

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ أَمَرَ عِبَادَهُ بِذِكْرِهِ وَوَعَدَهُمْ بِعَظِيمٍ فَضْلِهِ
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ يُقْبَلُ التَّائِبِينَ وَيُعْطِي
السَّائِلِينَ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُ اللَّهِ وَرَسُولُهُ سَيِّدُ الْبَشَرِ
خَيْرٌ مَنْ ذَكَرَ رَبَّهُ وَشَكَرَ وَحَجَّ الْبَيْتَ وَاعْتَمَرَ فَاللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ
وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَنَبِيَّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ وَعَلَى مَنْ
تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds. He commands His servants to remember Him and promises them abundant rewards. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah. He accepts those who repent to Him and gives those who supplicate to Him. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the servant of Allah and His Messenger, the best of mankind. He was the best who worshipped his Creator and performed Hajj and Umrah. May peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Master Muhammad, his pure family, companions, and all those who follow them in righteousness till the Day of Judgment.

- In a few days, pilgrims from all around the world will be making their way to Mecca in order to fulfil their fifth pillar of Islam

وَأَذِّنْ فِي النَّاسِ بِالْحَجِّ يَأْتُوكَ رِجَالًا وَعَلَى كُلِّ ضَامِرٍ يَأْتِينَ مِنْ كُلِّ فَجٍّ عَمِيقٍ

“And proclaim to the people the Hajj; they will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every distant pass” (22:27)

- But why Ibrahim عليه السلام? Why did Allah سبحانه choose to make one of the five pillars of Islam a re-enactment of his specific footsteps?

إِذْ قَالَ لَهُ رَبُّهُ أَسْلِمِ قَالَ أَسْلَمْتُ لِرَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

“When his Lord said to him, "Submit", he said "I have submitted to the Lord of the worlds.” (2:131)

- Ibrahim عليه السلام faced the interests of family/community vs his belief

وَلَقَدْ آتَيْنَا إِبْرَاهِيمَ رُشْدَهُ مِنْ قَبْلُ وَكُنَّا بِهِ عَالِمِينَ

“And We had certainly given Ibrahim sound judgement before, and We were of him well-knowing” (21:51)

- Ibrahim عليه السلام struggled against his community, their beliefs, practices and idols. He debated, reasoned and then demolished their idols, his community’s rejection and rage led them to burn him alive, but his belief protected him.

قُلْنَا يَا نَارُ كُونِي بَرْدًا وَسَلَامًا عَلَىٰ إِبْرَاهِيمَ

“Allah said, "O fire, be coolness and safety upon Ibrahim” (21:69)

- He mission doesn't stop there, he moves on to debate with the tyrants and desposts of his time in Egypt and then to Shaam. He invites people to submit themselves to Allah and to reject idolatry

أَلَمْ تَرَ إِلَى الَّذِي حَاجَّ إِبْرَاهِيمَ فِي رَبِّهِ أَنْ آتَاهُ اللَّهُ الْمُلْكَ إِذْ قَالَ إِبْرَاهِيمُ رَبِّيَ الَّذِي يُحْيِي وَيُمِيتُ

Have you not considered the one who argued with Abraham about his Lord [merely] because Allah had given him kingship? When Abraham said, "My Lord is the one who gives life and causes death," (2:258)

- It is not long however before he is commanded yet again by Allah to pack his luggage and immigrate to another land, along with Haajar and his son Ismail.
- Mecca a dry, desolate, lifeless and lonely part of the world, lacking every single basic resource for human life. There, he is commanded to leave Haajar and Ismail, and walk away. Without hesitation or any second thought, he submits

رَبَّنَا إِنِّي أَسْكَنْتُ مِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي بِوَادٍ غَيْرِ ذِي زَرْعٍ عِنْدَ بَيْتِكَ الْمُحَرَّمِ رَبَّنَا لِيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ فَاجْعَلْ أَفْئِدَةً مِنَ النَّاسِ تَهْوِي إِلَيْهِمْ وَارْزُقْهُمْ مِنَ الثَّمَرَاتِ لَعَلَّهُمْ يَشْكُرُونَ

Our Lord, I have settled some of my descendants in an uncultivated valley near Your sacred House, our Lord, that they may establish prayer. So make hearts among the people incline toward them and provide for them from the fruits that they might be grateful. (14:37)

وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ دِينًا مِمَّنْ أَسْلَمَ وَجْهَهُ لِلَّهِ وَهُوَ مُحْسِنٌ وَاتَّبَعَ مِلَّةَ إِبْرَاهِيمَ حَنِيفًا وَاتَّخَذَ اللَّهُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلًا

- And who is better in religion than one who submits himself to Allah while being a doer of good and follows the religion of Abraham, inclining toward truth? And Allah took Abraham as an intimate friend. (4:125)

TOMORROW 12th Islamic Month of Dhul Hijjah Will BEGIN

وَالْفَجْرِ (١٠) وَلَيَالٍ عَشْرٍ

By the Dawn; By the ten Nights; (89:1-2)

"On no days is the worship of Allah desired more than in the (first) ten days of Dhul Hijjah. The fast of each of these days is equal to the fast of a whole year, and the worship of each of these nights is equal to the worship of Laylatul Qadr." (Tirmidhi)

The Prophet ﷺ was asked about the fast of the day of Arafah. He said, "It compensates for the (minor) sins of the past and the coming year." (Ibn Majah)

"A person should neither clip his nails nor cut his hair until he performs qurbaani".
(Ibn Majah)

- The reciting of Takbeer al-Tashreeq after every Fard Salah from the Fajr of 9th Dhul Hijjah to the Asr of 13th Dhul Hijjah
- The Qurbaani/Sacrifice to be performed on 10th, 11th or 12th Zul Hijjah.
- If you have saving equivalent to the Silver Nisaab Threshold (£280) or Gold Nisab Threshold (£2800) , then you must do Qurbani

7 parts in cow/ox/buffalo/camel

Camel – age 5 years

Cow/Buffalo – age 2 years

1 Whole Goat – age 1 year

1 Whole Sheep – age 6 months