

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allah the Beneficent, the Merciful

# The Essence of Eid-ul Adh-ha

&

# The Reality of Sacrifice

Delivered by

**Imam Abdul Quddoos Azhari**

at

**Australian International Islamic College**

**Brisbane**

**Saturday, 2 September 2017**

## بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين

*“Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, la illaha illallahu Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar wa lillahil hamd.”*

My Dear Brothers and Sisters and my Dear Children

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu

On this happy and auspicious occasion of Eidul Adha, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Eid Mubarak.

May Allah bless you and the Ummah and the entire humanity with his infinite mercy with Rahmat and Barakat of this Eid.

Eid Mubarak, Wa kullah aamin wa antum bi khair.

Today, the Eidul Adha day, the day of unquestioning offering by our beloved Prophet Ibrahim Alayhis Salaam of his only son, to prove his obedience to Allah, to prove his faith in Allah, to prove his love for Allah. A day where Ismael Alayhis Salaam also proved his obedience to faith and love for Allah and his respect for his father, still calling him in the affectionate term ya abatee.

His elderly father is telling him that he saw a vision that he would slaughter him in sacrifice to Allah. The young child says, “Ya abatee, as if to say my dear beloved father, do as you are commanded by Allah, you will find me, with the will of Allah patient and persevering.” *(Al Quran 37:102, 103)*

It was the greatest test, that two prophets, the one who was thrown into the fire for his faith and then compelled to leave his home, his town and his country when the fire did not burn him, and the Prophets son who was abandoned as a baby in the baron wilderness and both of them didn't waiver, they remained firm in their faith in Allah (SWT)

Allah says in the Holy Quran, "When his Lord said to him submit, he said, I have submitted myself to the Lord of the Universe." (*Al Quran 2:131*)

Ibrahim Alayhis Salaam, showed that his love for Allah superseded all others that he would lay down his own life or the life of those dearest to him in submission to Allah's command. We commemorate this ultimate act of sacrifice during Eidul Adha Al Mubarak.

Ibrahim's willingness to sacrifice his most beloved possession, that is his son Ismael and in turn Ismael's willingness to be sacrificed are considered to be ultimate acts of obedience to the commandments of Allah.

Allah says in Al Quran, "Every nation we appoint rights of sacrifice that they mention the name of Allah over the beast of cattle that he had given them for food, and your Lord is one Allah and unto him submit and give good tidings to the humble (*Al Quran 22:34*)

Allah says in the Quran, "It is not the flesh or blood that reaches Allah, but it is the willingness and the piety from you that reaches Him."(*Al Quran 22:37*)

The act of sacrifice therefore, symbolises the willingness to give up things that are of benefit to us or close to our hearts in order to follow Allah's commandments. It also represents our willingness to give up some of our own possessions, in order to strengthen ties of friendship and help those who are in need.

The celebration of Eidul Qurbani and the commemoration of Sayyiddina Ibrahim and Ismael Alayhi massalaam, demonstrate self-denial, humbleness of the heart, patience and submission to the will of Allah.

*Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, la illaha illallahu Allahu Akbar Allahu Akbar wa lillahil hamd.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Nabi Muhammed (SAW) warns us, "Whoever can afford to sacrifice but does not do so should not come to our praying places." It is therefore, whoever can afford must experience the act of Qurbani and sacrifice.

Qurbani is wajeib on all Muslims who are sane, baliqh and are the possessors of minimum zakatable wealth (Nisab), which is in excess of a person's needs. For Qurbani, it is not necessary that the ownership of such wealth be for a full year.

Qurbani is Wajeib on self only, it is a man's duty to see his wives and grown up children are made. Poor persons are not obliged to make Qurbani.

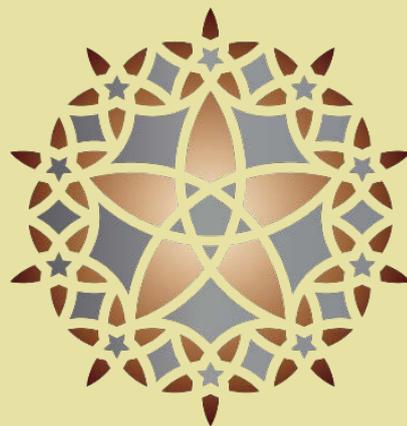
Remember, as we have seen that Uduhiya or Qurbani is just a symbolic gesture. The real lesson from this is indeed our readiness to sacrifice our ego, self-interest, whims and fantasies, our own desires or corrupt behaviour in justice and unfair treatment of others, friends or foes.

