Our Eid: A Celebration of Sincerity

عِيدُنَا إِخْلَاصٌ

(\) First Khutbah

Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar and to Allah belongs all praise.

Allah is the Greatest, exceedingly great. All praise belongs abundantly to Allah. Glory and praise be to Allah, morning and evening.

We bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and we worship none but Him, devoting our religion sincerely to Him.

And we bear witness that our Prophet Muhammad is the servant of Allah, His Messenger, the Seal of His Prophets, and the chosen one from among His sincere servants.

May Allah's peace and blessings be upon him, his family, his companions, and those who follow them.

As for what follows: I advise you, O servants of Allah and myself to have **taqwā** of Allah, to be steadfast in obeying Him, and to be sincere in worshipping Him. Allah the Exalted said:

﴿ يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اعْبُدُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ وَالَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ ﴾ "O mankind, worship your Lord who created you and those before you, that you may become righteous "

O blessed ones with the joy of Eid,

Congratulations to you on your Eid, adorned with abundant blessings, beautified with divine gifts and generous bestowals. We ask Allah to return it upon us and upon our wise leadership with continued goodness, to bless our homeland with lasting joy, and to grant our society unity, compassion, and mutual kindness. We praise Him, exalted is He, for His noble bounty, and we worship Him with sincerity for His sake, just as He commanded the first and the last of His creation in His saying:

"And they were not commanded except to worship Allah, [being] sincere to Him in religion(r)."

الله أكبر الله أكبر الله أكبر، ولله الحمد

Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar and to Allah belongs all praise.

O servants of Allah, Sincerity is a profound value, both of faith and of patriotism, which we honour during our Eid celebrations, in the spiritual atmosphere of Hajj, whose essence is pure intention and devotion.

Sincerity means: purity of intention and clarity of action, just as gold is refined from impurities and water is filtered from sediments.

And the greatest form of sincerity is sincerity to Allah, that deep, heartfelt value which forms the foundation of worship, the secret of nearness, and the key to acceptance.

If it flows through deeds, it gives them life.

If it touches words, it purifies them.

If it accompanies intentions, it elevates them.

"So, worship Allah, devoting the religion sincerely to Him. Surely, the pure religion belongs to Allah $^{(\xi)}$."

Thus, sincerity is the covenant between a servant and His Lord, the emblem of the one who clings to it:

Acceptance that brings about Your satisfaction towards me.

Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar and to Allah belongs all praise.

O you who are sincere: Indeed, sincerity (Al-Ikhlas) is the core of worship and the essence of values. From it spring noble morals and beautiful traits, and it is the faithful guardian of rights and duties. Among the highest forms of sincerity in status, and the most elevated in rank, is sincerity towards the homeland.

Whoever is sincere in their love for their homeland will not hesitate to serve it. In serving it, will preserve its good reputation, adhere to its laws, uphold its traditions and customs, honor its legacy and take pride in its heritage, strive diligently in their work for its sake, spread goodness throughout its lands, sacrifice everything precious and valuable for its upliftment, defend its soil,

protect its achievements, and diligently pray for it in private and in public, just as Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) supplicated:

(My Lord, make this land secure $^{(\circ)}$)

and adopt from its national anthem a guiding phrase and slogan, they repeat:

We Work sincerely, work sincerely

As long as we live, we will be sincere, sincere."

"O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the

Messenger and those in authority among you. (1) "

I say these words of mine, and I ask Allah for forgiveness for myself and for you. So, seek His forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, Most Merciful.

The Second Khutbah:

Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, Lā ilāha illā Allāh, Allāhu Akbar, Allāhu Akbar, wa lillāhi al-ḥamd.

(Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest,

Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, there is no god but Allah,

Allah is the Greatest, Allah is the Greatest, and to Allah belongs all praise.)

O you who celebrate the Eid with joy:

One of the greatest aspects of sincerity is a person's sincerity towards his family and community, he should be dutiful to his parents, maintain ties of kinship and relatives, be kind to his wife and children, shoulder his responsibility towards them, and spend generously on them, acting under the words of his Prophet:

«إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمَ إِذَا أَنْفَقَ عَلَى أَهْلِهِ نَفَقَةً، وَهُوَ يَحْتَسِهُا، كَانَتْ لَهُ صَدَقَةً».

"If a Muslim spends on his family, expecting reward from Allah, it will be considered charity for $him^{(v)}$."

So, if each one of us is sincere within their own family, that sincerity will bear fruit across the entire society. Our

community will then be like a single body, cooperative and compassionate. You will see its members connecting during Eid, visiting one another, spreading love and harmony, and sharing joy and happiness with their families and relatives, neighbours and friends.

Let us make this Eid al-Adha a festival of sincerity toward our society, and of true love and devotion to this homeland, this nation that has written chapters of dazzling success, built its glory upon firm foundations, and continuously planted goodness, producing blessings like flourishing trees.

Let us live under the shade of sincerity in all its forms. In worship, sincerity brings divine guidance and acceptance. Toward the nation, it manifests as loyalty and faithfulness. Within the family, it means love and honour. In the pursuit of knowledge, it leads to brilliance and excellence. In work, it results in mastery and success. In education and upbringing, it takes the form of compassion and determination. And in giving, it leaves a lasting impact, for "a single dirham may outweigh"

a thousand dirhams" through sincerity. Indeed, a small act done with sincerity is better than a great deed done without it. We ask Allah, the Almighty, to grant us purity of intention and sincerity in our deeds, to preserve the security and prosperity of our homeland, and to bless our society with unity and stability.

Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask

[Allah to grant him] peace.

O Allah, send Your peace, blessings, and grace upon our Prophet Muhammad, and upon his family, his companions, and all who follow them in righteousness.

O Allah, grant success to the President of the State, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed, his deputies, his brothers, the rulers of the Emirates, and his loyal Crown Prince, in all that You love and are pleased with.

O Allah, have mercy on Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Rashid, the founding leaders, and Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed. Admit them, by Your grace, into the vastness of Your Paradise. Envelop the martyrs of our nation in Your mercy and forgiveness.

O servants of Allah,

Eid Mubarak.. Happy and blessed.

May you always be well..

⁽¹⁾Eid Al-Adha prayer at 0:0. Abu Dhabi time.

⁽Y)al-Bagarah, Y1.

⁽٣)Al-Bayyinah: ٥.

 $^{(\}xi)$ Az-Zumar: Y-Y.

⁽⁰⁾Ibrahim: ٣0

⁽٦) An-Nisā' ٥٩. (٧) Agreed upon.