



# HAJJ SERIES 1435 – 2014

These notes are based on a previous course. Anything good is from Allah and any mistakes are from ourselves and the shaitan. May Allah forgive us.

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لا حول ولا قوة إلا بالله

## HAJJ SERIES 1435 – 2014

### First Ten Days of Dhul Hijah

#### Provision of Hajj

#### Golden Days – Golden Opportunities

#### Day of Arafah – The Witnessed Day

### Hajj 1435 – Golden Opportunities

#### First Ten Days of Dhul Hijah (عشر الأوائل من ذي الحجة)

#### Introduction

- Islam takes us out from slavery to freedom – and freedom is when you are a Muslim. Don't seek the pleasure of others, but seek the pleasure of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), don't hope from anyone, but hope from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and don't attach to anyone but to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) –this is freedom.
- People think the life of a Muslim is difficult – that you need to fast, pray, cover, etc – but everything is a worship, it is not just about prayer. Even when your heart moves, it is a worship, when you smile, it is a worship.

- The worship is changing throughout the year – before three months, we received Ramadan. And soon we will be reaching Dhul Hijah, so before we reach it, we need to feel it.

### Why are the ten day of Dhul Hijah important?

- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) swears by these days so they are important – in Surah Al Fajr 1-2: ((وَالْفَجْرِ (١) وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ (٢))) (By the dawn; (1) By the ten nights (i.e. the first ten days of the month of Dhul-Hijjah), (2))
- During Ramadan, you can pray, fast, do charity, etc – you are so active, but now it is difficult, why? Because the shayateen are chained. For 30 days Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) was disciplining us. And now we have 10 days of Dhul Hijah – the struggle is harder, though it is more rewarding than Ramadan, subhan Allah.
- They are just a few days – they are (أيام معلومات).

### What is the reward for the first ten days of Dhul Hijah?

- When you do any good deeds during these days, they are more beloved to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) than any other days, even more than Ramadan. The reward means the love of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Hadith: وعن ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما قال: قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: " ما من أيام ( ما من أيام ) العمل الصالح فيها أحب إلى الله من هذه الأيام " يعني أيام العشر، قالوا: يا رسول الله ولا الجهاد في سبيل الله؟ قال: "ولا الجهاد في سبيل الله، إلا رجل خرج بنفسه، وماله فلم يرجع من ذلك بشيء" ((رواه البخاري)) (Ibn 'Abbas (May Allah be pleased with them) reported: The Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "There are no days during which the righteous action is so pleasing to Allah than these

days (i.e., the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah)." He was asked: "O Messenger of Allah, not even Jihad in the Cause of Allah?" He (صلى الله عليه وسلم) replied, "Not even Jihad in the Cause of Allah, except in case one goes forth with his life and his property and does not return with either of it." - Al- Bukhari - Book 9, Hadith 1249)

- Now we are acquiring knowledge, but if you acquire knowledge next week, the reward is more. Any good deed – prayer, charity, reciting Qur'an, and the reward is the love of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah.
- Which do you appreciate more? A gift or the love of a person. For anything material, the excitement is just in the beginning and then it fades, but what is everlasting? The love, subhan Allah.
- The deeds that you do in the first ten days of Dhul Hijah – Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will love you, even if the deeds are small. And it is Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) who chooses these days, we cannot say why? He is The King.

## What is special about these days?

- They are the best days in the year (أفضل أيام الدنيا). This is a blessing from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) that He wants you to know this and grab this opportunity. So many people miss out – and you are special, and that is why Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is making you hear this – this is a favor from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). The best days are when you are close to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Within these 10 days are even more special days:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Hajj (يوم التروية) – it begins on 8<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hijah – this is the start of one of the important symbols of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – and hajj is one of those symbols. You need to rely on Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to give you the power and strength in these 10 days, don't rely on yourself. So many people get the reward for hajj, though they are not there, why? Because their heart is there. And there are people who do not get the reward for hajj though they are physically there, why? Because their heart is not there, subhan Allah.
  - Day of Arafah (يوم عرفة): it's the 9<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hijah, and the hajj is Arafah, meaning if someone misses Arafah then there is no hajj. This is an important day whether you are in hajj or not.
    - It is a day of expiation of sins: for those in hajj, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will expiate all of their major and minor sins – as if they are newborns. That's why the acceptable hajj is the forgiveness of all sins. For those

who are not in hajj, you need to fast if you can, if you cannot, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will give you the reward. Do not think Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is angry with me, this is thinking bad about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). When you fast, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will forgive your sins from the last year and your sins in the coming year. Does that mean you can do what you want in the coming year? No. It means that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will protect you from sins.

- Freedom from the hellfire: Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) sets people free from the hellfire every night in Ramadan, and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) frees even more on the Day of Arafah than in Ramadan, subhan Allah. The shaitan will be so humiliated and small on the Day of Arafah, why? Because he is losing humans – he wants them as his companions in the hellfire, subhan Allah.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will boast about His servants to the angels: He will say they came from all over.
- Day of Muzalifah (يوم المزدلفة): this is 9<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hijah, this is when the people sleep outside – it is a special sleep, subhan Allah.
- Day of Sacrifice (يوم النحر): 10<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hijah, 1<sup>st</sup> day of Eid one sheep is sacrificed for the entire family – for the one who is sacrificing (like father, husband), then hair and nails cannot be cut in Dhul Hijah until the sacrifice is done, but

for the other family members they can cut their hair and nails. In hajj though, one is sacrificed for each person. There is no sacrificing of a sheep for the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى). Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The Most Rich, He does not need meat, what reaches to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is your taqwa, your submission. That's why when you choose a sheep, choose the best because you are sacrificing for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). There is no fasting on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Eid.

- A collection of all of the important worships: You can pray, fast, perform hajj, umrah, recite Qur'an, acquire knowledge, sacrifice, etc. But in Ramadan, you do not have hajj or sacrifice. The ten days of Dhul Hijjah there are golden opportunities to be grabbed.

### Different worships

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- Increase in the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى): when you talk about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will talk about you, and when you remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will remember you and there is no comparison between Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) remembering you and you remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. When you talk about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), no one gets offended, but when you talk about people, this is not the case.
- Prayer: focus on the obligatory before you go the voluntary. In the 1<sup>st</sup> ten days, you have more reward.

- Dua'a: you can make dua'a to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and ask Him anything you want. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) loves it when you feel you need Him and you are calling on Him – there is no barrier between you and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Qur'an: increase in reciting Qur'an, memorizing, listening, understanding. Though we might have been doing this in Ramadan, now it is an obstacle because the shaitan wants to make you lazy, but ask for the help of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Seek knowledge
- Increase in any voluntaries: don't be miserly with yourself when doing deeds, don't underestimate any good deed – even a smile for the sake of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Charity

**May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) grant us success in these days. Ameen.**



## Provision of Hajj

### Introduction

- Surah Al Hajj 27: (وَأَذِّنْ فِي النَّاسِ بِالْحَجِّ يَأْتُوكَ رِجَالًا وَعَلَىٰ كُلِّ ضَامِرٍ يَأْتِينَ مِنْ كُلِّ فَجٍّ عَمِيقٍ) (And proclaim to mankind the Hajj (pilgrimage). They will come to you on foot and on every lean camel, they will come from every deep and distant (wide) mountain highway (to perform Hajj).)
- So when you are answering the call of Hajj, you are also answering the call of Ibrahim (عليه السلام). So before the physical preparation, you need to thank Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for choosing you to perform the hajj.
- Why do we perform the hajj? Surah Al Imran 97: (فِيهِ آيَاتٌ بَيِّنَاتٌ مَّقَامُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ) وَمَنْ دَخَلَهُ كَانَ آمِنًا وَلِلَّهِ عَلَى النَّاسِ حُجُّ الْبَيْتِ مَنِ اسْتَطَاعَ إِلَيْهِ سَبِيلًا وَمَنْ كَفَرَ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ غَنِيٌّ عَنِ الْعَالَمِينَ) (In it are manifest signs (for example), the Maqâm (place) of Ibrâhim (Abraham); whosoever enters it, he attains security. And Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah) to the House (Ka'bah) is a duty that mankind owes to Allâh, those who can afford the expenses (for one's conveyance, provision and residence); and whoever disbelieves [i.e. denies Hajj (pilgrimage to Makkah), then he is a disbeliever of Allâh], then Allâh stands not in need of any of the 'Alamîn (mankind and jinn and all that exists).)
- Never think that you are doing Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) a favor when you are performing Hajj – if you are doing the hajj then it is good for you, why? Because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has commanded you.

- Hajj is a journey, but before being a physical journey – it is a journey of the heart. So many people are doing hajj, but their heart is not in the hajj. And so many people have not done hajj, but their heart is as if it has done hajj, subhan Allah. The important provision for Hajj is taqwa.

### What provision do you need for hajj?

- Surah Al Baqarah 197: ( الْحَجُّ أَشْهُرٌ مَّعْلُومَةٌ فَمَنْ فَرَضَ فِيهِنَّ الْحَجَّ فَلَا رَفَثَ وَلَا فُسُوقَ وَلَا جِدَالَ فِي الْحَجِّ وَمَا تَفْعَلُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ يَعْلَمُهُ اللَّهُ وَتَزُودُوا فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَىٰ وَاتَّقُوا يَا أُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ ) (The Hajj (pilgrimage) is (in) the well-known (lunar year) months (i.e. the 10th month, the 11th month and the first ten days of the 12th month of the Islâmic calendar, i.e. two months and ten days). So whosoever intends to perform Hajj therein (by assuming Ihrâm), then he should not have sexual relations (with his wife), nor commit sin, nor dispute unjustly during the Hajj. And whatever good you do, (be sure) Allâh knows it. And take a provision (with you) for the journey, but the best provision is At-Taqwa (piety, righteousness). So fear Me, O men of understanding!)
- The months of hajj are three months of preparation – Shawwal, Dhul Qu'da, and Dhul Huja, and the actual hajj takes place in Dhul Huja.
- When you are going to hajj – you are going to the most honorable place, a sacred place, and the time is a sacred time, and you are in a state of ihram – so three times of 'haram'. People think when they go to hajj it is all about their worships – but what makes it special? Your attitude and behavior with the people during hajj.

There are people from different backgrounds, cultures, etc –all are there at one time, you cannot say look at them, etc – your attitude is important. And you will experience different things with different people. Why? Because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants to look at your heart. It is easy to do tawaf, go to mina, throw the stones, etc – it is easy to perform it physically, but what is needed is an acceptable hajj, which is what? It is based on your heart, subhan Allah.

- Do not indulge in bad talk, immorality, don't backbite, lie, or commit any kind of disobedience, and do not argue. You should not argue even if you are in the right. A lady might not even argue with her husband outside of hajj, but during hajj she begins to argue, subhan Allah. You cannot argue with anyone – you need to be extra careful especially with those close to you. Everyone wants to finish, it is tense – and of course arguing can happen, but you have to remember you are a slave of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) → (فَلَا رَفْتٌ وَلَا فُسُوقٌ ) (سبحانه وتعالى) (then he should not have sexual relations (with his wife), nor commit sin, nor dispute unjustly during the Hajj).
- The hajj is a big reformation, but when will it change you? When you are following the rules. People come back from hajj and they are still arguing, backbiting, etc.
- Keep in mind that the shaitan is there, unlike in Ramadan. And whatever you do, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is well-aware of what you do.
- (وَتَزَوَّدُوا فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَىٰ) → Hajj is an important journey and you need to prepare for it from Ramadan, you need to have taqwa. What is taqwa? Do the obligations, stay away from the sins – as if you are

guarding yourself from the disobedience of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Taqwa is very important and is needed before hajj. Taqwa is not to say what you want to say or follow your desires – sometimes you will see things you don't like, but you have to control yourself. Why? For the sake of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

### Place of taqwa is the heart (التقوى محلها القلب)

- In hajj you have to have the attitude of wherever Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will take me, I will accept – this is submission. Your Lord, your King – He has commanded you and you need to follow, don't say why? You go to Mina, Arafah, Mizdalifah, then Mina, don't say why are we going to Mina twice? It is all about submission. There is no difference between the poor and rich – you are all the same.
- A bad attitude means you do not have taqwa –you will shout, argue, etc, but when you have taqwa then it will control your outside.
- During the hajj, you just need to think about yourself, what does that mean? It means look at your heart. When you look at something or someone, why are you thinking like that? Check your heart, subhan Allah. So many people are doing the outer, but your heart is important. Always remember that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is watching me, especially my heart – and this is true for all worships. What is important about prayer, fasting, dhikr, dua'a, hajj? Your heart – is it with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) or not? And the most difficult is the hajj – for prayer you have to control your heart for 10 minutes, fasting from

fajr to maghrib, but hajj is all throughout from the start to end, at least minimum 5 days. That is why the reward for hajj is great, subhan Allah.

- Before thinking which clothes to take, this hijab, abaya, etc –what is important is your heart. You don't want to go there and come back not changed, subhan Allah. Hajj is a big change.

### What is the example of the heart? (ما مثل القلب؟)

- Surah An Noor 35: ( اللَّهُ نُورُ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ مِثْلُ نُورِهِ ۚ كَمِشْكُوتٍ فِيهَا مِصْبَاحٌ الْمِصْبَاحُ فِي زُجَاجَةٍ الزُّجَاجَةُ كَأَنَّهَا كَوْكَبٌ دُرِّيٌّ يُوقَدُ مِنْ شَجَرَةٍ مُبَارَكَةٍ زَيْتُونَةٍ لَا شَرْقِيَّةٍ وَلَا غَرْبِيَّةٍ يَكَادُ زَيْتُهَا يُضِيءُ وَلَوْ لَمْ تَمْسَسْهُ نَارٌ نُورٌ عَلَى نُورٍ يَهْدِي اللَّهُ لِنُورِهِ ۚ مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَيَضْرِبُ اللَّهُ الْأَمْثَالَ لِلنَّاسِ وَاللَّهُ بِكُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَلِيمٌ ) (Allâh is the Light of the heavens and the earth. The parable of His Light is as (if there were) a niche and within it a lamp, the lamp is in glass, the glass as it were a brilliant star, lit from a blessed tree, an olive, neither of the east (i.e. neither it gets sun-rays only in the morning) nor of the west (i.e. nor it gets sun-rays only in the afternoon, but it is exposed to the sun all day long), whose oil would almost glow forth (of itself), though no fire touched it. Light upon Light! Allâh guides to His Light whom He wills. And Allâh sets forth parables for mankind, and Allâh is All-Knower of everything)
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gave the parable of the heart – Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the Light and He gives light to the heavens and the earth. The light of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in the heart of a believer is like a lamp, and around it is a glass, and this glass is illuminating – it is clear. And inside is olive oil, it glows without being lit, so imagine if that oil is lit? Subhan

Allah. This is the belief of the believers – this is the light of Allah (سبحانه) in the heart of the believers.

- Light upon light – the light on the glass, and the light of the oil. And Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) guides whom He wills to His light. This is an example of an alive heart, which we need in hajj.
- Surah Ar Ra'ad 17: ( أَنْزَلَ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَسَالَتْ أَوْدِيَهُ بِقَدَرِهَا فَاحْتَمَلَ السَّيْلُ زَبَدًا رَابِيًا وَمِمَّا يُوقِدُونَ عَلَيْهِ فِي النَّارِ ابْتِغَاءَ حُلْيَةٍ أَوْ مَتَاعٍ زَبَدٌ مِثْلُهٗ ۚ كَذَٰلِكَ يَضْرِبُ اللَّهُ الْحَقَّ وَالْبَاطِلَ فَأَمَّا الزَّبَدُ فَيَذْهَبُ جُفَاءً وَأَمَّا مَا يَنْفَعُ النَّاسَ فَيَمْكُثُ فِي الْأَرْضِ ۚ كَذَٰلِكَ يَضْرِبُ اللَّهُ الْأَمْثَالَ ) (He sends down water (rain) from the sky, and the valleys flow according to their measure, but the flood bears away the foam that mounts up to the surface,— and (also) from that (ore) which they heat in the fire in order to make ornaments or utensils, rises a foam like unto it, thus does Allâh (by parables) show forth truth and falsehood[]). Then, as for the foam it passes away as scum upon the banks, while that which is for the good of mankind remains in the earth. Thus Allâh sets forth parables (for the truth and falsehood, i.e. Belief and disbelief).)
- The heart is like a valley, and there are different sizes of the valleys, similarly with the people's hearts. These valleys have dirt and then pure rain water descends upon these valleys, until it fills it up. So the dirt goes up and is removed, and all that is left is pure clear water. This is the heart of the believer – the purification of the heart is needed, and how to purify it? With divine messages 'the pure rain' – which is the Qur'an and Sunnah. All sicknesses of the heart will be washed away, so then you will have a clear heart for hajj, subhan Allah.

- Surah Ibrahim 24: ( كَيْفَ ضَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا كَلِمَةً طَيِّبَةً كَشَجَرَةٍ طَيِّبَةٍ أَصْلُهَا ثَابِتٌ وَفَرْعُهَا فِي السَّمَاءِ ) (See you not how Allâh sets forth a parable? - A goodly word as a goodly tree, whose root is firmly fixed, and its branches (reach) to the sky (i.e. very high).)
- You need a firm heart like a palm tree. The palm tree is very deep and strong. You don't want to go to hajj disputing and arguing.
- So when you join these three parables – your provision is your taqwa, and taqwa is in the heart, and the carrier of the taqwa – the heart – needs to be strong. You cannot carry the taqwa without a strong heart, and where do you get the strong heart? From these ayat – you heart should be filled with light, purified and clean, and firmly rooted like the palm tree.
- This is important for us, whether we are going for hajj or not – because your heart is going, and you will get rewarded for the movements of your heart.

### Checking your heart

- Surah Al Baqarah 235: ( وَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ مَا فِي أَنْفُسِكُمْ فَأَحْذَرُواْ وَاعْلَمُواْ أَنَّ اللَّهَ غَفُورٌ ) (And know that Allâh knows what is in your minds, so fear Him. And know that Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Forbearing)
- You need to know that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows what is in your heart and remember that hajj is a journey of a lifetime. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows what you are thinking – you might be in the harem praying, and thinking why are these children here, someone is doing bida'a, someone is sleeping while you are praying, etc – it is not about what

you are doing, but your heart. You have spoiled your worships because you have become proud, thinking you are better, subhan Allah. Who said you are a judge? No one gave you the authority to be a judge and our problem is that we are judging others, subhan Allah.

- And remember that you need to repent to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – it is not about your outer deeds, but you need to repent for your thoughts, thinking you are better, you are chosen and not others, etc. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Forbearing with you with your sins, but you need to repent.
- The scholars said (الركب كثير و الحجاج قليل) → So many people (for hajj) are travelling, but the ones doing true hajj are few. That is why the heart is important.

### What will make you to have taqwa?

- Surah Al Hajj 1: (يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ إِنَّ زَلْزَلَةَ السَّاعَةِ شَيْءٌ عَظِيمٌ) (O mankind! Fear your Lord and be dutiful to Him! Verily, the earthquake of the Hour (of Judgement) is a terrible thing)
- It is important to ponder Surah Al Hajj as a provision for those going to hajj. Notice the first ayah in Surah Al Hajj is the command for taqwa, subhan Allah. And this command is the provision for hajj.
- What will make you to have taqwa? When you remember the Day of Judgement, notice Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is saying → (إِنَّ زَلْزَلَةَ السَّاعَةِ شَيْءٌ عَظِيمٌ) (Verily, the earthquake of the Hour (of Judgement) is a terrible thing). That's why the hajj is a like a rehearsal to the Day of



Judgement – it is teaching you submission and going from station to station. It reminds you to be a traveler in the duniya – when you come back from hajj, it doesn't matter if you have to wait in traffic, etc – you take the duniya very low.

- Surah Al Hajj 2: (يَوْمَ تَرَوْنَهَا تَذْهَلُ كُلُّ مُرْضِعَةٍ عَمَّا أَرْضَعَتْ وَتَضَعُ كُلُّ ذَاتِ حَمْلٍ حَمْلَهَا ) (The Day you shall see it, every nursing mother will forget her nursling, and every pregnant one will drop her load, and you shall see mankind as in a drunken state, yet they will not be drunken, but severe will be the Torment of Allâh.)
- You will see people running back and forth, as if they are drunk, though they are not drunk, why? Because the punishment of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is severe. The hajj is not like any journey, but a lifetime journey. When there is an earthquake, are people thinking about arguing, no? Their mind is somewhere else. This should remind you of your mission in this life, and that you will be returning to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

### What is the wisdom for hajj?

- Surah Al Hajj 28: (لِيَشْهَدُوا مَنَافِعَ لَهُمْ وَيَذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ فِي أَيَّامٍ مَّعْلُومَاتٍ عَلَىٰ مَا رَزَقَهُم مِّنْ ) (بِهَيْمَةِ الْأَنْعَامِ فَكُلُوا مِنْهَا وَأَطْعَمُوا الْبَائِسَ الْفَقِيرَ) (That they may witness things that are of benefit to them (i.e. reward of Hajj in the Hereafter, and also some worldly gain from trade), and mention the Name of Allâh on appointed days (i.e. 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th day of Dhul-Hijjâh), over the beast of cattle that He has provided for them (for sacrifice)

(at the time of their slaughtering by saying: Bismillah, Wallâhu-Akbar, Allâhumma Minka wa llaik). Then eat thereof and feed therewith the poor who have a very hard time)

- In order to witness (مَنْفَعٌ لَهُمْ) → to witness benefits you, meaning you don't see it now, but when you go to hajj you will witness it, like what? You are at home, food is there, clothes ironed, but when you go to hajj, everyone is busy, people running, etc – and you will witness knowing Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – you will see His power, ability, greatness, mercy. How all the people are coming to one place, this shows the greatness of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – to come for hajj, shows the mercy of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You will learn about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) when you go there. Reflect upon every single situation when you go to hajj.
- For example, you might be waiting for the bus and another bus immediately leaves, and you will think bad that they must have a 'wasta', etc. But this should remind you that some people will move forward quickly than others on the Day of Judgement, subhan Allah.
- Or you might see beggars during the hajj, it should make you reflect that you don't want to be begging on the Day of Judgement for hasanat, subhan Allah.
- Or you might see the distribution of food, no one will die out of hunger because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Ar Razaq – He is The Provider. And you see all of the people, different colors, different features – it shows you Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Al Khaliq and Al Mussawir.

- What else is the wisdom for hajj? You will remember Allah (سبحانه) (وَيَذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ) (وتعالى).

### Types of people in hajj (أقسام الناس في الحج)

- Surah Al Hajj 3: (وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يُجَادِلُ فِي اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ وَيَتَّبِعُ كُلَّ شَيْطَانٍ مَّرِيدٍ) (And among mankind is he who disputes concerning Allâh, without knowledge, and follows every rebellious (disobedient to Allâh) Shaitân (devil) (devoid of every kind of good).)
- This group does not have taqwa, and they are arguing about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. For example, someone will tell them Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has commanded to do this, not do this – and they will argue if they are told something – this person does not have taqwa. Why? Because they are arguing, and on top of that that, they are arguing about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. For example, people are raising their hands after the prayer, though the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) never did this – and when you tell them, they will argue without knowledge, and they are doing it just because they are following their parents, etc.
- Surah Al Hajj 8-9: (وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يُجَادِلُ فِي اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ وَلَا هُدًى وَلَا كِتَابٍ مُّنِيرٍ (٨) ثَانِيًا) (عَظْفِهِ لِيُضِلَّ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ لَهُ فِي الدُّنْيَا خِزْيٌ وَنَذِيقُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ عَذَابَ الْحَرِيقِ (٩)) (And among men is he who disputes about Allâh, without knowledge or guidance, or a Book giving light (from Allâh), (8) Bending his neck in pride (far astray from the Path of Allâh), and leading (others) too (far) astray from the Path of Allâh. For him there is disgrace in this

worldly life, and on the Day of Resurrection We shall make him taste the torment of burning (Fire). (9))