Uduhiya means:

- Our commitment to sacrifice our talent, skills and abilities for the sake of Allah's Deen
- Our commitment to sacrifice our energy, our intellectual capacity for the cause of Allah.
- Our commitment to sacrifice even our life if necessary to please Allah SWT

*Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, la illaha illallahu Allahu*

*Akbar Allahu Akbar wa lillahil hamd.*



Dear Brothers and Sisters, life is one difficult test after another. Life can bring betrayal from those closest to you, or you might yourself fall down and betray those closest to you, through a miss understanding through the machinations of the Shaitan. But you pick yourself up.

You try to fix what you had done wrong, you turn to Allah in repentance

- You will be tested in your faith
- you will be tested in your loyalties
- you will be tested in you wealth
- You will be tested in your heath and
- You will be tested in your wife and children

Nabi Mohammed (SAW) taught us to say, “Allahumma Arjirni fi museebati wakh lufli khairun min ha.” Meaning “Oh Allah reward me in my affliction and leave me in a better state after it.”

While we are commemorating Eid Ul Adha Ul Mubarak, we remember the 2 million Hajees, who have responded to the call of Sayyidina Ibrahim. As Allah says in the Holy Quran,

“And proclaim among the men, the Haj, they will come to you on foot, on every camel and they will come to you from every deep mountain pass” (*Al Quran 22:37*)

Today all Hajees are in Mina proclaiming the talbiyyah, “Labayk Alahumma Labayk.” “Here I am Oh Allah, Here I am Oh Allah, there’s no partner with you, Here I am. Verily all praise, favours, dominion belong to you, there is no partner.”

With the spirit of total sacrifice, personal comfort, appearance, pride of national origin or status all responded to the call of Ibrahim Alayhi Salam, united with the dress performing the same Amal.

The most important needs of the hour is the unity of the Ummah. The history of the Ummah is the burning example of the nation that proved its spiritual and material superiority by its unity, but is stagnated when that unity was lost.

The hearts of the Muslim Ummah today are bleeding all over the world for this lost unity.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, let us look at our condition,

- What is our relationship with our children?
- Have we done enough to teach them and to help them to love and connect with Allah?
- What is our relationship with our country of origin?
- Are we doing enough to help those less fortunate than we are?
- What is our relationship with our Muslim Brothers and Sisters who are suffering in this world, what are we doing for them?

I look at the plight at our Rohingya Brothers and Sisters, the suffering they are enduring at the hands of Buddhist monks and army in Burma. They are the most persecuted minority on earth. What are we doing to help them?

I look at the plight of our Brothers and Sisters in Somalia, Congo, Philippine, Central Africa, Ethiopia, China, Kashmir.

The poet Mahmoud Gunaim said:

“Where ever you look at Muslim nations you will find them like a bird who’s wings are cut. How we have become the property of a people, who use to be like our property.

I look at our Brothers and Sisters in Palestine, occupied, persecuted, facing arbitrary arrest and imprisonment, their homes being demolished, they are tortured and killed. What are we doing for them?

I look at our Brothers and Sisters in Syria, Iraq and Libya and their horrific plights and the current situation of the Ummah.

I remember the Hadeeth of Wa Mal Wahan? “Hubbud dunya wakahiyatul Mouth”

Please remember the Hadeeth of Rasul (SAW) “The example of a Momin to another Momin in regard to their love, affection and kindness for each other is just like a single body. When a part of the body suffers the whole body feels the pain.

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Let us pledge today the Eidul Adha day, The Eidul Akbar day to inculcate good values and to develop strength of character within ourselves, our young people and in our community in order to bring about peace and harmony in our society, our nation Australia and our global village.

Oh Allah, we pray that you ease the suffering of our Brothers and Sisters everywhere in the world. We ask you give humanity love and respect for each other.

That was the message of Eidul Adha, The sacrifice of Ibrahim and Ismael Alayhi Masalaam.

Someone rightly said “Ho Agar Aaj bhi Ibrahim Ka Imaan Paida, Aag Karsakthi hai, Andaze Gulistan Paida.” If the Imaan of Ibrahim existed in us today, the fire will be transformed into a fragrant garden for us today.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Eid Mubarak, 2017

Asalaamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu

