

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ ، نَحْمَدُهُ وَ نَسْتَعِينُهُ وَ نَسْتَغْفِرُهُ ، وَ نَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ
شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَ مِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللّٰهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ
لَهُ، وَ مَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ. وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَحْدَهُ
لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.

All Praise be to الله .

We praise him and ask him for help and forgiveness. We ask him for protection from the evilness within ourselves and from our own bad deeds. Whom-so-ever God guides to the truth no one can lead astray, and whom-so-ever He leaves misguided, no one has the power to guide.

I testify that there is no God but الله to whom there is no partner and I testify that Muhammad ﷺ is his servant and messenger

وَإِذَا سَأَلَكَ عِبَادِي عَنِّي فَإِنِّي قَرِيبٌ أُجِيبُ دَعْوَةَ الدَّاعِ إِذَا دَعَانِ
فَلْيَسْتَجِيبُوا لِي وَلْيُؤْمِنُوا بِي لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْشُدُونَ ﴿١٨٦﴾

“And when my servants ask you of Me, surely I am very near. I answer the prayers of the one who calls on me. So let them answer My call, and let them believe in Me that they may achieve guidance” (S2, A186)

Brothers and sisters: ASA and Eid Mubarak.

اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ وَلِلَّهِ الْحَمْدُ

God is the greatest. God is the greatest. God is the greatest. There is no god worthy of worship except Allah. God is the greatest. God is the greatest. To Allah belongs all praise.

This is what Allah revealed to the Prophet^(SAAWS) in these blessed days:

الْيَوْمَ يَيْسَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ دِينِكُمْ فَلَا تَخْشَوْهُمْ وَاخْشَوْنِ الْيَوْمَ
أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتَمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيْتُ لَكُمْ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا

"This day, those who disbelieve are in despair of your religion; so do not fear them, but fear Me! This day I have perfected your religion for you and completed My favour unto you, and have chosen for you Islam as the religion" (S5, A3)

Allah^(SWT) reassures us that we have nothing to fear except Allah. Allah^(SWT) reassures us that Islam has been perfected for people and has been decreed until the day of judgement.

We praise Allah for the blessing of Islam. We praise Allah for the blessing of Iman. We praise Allah for the blessing of the Quran.

Brothers and sisters, this is the day of Eid. This is the tenth day of Zil-Hijja. We are still in those ten blessed days. It is a day of celebration. We share with our brothers and sisters in Makkah this day of rejoice. In this day, we have been permitted to sacrifice and give to the needy. In this day, we have been permitted to rejoice and to enjoy. In Islam we have two days of Eid established to commemorate two of the strenuous pillars of Islam, fasting and Hajj. Brothers and sisters, as we celebrate today, let us remember what we are celebrating.

Do not celebrate the obedience to Allah by being disobedient. In these days we are reminded to keep a strong remembrance of Allah:

فَإِذَا قَضَيْتُمْ مَنَسِكَكُمْ
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ كَذِكْرِكُمْ آبَاءَكُمْ أَوْ أَشَدَّ ذِكْرًا

"And when you have completed your holy rites, remember Allah as you would remember your fathers or even with a stronger remembrance" (S2, A200)

For yesterday, today, and the three days of “Tashreeq”, we need to do “takbeer” after each obligatory prayer, finishing on Monday Asser prayers, saying:

الله أكبر الله أكبر لا إله إلا الله الله أكبر الله أكبر ولله الحمد

Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest. There is no god worthy of worship except Allah. Allah is the greatest. Allah is the greatest. And to Allah belongs all praise.

Brothers and sisters, I do not need to remind you that the term Eid-ul-Adha means the Eid of sacrifice and many of us have offered a “Qurbani”. But let us remember that even though the “Qurbani” is in the name of Allah, it is not the meat or the blood that is critical, but it is our conduct, our Iman and our taqua that is most important:

لَنْ يَنَالَ اللَّهَ لُحُومُهَا وَلَا دِمَاؤُهَا وَلَٰكِنْ يَنَالُهُ التَّقْوَىٰ مِنْكُمْ كَذَٰلِكَ
سَخَّرَهَا لَكُمْ لِتُكَبِّرُوا اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ مَا هَدَانَكُمْ وَبَشِّرِ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿٣٧﴾

“It is not their meat nor their blood, that reaches Allah: But it is your “Taqua” that reaches Him: It is thus that He has made them subservient to you, that you may glorify Allah for His Guidance to you, and give good tidings for those who do good” (S22, A37)

Allah tells us, even as we sacrifice to Him, Allah is not in need of our offerings. Allah has already created all that we have and made it subservient to us. Our sacrifice, just like everything else, should be a testimony to our “Taqua”. If there is no “Taqua” in what we do, Allah reminds us and warns us; nothing of what we do will reach Him.