- This group also does not have taqwa – they are also disputing about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) without knowledge. What is the difference between the first group and this group? First group are followers, but this group is being followed. And why are they disputing like this? Because they are arrogant and they just want the people to follow them. You notice arguing appearing many times in Surah Al Hajj, which shows it is the most common sickness of the heart during hajj, subhan Allah.
- Surah Al Hajj 11: ( وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَن يَعْبُدُ اللَّهَ عَلَىٰ حَرْفٍ فَإِنْ أَصَابَهُ خَيْرٌ اطْمَأَنَّ بِهِ وَإِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ فِتْنَةٌ انْقَلَبَ عَلَىٰ وَجْهِهِ خَسِرَ الدُّنْيَا وَالْآخِرَةَ ذَلِكَ هُوَ الْخُسْرَانُ الْمُبِينُ ) (And among mankind is he who worships Allâh as it were, upon the edge (i.e. in doubt); if good befalls him, he is content therewith; but if a trial befalls him, he turns back on his face (i.e. reverts back to disbelief after embracing Islâm). He loses both this world and the Hereafter. That is the evident loss.)
- This is the third group, which is the most common. They worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) on edge, for example, a lady wanted to go to hajj, she was waiting for her luggage, and they said it was lost. She said what will I wear? They told her you can buy clothes, she said no, I will go back to my home country, subhan Allah. They will quickly give up. If they face a fitna, they will turn back (وَإِنْ أَصَابَتْهُ فِتْنَةٌ انْقَلَبَ عَلَىٰ وَجْهِهِ). If something good happens, they are happy, and if something bad happens, they are impatient.

## What else do I need during hajj? – To magnify Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) (التعظيم)

- Surah Al Hajj 30: ( مَا يُتْلَىٰ عَلَيْكُمْ فَاجْتَنِبُوا الرِّجْسَ مِنَ الْأَوْثَانِ وَاجْتَنِبُوا قَوْلَ الزُّورِ ) (That (Manâsik prescribed duties of Hajj is the obligation that mankind owes to Allâh), and whoever honours the sacred things of Allâh, then that is better for him with his Lord. The cattle are lawful to you, except those (that will be) mentioned to you (as exceptions). So shun the abomination (worshipping) of idol, and shun lying speech (false statements))
- When you feel that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is so great, you will not do anything wrong during the hajj, because you are in a sacred place. Imagine when you go to a guest's house, you would respect their house, and Who is most worthy of respect? Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Don't violate the rules of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), those who do are not magnifying Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You find people in the harem running around, screaming, taking photos, etc – it is not about halal and haram, but about manners in the House of Allah.
- Surah Al Hajj 32: ( ذَٰلِكَ وَمَنْ يُعِظْكُمْ شَعْبَرَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّهَا مِنْ تَقْوَى الْقُلُوبِ ) (Thus it is [what has been mentioned in the above said Verses (27, 28, 29, 30, 31) is an obligation that mankind owes to Allâh]. and whosoever honours the Symbols of Allâh, then it is truly from the piety of the hearts.)
- The one who magnifies Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will magnify the symbols of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – like the House of Allah, Safa, Marwah, etc. And if you magnify Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), then that shows taqwa of the hearts. This shows us that taqwa is first and magnification comes as

a result of it, subhan Allah. This is the most divine and most important journey in your life.

### What else do I need during hajj? – Tawheed (التوحيد)

- Tawheed is the Oneness of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You are a servant of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), you need to follow His rules.
- Surah Al Hajj 31: حُنَفَاءَ لِلَّهِ غَيْرَ مُشْرِكِينَ بِهِ وَمَنْ يُشْرِكْ بِاللَّهِ فَكَأَنَّمَا خَرَّ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ فَتَخَطَفُهُ (الطَّيْرُ أَوْ تَهْوَى بِهِ الرِّيحُ فِي مَكَانٍ سَحِيقٍ) (Hunafâ' Lillâh (i.e. to worship none but Allâh), not associating partners (in worship) unto Him, and whoever assigns partners to Allâh, it is as if he had fallen from the sky, and the birds had snatched him, or the wind had thrown him to a far off place)
- Why are you going to hajj? For Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), why are you doing tawaf? For Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Why are you sleeping in Muzdalifah? For Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Why are you cutting your hair? For Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – this is tawheed.
- Some people go to hajj in order to have the honor from people, some for business, what makes a person to take a picture of himself making dua'a? Subhan Allah. It is not about desire – it is about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – this is tawheed.
- For all stages of hajj, you need taqwa, magnification, and tawheed.

## What are the virtues of hajj? (ما فضائل الحج؟)

- Hadith: حَدَّثَنَا سُلَيْمَانُ بْنُ حَرْبٍ، حَدَّثَنَا شُعْبَةُ، عَنْ مَنْصُورٍ، عَنْ أَبِي حَازِمٍ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ - رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهُ - قَالَ قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " مَنْ حَجَّ هَذَا الْبَيْتِ، فَلَمْ يَرُفْثْ وَلَمْ يَفْسُقْ، رَجَعَ كَمَا وَلَدَتْهُ أُمُّهُ " (Narrated Abu Huraira: Allah's Messenger (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "Whoever performs Hajj to this House (Ka`ba) and does not approach his wife for sexual relations nor commits sins (while performing Hajj), he will come out as sinless as a newlyborn child. (Just delivered by his mother).) – Sahih Al Bukhari 1819
- Imagine holding your tongue and heart for a few days and you return clean as a new born – free of both major and minors, subhan Allah. And you will see when you come back, you will be different – it will change your perspective and view for the best. Never think of going to hajj without wanting to change – don't start with this intention. Don't say I will wear hijab there, but not when I come back. As if you are making fun in front of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), istghfar Allah. Keep your heart open.
- Hadith: أَخْبَرَنَا عَمْرُو بْنُ مَنْصُورٍ، قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا حَجَّاجٌ، قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا شُعْبَةُ، قَالَ أَخْبَرَنِي سُهَيْلٌ، عَنْ ( عَنْ أَبِي صَالِحٍ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " الْحَجَّةُ الْمَبْرُورَةُ لَيْسَ لَهَا سُمْئٌ، (تَوَابٌ إِلَّا الْجَنَّةُ " (It was narrated from Abu Hurairah that the Prophet said: "Hajj Al-Mabrur brings no reward other than paradise," the report is the same except that he said, "expiates for what came in between.") – Sunan An Nisa'1 2623
- The acceptable hajj is paradise, that is why it is a favor from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).

## Quick journey to hajj (رحلة سريعة في الحج)

- Leaving your country, house, and children: you are leaving everything, the duniya, all for Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You say bye to your family and you are keeping them under Allah's trust. When you say (استودعك الله) – Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will protect everything, He will even protect their religion, protect them from the shayateen, and you will be relaxed because you have tawheed, magnification, and taqwa that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will protect them.
- Ihram: people think it is just about clothes, you can change your clothes and take a bath – it is about the state of ihram, meaning certain things are haram. You cannot put perfume, scented soap, no cutting of the nails, removing hair, cutting the hair, no relations, no making a marriage contract, and no arguing. The clothes for men can be changed, you can comb your hair. You will go into ihram when it is announced in the plane, when you reach the meeqat. Men cannot wear anything stitched, for the ladies you need to follow the conditions of the hijab – the clothes needs to be loose, not showing the shape of the body, plain, no decoration, not transparent. For those who wear niqab, you cannot show the eyes, you need to wear a veil over the face, and no gloves. For those who do not cover the face, then do not beautify the face. You can take a shower, you can change your clothes, you can remove your hijab while with ladies. Why are being in a state of ihram? Because you are submitting to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You make the intention in the heart and say (البيك اللهم حج) if for hajj, if you are doing umrah



before, you say (لبيك اللهم عمرة). Some might make the intention for hajj and umrah, and the lady might get her menses, she should say ( اللهم (محلي حيث حبستني).

