

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Hazrat Ameer's Eid ul Adha Message

(10th Zilhaj 1428, 21st December 2007)

وَإِذِ ابْتَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ رَبُّهُ بِكَلِمَاتٍ فَأَتَمَّهُنَّ ۗ قَالَ إِنِّي جَاعِلُكَ لِلنَّاسِ إِمَامًا ۗ
قَالَ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي ۗ قَالَ لَا يَنَالُ عَهْدِي الظَّالِمِينَ ﴿١٢٤﴾

And when his Lord tried Abraham with certain commands he fulfilled them.

He said: Surely, I will make thee a leader of men.

(Abraham) said: And of my offspring?

My covenant does not include the wrongdoers, said He.

(Al Baqarah, 2:124)

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

As I write this message, many Muslims are performing *Hajj* and soon all of us will be celebrating Eid. Eid ul Adha celebrations are symbolic of higher values like humbleness, devotion, spirit of sacrifice and submission to Allah, our Creator and the Creator of the Universe. These values were ordained by Allah for all mankind in all faiths and were best exemplified by Hazrat Ibrahim (Prophet Abraham), may peace of Allah be upon him.

Every outward devotional act on Eid has an inner moral significance; the Eid prayer and sacrificing of an animal both signify complete submission to Allah. Those who slaughter an animal should do so with the spirit of readiness to live, submit and sacrifice their lives for Allah if He so wills.

Today, we remember Hazrat Ibrahim's example of submission and devotion to Allah. He kept his love for Allah above his worldly desires, his family and his very life and obeyed the commands of Allah to the very letter; His command to settle his wife Hazrat Hajira and newborn son Hazrat Ismael in a desert, his willingness to sacrifice his son, and even plunge into a blazing fire.

As Muslims we should not confine ourselves only to worldly celebrations but adhere to the real spirit of Eid where our lives are brightened by the realisation that actual happiness lies in service to Allah.

As Ahmadis, we have pledged to spread the message of Islam in a peaceful way; we have pledged to endure hardships and face difficulties; we have pledged to always prefer religion over worldly gains. Thus, Eid becomes a day to renew our resolve to be prepared for any and all sacrifices in the defence and propagation of Islam, the prime goal of all members of the Ahmadiyya Jama'at.

I pray that Allah grants us the true spirit of Eid so that our prayers, sacrifices, life and death are in His service. I pray that Allah removes all hurdles that come in the way of Islam.

Aameen



Dr. Abdul Karim Saeed
Ameer and President
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