

So, the dutiful son has strived to obey his Lord and please his father, setting for us a pattern in obeying one's parents. In return of his steadfastness and adherence to his Lord's orders, Allah the Almighty has ransomed Ismail with a ram. To this, the Exalted He says, **“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.”** (As-Saffat: ١٠٣-١٠٧). And thus, sacrificing the animal became a tradition of the delightful Eid Al Adha.

Allahu Akabar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar. La Illaha Illallah. Allhu Akbar Wa Lillah Al Hamd. (Allah is the Greatest three successive times. There is no deity save Allah, and Allah is the Greatest and to Allah goes all praise.)

O Servants of Allah,

Please know that Allah, the Most High, has made the mention of Ibrahim pbuh in the holy Quran ever-remembered. In several places therein, He praised many of Ibrahim's qualities and values. For instance in the following Aya, He describes him as the righteous Prophet, for He says, **“and mention in the Book [the story of] Abraham. Indeed, he was a man of truth and a prophet.”** (Mariam: ٤١). He is also called the close friend of Allah, the Most Merciful. Allah says, **“and Allah took Abraham as an intimate friend.”** (An-Nisaa: ١٢٥).

Amongst the other qualities that Allah the Almighty has attributed to Ibrahim pbuh were the Father of the Prophets and the Imam of the righteous. The Almighty says, **“indeed, I will make you a leader for the people.”** (Al-Baqara: ١٢٤). He was also described as the one encompassing all that is kind and guiding to all that which is good. The Most Exalted says, **“indeed, Abraham was a [comprehensive] leader, devoutly obedient to Allah, inclining toward truth.”** (An-Nahl: ١٢٠).

The Almighty has also urged people to take the example of Abraham for He says, **“there has already been for you an excellent pattern in Abraham.”** (Al-Mumtahana: ٤). No wonder for Ibrahim pbuh has set an example for us in obedience to his Lord, sincerity in performing His



acts of worship and submission to His ordains. Allah the Almighty says, **“when his Lord said to him, ‘Submit’, he said ‘I have submitted [in Islam] to the Lord of the worlds’.**” (Al-Baqara: ١٣١).

Furthermore, Ibrahim pbuh was also known for imploring to his Creator in humility, humbly submissive before Him and diligent in obeying His commands. To this, Allah the Almighty says, **“indeed, Abraham was forbearing, grieving and [frequently] returning [to Allah].”** (Hood: ٧٥). Ibrahim pbuh also used to thank Allah the Most Exalted frequently for the favours He bestowed upon him. About him, the Almighty says, **“[He was] grateful for His favours. Allah chose him and guided him to a straight path.”** (An-Nahl: ١٢١).

Not only was Ibrahim pbuh obedient to His Lord, but also dutiful to his father, addressing him with respectful speech that is full of affection as well. So, he would address his father saying **“O my father.”** (Mariam: ٤٢). As a recompense for his respect and dutifulness, Allah the Almighty has rewarded him generously in this world and in the Hereafter. As such, He granted him righteous and kind offspring. The Most Exalted illustrates this in this Aya: **“and We gave to Him Isaac and Jacob and placed in his descendants prophethood and scripture. And We gave him his reward in this world, and indeed, he is in the Hereafter among the righteous.”** (Al-Ankaboot: ٢٧).

On his behalf, Ibrahim was grateful to His Lord for such a gift by striving in raising his sons and invoking Allah to grant them success in maintaining obedience to their Lord. So, he would say, **“my Lord, make me an establisher of prayer, and [many] from my descendants. Our Lord, and accept my supplication.”** (Ibrahim: ٤٠). He would also advise them to hold fast to their religion, follow the straight path and obey their Lord. The Most Exalted says, **“and Abraham instructed his sons [to do the same] and [so did] Jacob, [saying], ‘O my sons, indeed Allah has chosen for you this religion, so do not die except while you are Muslims.’”** (Al-Baqara: ١٣٢).