- Talbiyah: (لبيك اللهم لبيك، لبيك لا شريك لك لبيك ان الحمد و النعمة لك و الملك لا شريك لك) – you are saying that you are at the service of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Tawaf: you will stop the talbiyah when you reach the ka'aba – you need to magnify the House of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), but that does not mean you go around touching it and taking its cloth – this is bida'a. You magnify it because you magnify Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You begin the tawaf from the 'black stone' – it will be to your left, and you say (بسم الله الله اكبر) – you raise your hand and say Bism Allah Allah Akbar. If you can, you touch the Yamani Corner, this is expiation of the sins, but you don't need to raise your hands at the Yamani Corner And from there until you reach the black stone you say (ربنا اتنا في الديننا حسنة ) (و في الآخرة حسنة و قنا عذاب النار). When you do tawaf, it is a worship, don't be on the phone, taking pictures, don't look at people, even those who are doing bida'a, don't look at them, may Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) guide them. You can read Qur'an, make dua'a, dhikr. Every step is an extra reward and removal of sin. And ask Allah Al Fatah to open, ask Allah Al Hadi to guide you to the best route, Allah Al Wasi' to make the space bigger – this is how your heart is working with the names of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. You do tawaf 7 times, why? Submission. Don't say I will do 8 just in case or 5 because I'm tired. In your life, you need to do 'tawaf' all the time around Allah's pleasure. Your heart needs to do tawaf around Allah's pleasure,

not the people, subhan Allah. You need to be in wudhu while doing tawaf.

- Prayer behind Maqam Ibrahim (عليه السلام): if you find a place, if not, then it is ok. Some people are so stubborn, they have to pray there and they block the way, and if you see them, don't judge them, subhan Allah. That's why you need to taqwa to not let your heart say anything, subhan Allah. You pray two units, reciting Surah Al Kafiroon and Ikhlas. And if you can, drink zamzam water.
- Sae'ee between Safa and Marwah: just as a side note: even if you are staying in the Azizyah, it is still part of the harem and you will get the full reward of 100,000. Don't make it difficult that you must pray in the harem. When you reach Safa, you will recite Surah Al Baqarah 158: ( إِنَّ الصَّفَا وَالْمَرْوَةَ مِنْ شَعَائِرِ اللَّهِ فَمَنْ حَجَّ الْبَيْتَ أَوْ اعْتَمَرَ فَلَا جُنَاحَ عَلَيْهِ أَنْ ) (Verily! As-Safâ and Al-Marwah (two mountains in Makkah) are of the Symbols of Allâh. So it is not a sin on him who performs Hajj or 'Umrah (pilgrimage) of the House (the Ka'bah at Makkah) to perform the going (Tawâf) between them (As-Safâ and Al-Marwah). And whoever does good voluntarily, then verily, Allâh is All-Recogniser, All-Knower). And you need to say this dua'a three times ( الله أكبر الله أكبر لا اله الا الله وحده لا شريك له له الملك و له الحمد يحيي و يميت و هو على كل شئ قدير - لا اله الا الله وحده لا شريك له - (.أنجز وعده و نصر عبده و هزم الأحزاب وحده And you repeat this 3 times this when you reach Marwah, then Safa again, and so forth until you have done this 7 times. You do not need to be in a state of wudhu at Safa and Marwah, and you can stop and drink water. Women

do not run, and you can cut your own hair when you go back, you don't need to cut it while at Safa and Marwah. You gather all of your hair and cut about an inch. Then you wait until the 8<sup>th</sup> Dhul Hija. You can even pray in your room, and you will get the reward. In the hajj, you don't pray the rawatib because you are travelling, except for the fajr. You can pray other voluntaries like night prayer, dhuha, tahiyyat al masjid (greeting of the masjid), sunnat al wudhu.

○ 8th of Dhil Hijjah – Day of Tarwiyah (يوم التروية): this is the official start of hajj, and you need to go into state of ihram again. People are preparing to go to Mina around dhuhr time, and you will be saying the talbiyah until you throw the stone on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Eid. There you will shorten the prayer – so you will pray 2 units at the time of dhuhr, 2 units at the time of asr, 3 units at the time of maghrib, 2 units at the time of isha.

○ Day of Arafah (يوم عرفة): the hajj is all in preparation for this day, there is no hajj without Arafah. Hadith: ( قَالَ قَالَتْ عَائِشَةُ إِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ ) ( قَالَ " مَا مِنْ يَوْمٍ أَكْثَرَ مِنْ أَنْ يُعْتَقَ اللَّهُ فِيهِ عَبْدًا مِنَ النَّارِ مِنْ يَوْمِ عَرَفَةَ ) (There is no day when Allah sets free more servants from Hell than the Day of 'Arafa.). Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will set more people free from the hellfire than Ramadan, subhan Allah. Here the prayers are shortened and combined. But what is important is dua'a, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will descend to the lowest heaven and He will boast to the angels about those at Arafah. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will expiate the sins of all. And don't eat so much during lunch, because you don't want to fall asleep during the time of dua'a – the time of dua'a is from

dhuhr/asr to maghrib. The shaitan will be so humiliated on that day, because he was working on the people for so many years, and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) forgives them in one day, subhan Allah. Don't distract yourself with the telephone, messages, talking, chatting, etc – just focus on your dua'a. This is the place of dua'a, and the best of dhikr is (لا اله الا الله وحده لا شريك له، له الملك و له الحمد و هو على كل شئ قدير). May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) open for you different dua'as. Ameen.

- Muzdalifah (المبيت بمزدلفة): the worship here is just to sleep outside, what a beautiful religion, subhan Allah. Force yourself to sleep because you are submitting to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). You will pray fajr there. Then you can:
- Coming out of ihram partially (التحلل الأصغر): meaning everything is allowed except relations. So you can cut your hair, throw the stone, and sacrifice. Or
- Coming out of complete ihram (التحلل الأكبر): do tawaf and sa'ee/marwah.
- It is not our deeds that will take us to paradise, but the mercy of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Then you come back to Mina: only to throw stones, you do it on 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, or even 13<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hija. There can be so many distractions at this point, but where is your heart? Ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for the help.
- Farwell tawaf

***We ask Allah to grant us the acceptable hajj in our lifetime and to grant us paradise in the hereafter. Ameen.***

## Golden Days – Golden Opportunities

### What should I believe in these ten days? (ماذا أعتقد في هذه الايام؟)

- These days are from the 1<sup>st</sup> of Dhul Hijjah and include the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Eid, Dhul Hijjah might begin from this Thursday or Friday.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) swears by these days so they are important – in Surah Al Fajr 1-2: ((وَالْفَجْرِ (١) وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ (٢))) (By the dawn; (1) By the ten nights (i.e. the first ten days of the month of Dhul-Hijjah), (2))
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) swears by the dawn, the start of the day – and then the ten nights refers to the ten days of Dhul Hijjah. These ten days are very great and special days, why? Because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) swears by them in the Qur'an. Who is feeling they are great days? The one who has an alive heart – he will feel the blessings, subhan Allah.. Any oaths that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) takes shows the greatness of the object of the oath.
- These ten days are the most important of the whole year, more than Ramadan, subhan Allah.
- Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) deals with His name – Al Manan – The Bestower of Favors – during these days because they are a special favor from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- During Ramadan, you can pray, fast, do charity, etc – you are so active, but now it is difficult, why? Because the shayateen are not chained. For 30 days Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) was disciplining us. And now we have 10 days of Dhul Hijjah – the struggle is harder, though it is more rewarding than Ramadan, subhan Allah. And Allah (سبحانه

(وتعالى) did not swear by the ten days of Ramadan, but of Dhul Hijjah, subhan Allah.

