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Let us strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands, as well as avoiding all of

His prohibitions. May we all attain success in this world and the Hereafter.

I would like to invite fellow congregation to altogether ponder upon today's *khutbah* titled



The month of Dhul Hijjah that will soon appear is among the months known as the Sacred months, and it is the highly anticipated month by the Muslim ummah. Among the 'ibaadah (worship)

that is much awaited when the month of Dhul Hijjah comes is the 'ibaadah of qurbaani or ud-hiyah. The 'ibrah (lesson) from the 'ibaadah of qurbaani is to commemorate the

Prophet sacrifice of 'Alayhis Ibraaheem Salaam who was commanded by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala to slaughter his own son 'Alayhis Ismaa'eel Salaam as sacrifice.

It was intended to test the imaan (faith) of them both in Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. This story was mentioned by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in verse 102 of

soorah as-Saaffaat that was recited in muqaddimah the (introduction) of this khutbah, which means:

"And when he reached with him [the age of] exertion, he said, "O my son, indeed I have seen in a dream that I [must] sacrifice you, so see what you think."

He said, "O my father, do as you are commanded. You will find me, if Allah wills, of the steadfast.""

As reward for their sacrifices (in imaan and obedience), Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala had substituted it with a large sacrificial animal. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in

soorah as-Saaffaat, verses 103-107:

"And when they had both submitted and he put him down upon his forehead, We called to him,

"O Abraham, You have fulfilled the vision." Indeed, We thus reward the doers of good. Indeed, this was the clear trial. And We ransomed him with a great sacrifice."

The hukm (ruling) for the 'ibaadah of qurbaani is sunnah mu'akkadah (emphasized sunnah) for those that can afford it. Moreover, it is ruled as makrooh (detestable) to abandon it

(not performing ud-hiyah) while one is able to do so. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verses 1-2 of Soorah al-Kawthar:

"Indeed, We have granted you, [O Muhammad], al-Kawthar. So pray to your Lord and sacrifice Ito Him alone]."

Prophet Muhammad never abandoned the 'ibaadah of qurbaani after its legislation. In the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah stated:

"Whoever can afford it, but does not offer a sacrifice, let him not come near our prayer place."

(ibn Maajah)

Similarly, the in hadeeth of 'A'ishah Sayyidatina radiyAllaahu *'anha* where Rasulullah said:

"The son of Adam does not do any deed on the Day of Sacrifice that is dearer to Allah than shedding blood. It will come on the Day of Resurrection with its

horns and hair and hooves. Its blood is accepted by Allah before it reaches the ground. So be content when you do it."

(at-Tirmidhi)

Of late, there are various parties that offers the opportunity to offer 'udhiyah abroad. However, the question arises, which one is actually better whether the qurbaani performed

locally or abroad for those who are in need? Definitely it is better and preferred for the 'ibaadah of qurbaani to be performed locally but it is not unlawful if performed overseas

especially in countries in need.

According to the Hanafi madhhab (school of thought), it is makrooh to move the slaughtering outside of the locality

unless if there are relatives that are in need out there. While the Maliki madhhab stipulates that it is impermissible to move the slaughtering outside of the locality beyond the

distance of safar (travelling), except if there are those that are really in need.

It is clear that the sacrifice done in one's locality is the most

accurate way in the shi'ar upholding (symbol) Allah of Wa Ta'aala. Subhaanahu This way, those that slaughtered can implement several of the sunnah acts such as

distributing the slaughtered meat, slaughter the animal themselves, and even witness the their slaughtering sacrificial animal.

These matters are on a hadeeth based where the Prophet commanded his daughter, Sayyidatina Faatimah radiyAllaahu 'anha, by stating:

"Stand up and go to the place of sacrifice and witness it yourself for with the first drop of blood your previous sins will be forgiven."

(al-Haakim)

To end the sermon today, let us derive several salient points as guidance for us all:

1. We must always have certainty that the 'ibaadah of qurbaani is an 'ibaadah that has been legislated in our religion.

2. We must strive diligence with according to our ability to offer the sacrifice every year.

3. We must fully comprehend that sacrifices every made will be recompensed with good in this world and the Hereafter.

"And recite to them the story of Adam's two sons, in truth, when they both offered a sacrifice [to Allah], and it was accepted from one of them but was not accepted from the other.

Said [the latter], "I will surely kill you." Said [the former], "Indeed, Allah only accepts from the righteous [who fear Him].""

(Soorah al-Maa'idah 5:27)

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

Let us altogether strive to have the tagwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by increasing our obedience towards Him and avoiding acts of disobedience and abominable deeds.

O Allah, grant us guidance in performing the five obligatory prayers in congregation, fulfilling zakaat through Selangor Zakaat Board (LZS), making endowment (waqf)

through Perbadanan Wakaf Selangor (Selangor Endowment Corporation) and giving away our wealth (infaaq) through Tabung Infak Jariah Umat Islam Selangor (TIJARI, Selangor Continuous Charity for Muslims Fund),

and to the orphans through Darul Ehsan Islamic Foundation (YIDE).

O Allah, bestow upon us rizq that are lawful and blessed, keep us away from acts of corruption and abuse of power for they are betrayals upon the trust given.