In like manner, it is a duty incumbent on each father and mother to strengthen their children’s bonds with Allah the Most Exalted and cement in them the best of manners and finest of values, following in

footsteps of Ibrahim pbuh and his wife Hajar who was reliant on her Lord and obedient to her husband. This can be seen in her perseverance when Ibrahim pbuh left her in an uncultivated valley. Thereupon, she asked him, “Did Allah command you to do so?” He replied: “Yes.” Then she said: “We are not going to be lost (since Allah is with us).” After Ibrahim left her with her son Ismail in the barren valley, she showed tolerance and resilience in nursing her child on her own.

It is a duty, then, on each wife to strive in drawing nearer to her Creator, obeying her husband and taking care of her family. Our Master Muhammad pbuh has accentuated this as he said, “If the woman establishes her five (daily prayers), observed fasting in her month (Ramadan), guarded her honour and obeyed her husband; it will be said to her, ‘You may enter Paradise from whichever gate you would like’.”

Allahu Akabar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar. La Illaha Illallah. Allahu Akbar Wa Lillah Al Hamd.

Dear Muslims

Another quality that our Master Ibrahim has embraced was that he was a tolerant doer of good and hospitable. In fact, the holy Quran has mentioned stories about his generosity and hospitality. An illustration of this can be found in the following Ayas: “**has there reached you the story of the honoured guests of Abraham? When they entered upon him and said, ‘[We greet you with] peace.’ He answered, ‘[And upon you] peace, [you are] a people unknown.’ Then he went to his family and came with a fat [roasted] calf and placed it near them; he said, ‘Will you not eat?’**” (Ad-Dhariyat: ٢٤-٢٧).

So, when some people unknown to him came to Ibrahim pbuh, he hastened to his family, selected some of the best supplies that he had and prepared food for his guests, then he carried it to them and served them by himself. Truly, each Muslim should take example of such munificence.

One more lesson that Muslims can draw from the ethics of Ibrahim pbuh is his love of the homeland and his supplication to Allah the Almighty to bless it with stability, welfare and prosperity. About this, Allah, the Most Exalted says, “**and [mention] when Abraham said,**



‘My Lord, make this a secure city and provide its people with fruits’.” (Al-Baqara: ١٢٦). There is no doubt the Prophets spread all that is good in their nations and pray for their people to rejoice tranquillity. Indeed, with invocations and hard work nations can be built, and people can rise in status with peaceful co-existence and tolerance, which brings them together, united in humanity.

With this in mind, we seek Allah’s favour to continue blessing our homeland with all that is good and imparting happiness to our hearts. O Allah, please grant for us to be grateful to Your favours.

May Allah guide us all to obey Him and obey His Messenger Muhammad pbuh and obey those He has commanded us to obey in line with Your orders: “**O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority amongst you.**” (An-Nisaa: ٥٩).

May Allah direct us all to the blessings of the Glorious Quran and the Sunna of His Messenger pbuh.

I say this and ask Allah for forgiveness for me and you, so invoke Him for forgiveness, for He is the Most Forgiving, the Most Merciful.

Second Sermon

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar Wa Lillah Al Hamd (Allah is the Greatest seven successive times and to Allah goes all praise.)

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the worlds. I bear witness that there is no deity save Allah, having no associates. I also bear witness that our Master Muhammad is the servant of Allah and His Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon our Master Muhammad, his pure family, companions.

I urge you, **O Servants of Allah**, and myself to be aware that you are asked to obey Him, the Most Exalted and Sublime, and to follow in footsteps of our Father Ibrahim pbuh. Allah the Almighty says, “**then We revealed to you, [O Muhammad], to follow the religion of Abraham, inclining toward truth.**” (An-Nahl: ١٢٣). For one reason, Ibrahim pbuh has completed all that which Allah the Almighty has ordered him to do. This is evidenced in Allah’s statement: “**and [mention, O Muhammad], when Abraham was tried by his Lord**



with commands and he fulfilled them.” (Al-Baqara: ١٢٤). For another, Ibrahim pbuh has fulfilled the covenant of Allah the Almighty, as illustrated in this Aya in which Allah the Most Exalted says about him: **“and [of] Abraham, who fulfilled [his obligations].”** (An-Najm: ٣٧).

