Treasures from the Salaf

كنوز من السلف

Dhul-Ḥijjah & The Day of ‘Arafah

ذو الحجة ويوم العرفة

Dar PDFs
بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

إن الحمد لله، نحْمَدَه ونستعِينه ونسْتغفِرِه، وننْعَوذ بِاللَّه مِن شرور أنفسنا، ومن سيِّئات أعمالنا، من يهدِه الله فلا مضل له، ومن يضل فَلا هادي له، وأشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، وأشهد أن محمدا عبده ورسوله.

يا أيها الذين آمَنوا اتَّقُوا الله حَقْ تَقْتَاهِ وَلا تَموَّنَّ الَّذِينَ مَعَكُمُ مُسْلِمُونَ
[آل عمران: 102]

يا أيها الناس اتَّقُوا ربَّكم الذي خَلَقَكم من نفس واحدة وخلق منها زوجها وَبِثَ مِنْهَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا وَنِسَاءٌ وَأَتِقُوا الله
[النساء: 1]

يا أيها الذين آمَنوا اتَّقُوا الله وقولوا قولًا سُمِيَّا
يُصِلِح لِكُم أَعمالَكم وَيُغْفِر لَكُم ذُنُوبكم وَمِن يَطْعِع الله وَرسُوله فَقْدُ فَاز فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا
[الأحزاب: 70-71]

أما بعد: فإن أصدق الحديث كتاب الله، وخير الهدى هدي محمد ﷺ، وشر الأمور محدثاتها، وكل محدثة بيعة، وكل بيعة ضلاله، وكل ضلاله في النار.
This is a compilation of statements from the Salaf as-Ṣāliḥ (The Righteous Predecessors) regarding the sacred month of Dhul-Ḥijjah and the blessed day of ‘Arafah. We compiled this collection with the hope that it be a beneficial and concise compilation to firstly enlighten the reader of the rulings, virtues, and mannerisms of these blessed days, and secondly, to encourage and motivate the reader to strive in obedience, perform righteous deeds, and worship Allāh in these blessed days in a manner that is pleasing to Him ﷽. We have mentioned the statements of the Salaf in the Arabic language as well as English to aid the reader in learning the Arabic language as well as rendering it into English. We ask Allāh ﷽ to make it a benefit, accept it from us, and increase us all in beneficial knowledge and righteous actions.
Dhul-Ḥijjah & The Day of ‘Arafah

Dar PDFs
Verily, the number of months with Allāh is twelve months [in a year], as it was decreed by Allāh on the Day He created the heavens and the earth; of them four are Sacred. That is the right religion, so do not wrong yourselves therein.

(Dhul-Qa’dah, Dhul-Ḥijjah, Muḥarram, Rajab)

[Sūrah at-Tawbah 9:36]
Allāh ﷺ says:

وَأَلْفَجرِ (١) وَلِيَاليَلِ عَشْرِ (٢)

{ By the dawn (1) and the ten nights (2) }

والليالي العشر: المراد بها عشر ذي الحجة.

كما قاله ابن عباس، ابن الزبير، ومjahad،

وغير واحد من السلف والخلف.

The ten nights refer to the [first] ten days of Dhul-Ḥijjah as was said by Ibn ʿAbbās, Ibn Zubayr, Mujāhid, and others from [the Imāms of] the Salaf and those after them.

[ تفسير ابن كثير ]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

إنّمَا الأَعْمَالُ بِالْنِّيَاتِ

Verily, actions are only based on intentions.

[Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī (1)]
[صحيح البخاري (١)]
The First Ten Days of Dhul-Ḥijjah

"ما من أيّام العمل الصالح فيها أحب إلى الله من هذه الأيّام" يعني: العشرين
قالوا: "يا رسول الله! ولا الجهاد في سبيل الله؟" قال: "ولا الجهاد في سبيل الله إلا رجُل خرج بنفسه وماله فلم يرجع من ذلك بشيء".

[ابن ماجه (1727)]

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said: “There are no days during which righteous deeds are more beloved to Allāh than these days,” meaning the [first] ten days [of Dhul-Ḥijjah]. They (i.e., the Companions) said: “O’ Messenger of Allāh! Not even Jihād in the cause of Allāh?” He ﷺ said: “Not even Jihād in the cause of Allāh, except for a man who goes out with himself and his wealth and does not return with either.”

[Ibn Mājah (1727)]
Ibn Ḥajr stated:

The reason the First Ten Days of Dhul-Ḥijjah are distinguished [in excellence] from what is apparent, is because of what they gather of the main foundational acts of worship therein, such as the Prayer, Fasting, Charity and Ḥajj, which are not found [altogether] in other than them.
Ibn Taymiyyah رحمه الله said:

أيام عشر ذي الحجة أفضل من أيّام العشر
من رمضان، وليالي العشر الأواخر من رمضان
أفضل من ليالي عشر ذي الحجة.