○ Allah Al Manan is giving you favors without knowing and without deserving. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has favored us:

- By providing us means to increase us in faith (المنان يمن علينا بأسباب (زيادة الايمان
- Hadith: وعن ابن عباس رضي الله عنهما قال: قال رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم: " ما ( من أيام العمل الصالح فيها أحب إلى الله من هذه الأيام" يعني أيام العشر، قالوا: يا رسول الله ولا الجهاد في سبيل الله؟ قال: "ولا الجهاد في سبيل الله، إلا رجل خرج بنفسه، وماله فلم يرجع من ((رواه البخاري)) (Ibn 'Abbas (May Allah be pleased with them) reported: The Messenger of Allah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) said, "There are no days during which the righteous action is so pleasing to Allah than these days (i.e., the first ten days of Dhul-Hijjah)." He was asked: "O Messenger of Allah, not even Jihad in the Cause of Allah?" He (صلى الله عليه وسلم) replied, "Not even Jihad in the Cause of Allah, except in case one goes forth with his life and his property and does not return with either of it." - Al- Bukhari - Book 9, Hadith 1249)
- In general your faith increases with good deeds and the more you believe in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). When Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) allows us to attend the study circles, this is a favor from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – because it is a means to increase you in faith. You will not find good deeds more beloved to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) than the first ten days of Dhul Hijjah. You may be attending a lecture today, and if you attend it next week, it is more

- beloved to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. Whether prayer, fasting, charity, Qur'an, seeking knowledge, smile, salam, etc .
- Which do you appreciate more? A gift or the love of a person. Do you want a gift from someone who doesn't love you? No. That is why the love of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is greater because it is an attribute, subhan Allah.
  - And in these ten days, you can perform all worships, unlike in Ramadan, you cannot perform hajj in Ramadan. You should have the attitude that I believe that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is Al Mannan and I believe that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) wants me to perform these good deeds.

### What is the best deed during these ten days?

- In Ramadan, it is the Qur'an – but in these ten days – the remembrance/dhikr of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) (ذكر الله) is the best deed, subhan Allah. Whether to say subhan Allah, alhamdulillah, Allah akbar, la ilha ila Allah, speaking about Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), etc
- The best of the remembrance/dhikr is 'Allah Akbar' (الله أكبر). Even Abu Huraira (may Allah be pleased with him) and ibn Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) would go to the marketplace and say takbeer, subhan Allah.

## How can I establish the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)?

- Hadith: حَدَّثَنَا نَصْرُ بْنُ عَلِيٍّ الْجَهْظِيُّ، وَعَلِيُّ بْنُ خَشْرَمٍ، قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا عِيسَى بْنُ يُونُسَ، عَنْ عُبَيْدِ بْنِ جُرَيْجٍ رَمَى اللَّهُ بِنِ أَبِي زَيْدٍ، عَنِ الْقَاسِمِ بْنِ مُحَمَّدٍ، عَنْ عَائِشَةَ، عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " إِنْمَا جُعِلَ رَمْيُ الْجِمَارِ وَالسَّعْيُ بَيْنَ الصَّفَا وَالْمَرْوَةِ لِإِقَامَةِ ذِكْرِ اللَّهِ " (Aishah (may Allah be pleased with him) narrated that: The Prophet said: "Stoning the Jimari and Sa'i between As-Safa and Al-Marwah are only done for the establishment of Allah's remembrance.") – At Tirmidhi 902
- If you cannot go to hajj, then you should establish the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), how?

1. Empty your heart from other than Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) (خلو قلبك من غير الله): what does this mean? It means (لا اله الا الله). For example, we believe in Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), but during the day, thoughts of worrying about someone, thinking about someone creep in – but in these ten days, don't be busy thinking about anyone else. May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) make it easy. Ameen. Don't be busy thinking about anyone other than Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) knows your thoughts – so be careful of your thinking because He knows what is within yourself, subhan Allah. The scholars said the thoughts of a person are like a disease/sickness, but the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is a cure. What kind of remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)? The one that is established, subhan Allah. Don't think it is difficult, ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to make it easy. And as an advice, whenever you hear there is a lecture about Ramadan



or Dhul Hijja, don't think it will be the same, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will upgrade you and make you understand it better.

2. Feeling of the closeness to Allah (القرب من الله) (سبحانه وتعالى): If you feel closeness to someone, they will not appreciate it unless you tell them, but when you feel closeness to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) appreciates it. If Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) says He is close to you, how can you turn away? Imagine someone says I want to draw closer to you and you turn them away, subhan Allah. You need to surrender and submit in order to be close to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
3. Knowledge (العلم): the more you learn, the more you will establish the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). The scholars said there are two types of people who 'eat' so much and are not satisfied → one is a seeker of knowledge, he is eating books and wants more and the other is a person of the duniya, he is taking so much from the duniya and is still not satisfied. But there is a huge difference between the two, subhan Allah.
4. Repentance (التوبة): establishing the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is when Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) allows your heart and tongue to remember Him. Sometimes you think I know all of the virtues of remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), but I am still thinking about others things, why? It is our sins, they are a barrier for us to remembering Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), istaghfar Allah.

5. Remembering the meeting with Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) on Day of Judgement (ذكر لقاء الله): when you remember the Day of Judgement, then you will remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) even begins Surah Al Hajj about the Day of Judgement. Surah Al Hajj 1-2: (يَأْتِيهَا النَّاسُ أَتْفُؤًا رَبَّكُمْ إِنَّ زَلْزَلَةَ السَّاعَةِ شَيْءٌ عَظِيمٌ (١) يَوْمَ تَرَوُنَّهَا تُدْهَلُ كُلُّ مُرْضِعَةٍ عَمَّا أَرْضَعَتْ وَتَضَعُ كُلُّ ذَاتِ حَمْلٍ حَمْلَهَا وَتَرَى النَّاسَ سُكَرَىٰ وَمَا هُمْ بِسُكَرَىٰ وَلَٰكِنَّ عَذَابَ اللَّهِ شَدِيدٌ (٢)) (O mankind! Fear your Lord and be dutiful to Him! Verily, the earthquake of the Hour (of Judgement) is a terrible thing. (1) The Day you shall see it, every nursing mother will forget her nursling, and every pregnant one will drop her load, and you shall see mankind as in a drunken state, yet they will not be drunken, but severe will be the Torment of Allâh. (2))

***May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) grant us success in these days. Ameen.***

## Day of Arafah (يوم عرفة) – The Witnessed Day (يوم مشهود)

### Introduction

- The Day of Arafah is the Witnessed Day – Surah Al Burooj 3: (وَشَاهِدٍ ( وَمَشْهُودٍ (And by the witnessing day (i.e. Friday), and by the witnessed day [i.e. the day of 'Arafat (Hajj) the ninth of Dhul-Hijjah];)
- Surah Al Hajj 32: (ذَٰلِكَ وَمَنْ يُعِظْ شَعْبِرَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّهَا مِنْ تَقْوَى الْقُلُوبِ) (Thus it is whosoever honours the Symbols of Allâh, then it is truly from the piety of the hearts)
- The first 10 days of the Dhul Hijjah are precious days, and even more so, Yawm Arafah.

### How is the Day of Arafah a Witnessed Day

Two great incidents are mentioned in history:

- Surah Al 'Araf 172: (وَإِذْ أَخَذَ رَبُّكَ مِنْ بَنِي آدَمَ مِنْ ظُهُورِهِمْ ذُرِّيَّتَهُمْ وَأَشْهَدَهُمْ عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ أَلَسْتُ بِرَبِّكُمْ) (And (remember) when your Lord brought forth from the Children of Adam, from their loins, their seed (or from Adam's loin his offspring) and made them testify as to themselves (saying): "Am I not your Lord?" They said: "Yes! We testify," lest you should say on the Day of Resurrection: "Verily, we have been unaware of this.")
  - Before we were created, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) took a covenant from all of us. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is able to bring us all in the form of atoms – Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) said (أَلَسْتُ بِرَبِّكُمْ) – am I not your Lord? And we all answered (قَالُوا بَلَىٰ شَهِدْنَا) (Yes! We testify,"). So