Indeed, by following the example of Ibrahim pbuh we will, by Allah’s favour, attain the bounties that he has attained. Allah the Exalted is He has rewarded him in this life and in the next, for He says, **“reward in this world, and indeed, he is in the Hereafter among the righteous.”** (Al-Ankaboot: ٢٧). In addition to that, Allah the Most High has honoured Ibrahim with good praise and decent mention amongst the peoples in response to his supplications in which he said, **“[and he said], "My Lord, grant me authority and join me with the righteous. And grant me a reputation of honor among later generations.”** (Al-Shuaraa: ٨٤-٨٣).

What is more, Allah has invoked peace upon Ibrahim pbuh, for the Most Exalted says, **“Peace upon Abraham. Indeed, We thus reward the doers of good. Indeed, he was of Our believing servants.”** (As-Saffat: ١١١-١٠٩).

So, Allah’s Apostle Ibrahim and his family set a model for the worlds to emulate for Allah the Almighty says, **“those are the ones whom Allah has guided, so from their guidance take an example.”** (Al-Anaam: ٩٠). In the same regard, a poet once said what is meant: “So, take their example of them if you cannot be a replicate of them. Indeed, resembling the noble people is success.”

Given such noble status, the Prophet Muhammad pbuh has commanded us to invoke peace and blessings on Ibrahim and his family every time we have sent peace and blessing on him. On this account, it was narrated that Saeed Al Khudri, may Allah be pleased with him, reported, “We said, ‘O Messenger of Allah pbuh! This is (i.e. we know) the greeting to you; will you tell us how to send Salat on you?’ He said, ‘Say: O Allah, grant peace upon Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as You did grant peace upon Ibrahim and the family of

Ibrahim. And confer Your blessings upon Muhammad and the family of Muhammad as You blessed Ibrahim and the family of Ibrahim.”

May Allah be pleased with the Rightly Guided Caliphs: Abu Bakr, Umar, Uthman and Ali, and all of the noble Companions.

May Allah grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and guide him to all that is good. O Allah, we also seek Your favour to grant him continued health and care. May Allah also ensure success to his Vice-President, trustworthy Crown Prince and his brothers, Their Highnesses the Rulers of the Emirates.

O Allah, please forgive all of the Muslims, men and women, living and dead. We pray to Allah to show mercy on late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the late UAE Sheikhs. O Lord, grant them abundant mercy and bless them with Your kindness and satisfaction. O Lord, forgive and show mercy on our parents, relatives and whoever has done a favour to us.

O Allah, we seek Your grace to bless for us this day of Eid and make it a witness for us. O Lord, please also grant that we cherish peace of mind, wellbeing and acceptance of our good deeds. O Allah, please accept from us our prayer, spending in charity, our Takbir (saying Allahu Akbar) and our sacrifices.

May Allah accept from our pilgrims their pilgrimage, protect them and grant they return to their homeland safe and rewarded.

O Allah, please return this happy Eid to us with the most complete, abundant, blessed and best bounties. O Allah, we pray to You to fill with joy our hearts, happiness our houses, delight our homeland and make us amongst the doers of good.

May Allah have mercy on the honourable martyrs of our nation and gather them with the ones upon whom Allah has bestowed favour of the prophets. May Allah make the dwelling of the martyrs, their families, parents and relatives with the righteous. Indeed, You answer to the supplications.

O Allah, please grant the best reward for the families of the martyrs and offer them patience and solace. May Allah grant victory to the soldiers of the Arab Coalition who gathered to restore the rights to their owners.

O Lord, please be by their side and guide the Yemeni people to everything that is good. O Allah, make them rally for the word of truth and legitimacy, and bless them with welfare and stability, O the Most Generous.

O Lord, we beseech You to bless all of the Muslim countries and the whole world with stability and peace.

We pray to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, to continue blessing the UAE with stability and welfare and increase it in bounties, knowledge, civilisation, tolerance, happiness, beauty and cleanliness. O Allah, please bless for the UAE its provisions and continue blessing it with safety and security.

Our Lord, give us in this world that which is good and in the Hereafter that which is good, and save us from the torment of the Fire.

May Allah return this occasion to you with good health and well-being.