? Would we do the same? Would we obey all Allah's commands without any exception, with full of faith, iman and taqwa, just like what Ibrahim showed us?

Prophet Ibrahim already taught us about the meaning of real piety (what a truly taqwa is): do everything just for Allah; in the name of Allah because we already promise that: no god excepts Allah (*Laa ilaha illallah*); no (*Laa*) ‘small’ gods (*ilah*), except the almighty Allah (*ha illallah*).

Piety or taqwa is the only factor that Allah considers, judges, appraises to all human creatures as what Allah says in Qur’an surah Al-Hujurat (49):13 as I mentioned in the beginning of this khotbah,

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا إِنَّ  
أَكْرَمَكُمْ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَنْفُسُكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ

SAHIH INTERNATIONAL

O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted.

This ayah clearly states that the best and most noble people do not depend on gender, tribes, wealth, social class, ethnicity, nationality, etc., yet what matters is our taqwa. In the context of eid qurban, Allah also emphasises the role of taqwa in our qurban as what Allah says in Qur’an surah Al-Hajj (22): 37:

لَنْ يَنَالَ اللَّهَ لُحُومُهَا وَلَا دِمَاؤُهَا وَلَكِنْ يَنَالُهُ التَّقْوَىٰ مِنْكُمْ

“...Their meat will not reach Allah, nor will their blood, but what reaches Him is **PIETY (TAQWA)** from you...”

So, it is not a matter of how much or what kind of sacrifice that we perform, but what matters is our pure intention, motives or *niah*: whether we do it only for Allah or others. Only God and ourselves know about how pure our niah is.

## **Maasiral Muslimin, Jamaah Jumah Rahimakumullah,**

**Dear Brothers and sisters,**

Qurban comes from words “qarrabaa” and “qurbaanaa” which means “offering” and “sacrifice” in order to approach someone or in other words “qurban” is the way to close/approach to Allah/taqarub illallah, as stated in surah Al-Maidah (5): 27.

In this surah, qurban has actually been existing since Prophet Adam’s era: when his sons (Habil and Qabil) offered sacrifice of an animal for Allah (Al-Ma’idah, 5: 27). In this case, at the end, Allah accepted Habil’s qurban because of his ikhlas and taqwa; while rejected Qabil’s qurban because of his greed, self-egoistic and transgression (Al-Ma’idah, 5: 27).

Taqarub illallah (approaching to Allah) is a lifetime process that we all must do in our life. We should try our best to know, love, remind and obey Allah every day, every hour, every minute, even every second. We should improve our taqwa in any occasions.

Without taqwa, our worships, including qurban, would be useless and rejected as what we have learn from Qabil’s experience as explained in surah Al-Ma’idah (5): 27.

both offered

﴿ وَأَتْلُ عَلَيْهِمْ نَبَأَ ابْنَيْ آدَمَ بِالْحَقِّ إِذْ قَرَّبَا قُرْبَانًا فَتُقْبِلَ مِنْ أَحَدِهِمَا وَلَمْ يُتَقَبَّلْ مِنَ الْآخَرِ قَالَ لَأَقْتُلَنَّكَ ۗ قَالَ إِنَّمَا يَتَقَبَّلُ اللَّهُ مِنَ الْمُتَّقِينَ ﴿٢٧﴾

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And recite to them the story of Adam's two sons, in truth, when they both offered a sacrifice [to Allah ], and it was accepted from one of them but was not accepted from the other. Said [the latter], "I will surely kill you." Said [the former], "Indeed, Allah only accepts from the righteous [who fear Him].

In this surah, Qur’an explains another story of qurban which is a story from Prophet Adam’s sons: Habil and Qabil. Both Habil and Qabil did qurban to Allah; however Allah only accepted Habil’s qurban because of his ikhlas (pure heart) and taqwa (Piety), while at the same time Allah rejected Qabil’s qurban because of his greed, self-egoistic and transgression. The moral message is very

strong: only the righteous people with a pure heart and high level of taqwa (muttaqien) will get Allah's bless. These are the basic requirements if we wish Allah accepting our worships.

***Maasiral Muslimin, Jamaah Jumah Rahimakumullah,***

***Dear Brothers and sisters,***

Previously we already discussed about two great and insightful qurban stories:

- (i) A story of Prophet Ibrahim AS and his son.
- (ii) A story of Prophet Adam AS and his two sons, Habil and Qabil.