Let us remember this vital rule. Whatever we give in the name of Allah, whatever we sacrifice in the name of Allah, it is Allah that has given it to us in the first place. When Allah asks us for the sacrifice, it is to test our “Taqua”. So let us not celebrate the obedience of Allah by being disobedient.

As we start to celebrate, Muslims know that what we celebrate today takes us back to the unifying concept of **all** the “Heavenly Religions”. It takes us back to the life of Ibraheem^(AS). The khutbah on a day like this must reinforce the concept of “Tawheed”, the concept of the oneness of Allah and the concept of the oneness of “Deen”.

شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ وَالْمَلَائِكَةُ وَأُولُو الْعِلْمِ قَائِمًا بِالْقِسْطِ لَا
إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ الْعَزِيزُ الْحَكِيمُ ﴿١٨﴾ إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

“Allah bears witness that there is no god but He, and (so do) the angels and those who have knowledge; maintaining His creation justly; there is no god but He, the Mighty, the Wise. The “Deen” before Allah is Islam (submission to His Will)” (S3, A18-9)

Allah bears witness that there is no god but He. When it is Allah that bears witness, who can testify otherwise? This is ayah 18 in Surat Al-Imran. Allah bears witness that “there is no god but He”. Then Allah (SWT) says immediately after that:

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

“The “Deen” before Allah is Islam (submission to His Will)” (S3, A19)

That is what Islam is about. It is about the oneness of Allah and of our total submission to him. How peaceful and tranquil life is when we understand and apply this concept; one God, total submission.

This is the essence of this khutbah. It is the understanding of the concept of “total submission” to the will of Allah.

شَهِدَ اللَّهُ أَنَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ

“Allah bears witness that there is no god but He” (S3, A18)

الْيَوْمَ أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ

“This day I have perfected your religion for you” (S5, A3)

إِنَّ الدِّينَ عِنْدَ اللَّهِ الْإِسْلَامُ

“The Religion before Allah is Islam (submission to His Will)” (S3, A19)

What is very interesting about Islam is the fact that even though these three statements are very powerful and very clear, Allah (SWT) still tells us that there is no compulsion in religion:

لَا إِكْرَاهَ فِي الدِّينِ قَدْ تَبَيَّنَ الرُّشْدُ مِنَ الْغَيِّ

“Let there be no compulsion in religion: Truth stands out clear from Error” (S2, A256)

The beauty of our submission to Allah (SWT) as defined by Islam is based on our total free will to do so. Allah (SWT) tells us that truth stands clear from error, and it is up to us to make this choice.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ لِي وَ لَكُمْ

2nd Khutbah:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ ثُمَّ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ . الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ
أَنْفُسِنَا وَسَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا . أَمَا بَعْدُ :

فَاللَّهُكُمْ إِلَهٌ وَاحِدٌ فَلَهُ أَسْلِمُوا

“And your god is One God, therefore to Him should you submit” (S22, A34)

Brothers and sisters, this has been the universal statement of all the prophets and messengers of Allah. It is the statement of Ibraheem^(AS), of Ya'koub^(AS), of Ismaeel^(AS), of Isshaaq^(AS), of Youssoff^(AS), of Moussa and Haroun^(AS), of Dawoud and Sulaiman^(AS), of Issa and Yahya^(AS), and of our Prophet^(SAAWS).

فَاللَّهُكُمْ إِلَهٌ وَاحِدٌ فَلَهُ أَسْلِمُوا

“And your god is One God, therefore to Him should you submit” (S22, A34)

Brothers and sisters, I know that I and you have been trying very hard to truly submit. Our aim is the same; we want to submit but we continue to find it difficult to submit totally. What is lacking in us that is preventing us from achieving this submission? I know for a fact, and I think those who have been on Hajj or Umra would agree with me when I say that when we visited the house of Allah, something moved us. I think everyone that has visited the sacred mosque and saw the Ka'ba, their eyes welled up and their hearts moved. There is something special about the heart when it comes to submission. This is probably why Allah (SWT) tells us in Surat Al-Hadeed, Surat 57, ayah 16:

﴿ أَلَمْ يَأْنِ لِلَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْ تَخْشَعَ قُلُوبُهُمْ لِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ ﴾

“Has not the time yet come for those who believe that their hearts should be humble for the remembrance of Allah” (S57, A16)

Allah tells us that we are believers; we believe in Him, but our hearts are still hard. They are hardened by our attachment to this dunia and by our fears of others. When a sister is deciding whether she wears the Hijab, she is still concerned about what others may say. How can we therefore claim true submission? When a brother fears for his income how can we claim true submission? I honestly think that even though we claim submission, our hearts are yet to humble for the remembrance of Allah. Our hearts are too attached to the distractions of this dunia and we still have the fear of others than Allah (SWT) in our hearts.

“Labaika-Llahuma-Labaik. Labaika-Laa-Sharika-Laka-Labaik. Inna-Llhamda-Wanni’ mata-Laka-Walmulk. Laa-Sharika-Lak”.