- no one can say we are heedless of this, we all witnessed this and made this testimony. And when did it take place? On the Day of Arafah, and 'arafah' means to know, recognize – so we got to know our Rabb on that day, subhan Allah.
- We are all born on the fitrah – the newborn is born as Muslim because all of us have made this testimony. We have forgotten this testimony, but it is built-in inside of us, so we need to revive it – the Qur'an reminds of things we are unaware of.
  - We were in the 'World of Atoms' (عالم الذر) before we were created – and the Day of Arafah is the Witnessed Day because all of humanity witnessed (لا اله الا الله), subhan Allah.
  - The first and last hajj of the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) (اول و آخر حجة للنبي صلى ) (سبحانه وتعالى). The hajj become prescribed on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Dhul Hijjah, one year before the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) died.
    - This great ayah was revealed on the Day of Arafah after the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) gave his sermon. Surah Al Maeda 3: (الْيَوْمَ ) (أَكْمَلْتُ لَكُمْ دِينَكُمْ وَأَتَمَمْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ نِعْمَتِي وَرَضِيْتُ لَكُمُ الْإِسْلَامَ دِينًا) (This day, I have perfected your religion for you, completed My Favour upon you, and have chosen for you Islam as your religion.)
    - This means the deen has been completed – there will be no more halal and haram after this, nothing will be revealed after this. And Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has completed His favor upon you, how? By the completion of the religion. Imagine the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) was calling the people for 23 years, and he left them with everything being clear, subhan Allah. And Allah

- (سبحانه وتعالى) has chosen Islam for us, meaning I take Islam because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is pleased with us to take Islam as our religion, and Islam means submission to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Some of the companions cried after this ayah was revealed – Omar bin Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him) cried because he said after ‘completion there will be loss’ and he knew that the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) has completed conveying the message and he will then die, and he did, subhan Allah.
  - A Jewish man once came up to Omar bin Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him) while he was a khalifah, and he said had this ayah been revealed upon us, we would made it a day of Eid, subhan Allah. And this shows the greatness of this ayah. Moreover, this ayah was revealed on a Friday and it was the Day of Arafah, similar to today, subhan Allah.

### **Sermon of the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) on the Day of Arafah (خطبة النبي صلى الله عليه وسلم في يوم العرفة)**

- The Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) performed hajj only once – it is called the farewell hajj (حجة الوداع), hajj of Islam (حجة الاسلام), and the hajj of conveying (حجة البلاغ).
- Here are the points of the sermon – as if it is a summary of his entire 23 years of conveying the message, subhan Allah:
  - (إن دماءكم، وأموالكم، حرام عليكم) (Verily your blood and your property are as sacred and inviolable): this means there are boundaries – I cannot kill myself or others, I cannot waste my

- money or of others. The life Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) gave you is an amanah, a trust – your wealth and property is a trust. You cannot put people in danger or transgress in other people's wealth and trust.
- (كحرمة يومكم هذا) (and inviolable as the sanctity of this day of yours): The Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) said this while in Makkah on the Day of Arafah, and this day is a sacred day.
  - (في شهركم هذا،) (in this month of yours): Dhul Hijjah is a sacred month, you need to be extra careful – you cannot cut trees, etc.
  - (في بلدكم هذا،) (and in this town of yours): Makkah is a sacred place, you need to respect the boundaries set there. Notice there are three haramat – three sacred items – and this is how much you need to respect the boundaries of not abusing your body and properties – imagine someone is in Makkah, in Dhul Hijjah, and on Day of Arafah – he needs to be extra careful. And this is how you need to be with your blood and property and of others. And why did the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) begin with this? Because it is a safeguard for society in order to maintain the peace. Alhamdulillah that we are blessed to live in a safe place. In some countries, you cannot leave alone or go out after a certain time. And how are we getting this safeguard? Because of Islam. And when you are safe, how will you be able to worship Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)? In peace, subhan Allah. So the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) began with this words for his sermon

- so that we may establish our religion, subhan Alah. All of the rules in Islam are there as a safeguard, why? Because these rules are from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- (ألا كل شيء من أمر الجاهلية تحت قدمي موضوع) (anything from the matters of time of ignorance (that are against Islam), under my feet, are abolished): anything from the time of ignorance that is against Islam was abolished – like burial of the girls while alive, abuse of women, different types of marriage, like a woman marrying many men, etc. But during the time of ignorance they had generosity, so anything that agrees with Islam remains. All of their worships were abolished, for example, doing tawaf while naked, subhan Allah. It is even said (تحت قدمي) 'under my feet' meaning it is very low.
  - (دماء الجاهلية موضوعة و ربا الجاهلية موضوع) (all claims for blood-vengeance belonging to the pre-Islamic period have been abolished, all claims to usury of the pre-Islamic period have been abolished): This is to tell the people that everything is canceled, and the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) is the first one to follow the command – it is not to say he gives commands and does not follow. So he began with his family and tribe first.
  - (اتقوا الله في النساء) (have taqwa of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) regarding the women): you need to be good to the women, why? Because of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Sometimes a husband might be good to his wife because it is his nature, but he needs to do it for the sake of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). Before they used to deal with the

ladies as an object, for example, if her husband dies, she is taken away as part of the inheritance, subhan Allah. Islam honors the lady not as what people say that it oppresses. And the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) said be gentle with the women because they are like vessels (نساء قوارير), they can easily get broken and get hurt. A believer husband will not hate his believer wife because he should find something he likes in her, and vice versa. And Hawa was created from the rib of Adam (عليه السلام) meaning they are very close to the heart, subhan Allah.

- (فإنكم أخذتموهن بأمان الله و استحلتتم فروجهن بكلمة الله): so with the name of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), two people become lawful for each other, subhan Allah.
- (و لكم عليهن أن لا يوطئن فرشكم أحدا تكرهونه فإن فعلن فاضربوهن ضربا غير مبرح): if your husband dislikes someone, you, the women cannot bring them into the house – there is respect to the husband. That is why you need to seek permission, and Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) said He gave the superiority to men, it is not because men are better than the women, but because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has given each a role, the man as the provider and the woman as the caretaker, so that they may complete each other, not compete with one another. And it is important to give respect to a man – never look down upon him or his family – because when you give respect this is what will keep it going. The women should obey for the sake of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). If the



- woman prays her five prayers, fasts her Ramadan, and obeys her husband, then Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has promised her paradise. And in another hadith, for the one who fulfills the obligations, and obeys her husband, then she can enter from any gate of paradise she wants, subhan Allah. If the woman does something that is against the husband, then he can hit, but not that it will cause any hurt or pain. A little tap as if why are you doing this? It is not to beat her or scare her. And the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) said this since that will reform the ladies. And this is a safeguard for the family. Before the children, it is important to have a good relation between the husband and the wife. If the husband and wife are fighting, then how can they worship, how will the children be? Subhan Allah.
- ولهن رزقهن و كسوتهن بالمعروف: it us upon the men need to provide the women their livelihood and clothes, but what is the condition? Not to nag him and you must get something that he is able to afford. Don't think these words are from the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى), this is all inspiration from Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. And notice this sermon was given on the Day of Arafah, and it is very practical. When will you have a successful and blessed marriage? When everyone knows their duties and the rights of others – and what is important is to fulfill your duties and give them their rights, and don't ask the people to give you your rights, but ask Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to give you your rights. Some people say I will not give him his rights

- until he gives me my rights – but this is not the attitude of a Muslim, or of a believer. And it is light upon light if both know, but if not, you need to know your boundaries. And when you do ask for your rights from others, you will humiliate yourself, and you might get it but in a very difficult way, subhan Allah. And imagine when the husband and wife know their boundaries, then they will be able to establish the religion, and it will be good for all the children and society. Dua'a from Surah Al Furqan 74: (وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا فُرَّةً أَعْيُنٍ ) (وَأَجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا) (And those who say: "Our Lord! Bestow on us from our wives and our offspring the comfort of our eyes, and make us leaders for the Muttaqûn)
- (سبحانه وتعالى) the Prophet (و قد تركت فيكم ما لم تضلوا بعده إن اعتصمتم) has left us with the Qur'an and the Sunnah – and when you take this, then you will never be misled. The Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) said that this deen will be broken into sects and all are in the hellfire except one, which is what he (سبحانه وتعالى) and his companions were upon. So you need to hold on to the Qur'an and the Sunnah. Make your friends the Qur'an and the Sunnah, because they will enlighten your life now and they will be a light for you in the grave, subhan Allah.
  - (و أنتم تسألون عني فما أنتم قائلون) (سبحانه وتعالى), so what will you say?
  - (قالوا نشهد أنك بلغت و أديت و نصحت) (سبحانه وتعالى): we bear witness that you conveyed the message, fulfilled it, and gave complete

advice. The Day of Arafah is bearing witness, so do you bear witness? Subhan Allah. The companions said (نحن نشهد) – we bear witness. Then the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) said: (اللهم أشهد) (اللهم أشهد) – O Allah I bear witness, O Allah I bear witness, O Allah I bear witness.