These two narrations deliver very powerful moral stories:

- (i) The virtue of sincere sacrifice
- (ii) And the immorality and consequences of greed, self-egoistic and transgression.

The first point we can learn from the way how Ibrahim AS and his son, as well as Habil, did qurban to Allah. In contrast, the second lesson about the immorality of greed, self-egoistic and transgression with all its consequences, we can learn from Qabil's story. In the case of Qabil, he disobeyd Allah's command because of his self-egoistic and greed. In this occasion, I would not explain in details the story of Habil and Qabil. So, if you are interested more about this story which is an excellent example of what good and bad qurban are, you can find or recall it after Jum'ah.

***Maasiral Muslimin, Jamaah Jumah Rahimakumullah,***

***Dear Brothers and sisters,***

Next, the question is what can we sacrifice to Allah? The answer is ANYTHING. Yes, ANYTHING. As long as we have something, it means that we can give, donate or sacrifice it to other people, in particular to the needy and less fortunate people.

- If you think that you rich enough or have enough money, please donate it to the less fortunate people.
- If you have spare time, please allocate some of this opportunity to serve our society.
- If you are fit and well, please help other people that need your assistance.
- And if you have knowledge, please share and teach it to others, as what Prophet Muhammad teaches us, as written in Shahih Bukhari:

**“Convey from me, even it is a verse”**

In short, no reasons that we can't do and give something to our society.

- If we don't have enough money, we may have still health and time.
- If we don't have time or we thought that we are too busy to participate, we may have knowledge to share to someone.
- If we feel that we don't have any resources or power, we have still dua. Pray to Allah and send dua to our brothers and sisters.

Because there are many ways to Rome, as long as we try and believe; Man Jadda, waa Jadda; there is a will, there is a way. If we have willingness to help others, Allah will show and lead the way. Insya Allah.

May Allah bless us and accept our prayer: Rabbana wa taqabbal du'a.

### **III. BREAK AND CONCLUSION**

***Maasiral Muslimin, Jamaah Jumah Rahimakumullah,***

***Dear Brothers and sisters,***

Previously, we already learnt two great qurban stories from Prophet Adam and Ibrahim AS. These stories deliver two key messages:

- (i) The virtue of sincere sacrifice;

(ii) and the immorality and consequences of greed, self-egoistic and transgression.

Only in a few days, we will celebrate eid qurban: a very special day for all moslems in the world. We celebrate the power of love, sacrifice and taqwa to Allah. We definitely need these values in our daily life. We should have, adopt and implement the spirit of qurban which are: to strive and fight our greed and self-egoistic by giving, donating and sacrificing what we have to other people, in particular the needy and less fortunate people.

- May Allah accepts all our qurban and good deeds, forgive our sins and bless our family and society.
- May Allah grant us a power to contribute something to our neighbourhoods.
- May Allah forgive our parent and all family members

*rabbighfirli waliwalidayya warhamhuma kama rabbaya nishaghiran*

- May Allah lay not on us a burden greater than what we have strength to bear, blot our sins, grant us forgiveness and have mercy on us.

*Rabbana wala tuhammilna ma la taqata lana bihi; wa'fu anna' waghfir lana' wairhamna; anta mawlana; fansurna 'alal-qawmil kafireen.*

- May Allah grant us a wife, a husband, and children who will be the comfort of our eyes and give us the grace to lead the righteous

*Rabbana Hablana min azwaajina wadhurriy-yatina, qurrata 'ayioni wa-jalna lil-muttaqeena Imaama*

*Rabbi habli minasshalihin*

- *Allahumma inna nas-aluka salamatan fiddinii; wa'afiatan filjasadi; waziyadatan fil'ilmi; wabarokatan firrizki; wataubatan qablalmauti; warahmatan 'indalmauti; wamagfiratan ba'dal mauti;*
- *allahumma hawwin 'alaina fisakaraatil mauti; wanajaatan minannaari; wal afwa indal hisaabi*
- *Rabbana wa taqabbal Du'a*

- *Rabbana atina fiddunya hasanah; wa fil akhiroti hasanah; waqina 'adzabannar*
- *Subhana rabbika rabbil 'izzati amma yasifun; wa salamun alal mursalin; wal hamdulillahi rabbil 'alamin*
- *Aqimu sholat*

Durham. Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016.