- Now you know why the Day of Arafah is a Witnessed Day, because we bore witness that (لا اله الا الله) – there is no one worthy of worship but Allah alone and we bore witness that (محمد رسول الله) – Muhammed is the Messenger of Allah. And this is the testimony of faith, subhan Allah.
- The Day of Arafah is a blessed day, a day of humbleness, a day of hope, a day of humility, and the sun will not rise on a day better than the Day of Arafah, subhan Allah, why? Because this is the Witnessed Day – all of humanity witnessed (لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله).
- Even if you are not at Arafah – you have the opportunity from dhuhur until maghrib to increase in the remembrance of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) and make dua'a.

## Best dua'a on the Day of Arafah

- Hadith: ( " خَيْرُ الدُّعَاءِ ) عَنْ عَمْرِو بْنِ شُعَيْبٍ، عَنْ أَبِيهِ، عَنْ جَدِّهِ، أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ " خَيْرُ الدُّعَاءِ دُعَاءُ يَوْمِ عَرَفَةَ وَخَيْرُ مَا قُلْتُ أَنَا وَالنَّبِيُّونَ مِنْ قَبْلِي لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ لَهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ " (وهو على كل شيء قدير" (Amr bin Shu'aib narrated from his father, from his grandfather, that the Prophet (سبحانه وتعالى) said: "The best of supplication is the supplication of the Day of Arafah. and the best of what I and the Prophet before me have said is: None has the right to be worshipped but Allah, Alone, without partner, to Him belongs all that exists, and to Him belongs the Praise, and He is powerful over all things. (La Ilaha Illallah, Wahdahu La Sharika Lahu, Lahul-Mulku Wa Lahul-Hamdu, Wa Huwa Ala Kulli Shai'in Qadir).') - Jami` at-Tirmidhi 3585 / Grade: Hasan / Albani
- When you see this, you will find this dua'a as a remembrance, because you are not asking for something, but the best dua'a is when you remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – for example, when you say alhamdulillah, Allah akhbar, subhan Allah, etc – why is it considered the best dua'a when you remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)?
- Because when you praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), then you are asking Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for His pleasure, subhan Allah. You are not only asking for things, but you are asking Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to love you, subhan Allah. Imagine if you have a child that is just saying you are a great mother, you are so kind, etc – but they are not asking you for anything, you will give them without them asking you because you are pleased with them. And to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the best example, when you remember Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), He will give

you better than if you were to ask because when Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is pleased with you and loves you, then He will give you better than what you would ask, subhan Allah.

- Whether you are in hajj or not, increase in this dua'a. In laylat al qadr, the dua'a we are making is (اللهم انك عفو تحب العفو فأعف عني) (O Allah, You are All-Pardoning, You love to pardon; so pardon me), but notice the dua'a on the Day of Arafah is different, because Ramadan is in preparation for hajj.
- You will find glorification and praise of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) in this dua'a, Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) loves it when you praise Him because He is perfect. So you need to increase in the praise of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى).
- Imagine you have time to make dua'a on this day, and you might think what should I say? But when you make this dua'a, you will get better than what you would ask for, subhan Allah.
- Hadith Qudsi: (من شغله ذكرني عن مسألتني أعطيته أفضل ما أعطي السائلين)

### What does this dua'a mean?

- (لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ) **(None has the right to be worshipped but Allah, Alone, without partner) (La Ilaha Illallah, Wahdahu La Sharika Lahu):** No one deserves the attachment out of fear and love except Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – I will not be attached with heart to myself, my husband, others, why? Because Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is perfect and everyone else is imperfect. And imagine on this day, there are so many people, and I am attaching to You alone, O Allah. And this is reminding you of the Day of Judgement, when

everyone will be for themselves, subhan Allah. No one can harm you, no one can benefit you, no one can guide you, or provide you even the smallest thing – and this will free your heart from any attachment. Because on the Day of Judgement, no one will say, oh my mother, my children. And to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is the final destination – (لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ).

○ **(لَهُ الْمُلْكُ) (to Him belongs all that exists) (Lahul-Mulku):** look at this picture, truly when you see this picture, the Kingdom and Dominion all belongs to Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). When you go to the harem, everyone is of different backgrounds, languages, colors, and as soon as 'Allah Akbar' is said everyone is all in the same row and organized, subhan Allah. This is power – look at the kingship of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). No one can see Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), but everyone is coming together to be a servant for One Master – does this not show you the kingship of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى)? Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will say on the Day of Judgement – (لمن الملك اليوم) (To whom is the Kingdom?) (الله الواحد القهار) To Allah The One, The Irresistible.. Don't make yourself poor to anyone, don't beg to anyone, beg to The King, The Real Owner of everything. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is The True King because before the Resurrection, everyone will perish and He will say where are the tyrants, where are the arrogant ones, and no one is there, and He will say 'I am the King', Allahu Akbar. Don't be afraid of anyone and don't have hope in anyone except Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) because to Him belongs all of the dominion. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) honors and humiliates whom He wills and nobody can give life or

cause death except Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) – no one can oppose Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) or reject Him because He is The King. On the Day of Arafah, the people are in a meeting with the The King – The King of all Kings, subhan Allah. That is why Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will boast to the angels about the ones at Arafah, and how they all came to Him, subhan Allah.

- **(وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ) (and to Him belongs the Praise) (Wa Lahul-Hamdu):** To Him belongs all of the praise because He taught me, He gave me food, He gave me air, He gave me feelings, He gave me actions – so will I not be grateful? Subhan Allah. To Him belongs all of the praises. Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) deserves all the praise because He shown us mercy and compassion, He has guided us to Islam, He made us worshippers, He gave us the Qur'an, He made us Muslims – to Him belong all of the praises in the beginning and the end. Everyone will praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) on the Day of Judgment, the dwellers of paradise will praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for having guided them, and the dwellers of the hellfire will praise Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) for not punishing them more. Surah Az Zumar 75: ( وَتَرَى الْمَلَائِكَةَ حَافِينَ مِنْ حَوْلِ الْعَرْشِ ) (يُسَبِّحُونَ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّهِمْ وَفُضِي بَيْنَهُمْ بِالْحَقِّ وَقِيلَ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ) (And you will see the angels surrounding the Throne (of Allah) from all round, glorifying the praises of their Lord (Allah). And they (all the creatures) will be judged with truth, and it will be said. All the praises and thanks be to Allah, the Lord of the 'Alamin (mankind, jinns and all that exists).)
- **(وهو على كل شيء قدير) (And He is able to do all things) (Wa Huwa Ala Kulli Shai'in Qadir):** Do you not see the ability of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) to

gather the people all together. And Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is listening to all of them with no confusion – everyone will ask different things in different languages but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will listen to you as if you are the only one there – this is the power and ability of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى). To bring different people, different backgrounds, languages and whoever you will be with during your hajj, it is what Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) has decreed for you to bring you together – this is the power of Allah (سبحانه وتعالى), subhan Allah. So deal with (لا اله الا الله), just as Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) is dealing with you as if you are the only one, subhan Allah.

There is no greater day that Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) will free His servants from the hellfire than this day, even more than Ramadan, subhan Allah. (ما من يوم أكثر من يعتق الله فيه عبدا من النار)

The Day of Arafah is a Witnessed Day and we all say (أشهد ان لا اله الا الله و) – (أشهد أن محمد رسول الله) – We all bear witness that there is no one is worthy to be worshipped but Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) alone and we bear witness that Mohammed (سبحانه وتعالى) is His messenger.

**May Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) free us from the hellfire and may He grant us success on this day. Ameen. Eid Mubarak and may Allah (سبحانه وتعالى) accept your worships. Ameen.**

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