The [first] ten days of Dhul-Ḥijjah are more virtuous
than the [last] ten days of [the blessed month of] Ramaḍān,
and the last ten nights of Ramaḍān are more virtuous than
the [first] ten nights of Dhul-Ḥijjah.

Ibn al-Qayyim رحمه الله commented and said:

إذا تأمل الفاضل اللبيب
هذا الجواب، وجده شافياً كافياً.

If the virtuous and intelligent one was to reflect upon this
answer, he would find it satisfactory and sufficient.

[ بدائع الفوائد (٢٢٣١١) ]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

من كان له ذبيح يذبحه، فإذا أهل
هلال ذي الحجة، فلا يأخذن من شعره،
ولا من أظفاره شيئًا حتى يضحي.

Whoever has an animal to sacrifice when
the crescent moon of Dhul-Ḥijjah appears,
he should not cut his hair nor trim his
nails until he has offered his sacrifice.

[Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim (1977)]
[صحيح مسلم (1977)]
Shaykh Ibn Bāz رحمه الله said:
أما أهل المضحي فليس عليهم شيء، ولا ينهون عن أخذ شيء من الشعر والأظافر في أصح قولي العلماء، وإنما الحكم يختص بالمضحي خاصة الذي اشترى الأضحية من ماله.

As for the family of the one who is going to offer the sacrifice, then there is nothing upon them. It is not forbidden for them to remove anything from their hair or nails according to the more correct of the two scholarly opinions. The ruling only applies to the one who is going to offer the sacrifice, the one who has purchased the sacrificial animal from his own wealth.

[الفتاوى الإسلامية (3162) ]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

من كان له سَعَةً ولم يَضْحَحٍ، فلا يَقْرَبَنَّ مُصَالِّناً.

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

[ صحيح الجامع (1490) ]
Shaykh al-ʻUthaymīn said:

العمل الصالح في أيارم عشر ذي الحجة ومن ذلك الصوم أحب إلى الله من العمل الصالح في العشر الأواخر من رمضان، ومع ذلك فالأيام العشر من ذي الحجة، الناس في غفلة عنها، تمر وان الناس على عاداتهم لا تجد زيادة في قراءة القرآن، ولا العبادات الأخرى، بل حتى التكبير بعضهم يسبح به.

Righteous deeds in the [first] ten days of Dhul-Ḥijjah including fasting are more beloved to Allāh than righteous deeds in the last ten days of Ramaḍān. However, [many] people are negligent in the first ten days of Dhul-Ḥijjah, as it passes by them while they are in their normal routines; you do not find [them] increasing in [their] recitation of the Qur’ān, nor in other acts of worship.

Rather, some of them are even stingy in [making] the takbīr.

[الشرح الممتع (١٦٤٧٤) ]
Shaykh al-ʻUthaymīn رحمه الله said:

إني أُحْتُجُّ إخواني المسلمين على اغتنام هذه الفرصة العظيمة، وأن يَكثِّروا في عشر ذي الحجة من الأعمال الصالحة؛ كقراءة القرآن، والذَّکر بأنواعه من تكبیر وتهليل وتحميد وتسبیح، والصدقة والصيام، وكل الأعمال الصالحة اجتهذ فيها.

I urge my Muslim brothers to seize this great opportunity and to increase in righteous deeds during these ten days of Dhul-Ḥijjah [by way of] reciting the Qur’ān, making takbīr (uttering Allāhu-Akbar), tahīl (uttering Lā ilāha ill-Allāh), taḥmīd (uttering Alḥamdu lillāh), tasbīḥ (uttering Subḥān-Allāh), giving in charity, fasting and performing all [other] types of righteous deeds and exerting oneself therein.

التقاءات الشهرية (٩٤٠)
You should know - may Allāh bless you - that these days are a venue for every type of righteous deed from reciting the Qur’ān, [giving] charity, [performing] supererogatory prayers, keeping ties of kinship, righteousness to the parents, benevolence to the creation of Allāh, and other than that; due to the generality of the aforementioned ḥadīth of Ibn ‘Abbās.

And let it not escape me - my brothers - that I advise you with the Taqwā of Allāh ﷻ and to take advantage of these days; for perhaps you may not reach them next year, so be diligent in having sincerity for Allāh and following the Prophet ﷺ in all of your speech and actions so that you may be accepted.

[لقاءات الحج (٢٨٥)]
Some of the Wives of the Messenger of Allāh ﷺ reported:

كان رسول الله ﷺ يصوم تسع ذي الحجة

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ used to fast the [first] nine days of Dhul-Ḥijjah

[Abū Dāwūd (2437) [ أبو داود (٢۴۳۷) ]

Dar PDFs
Shaykh Ibn Bāz رحمه الله said:

سيئة في عشر ذي الحجة

أشد وأعظم من سيئة في رجب

أو شعبان ونحو ذلك

A sin committed in the [first] ten days of Dhul-Ḥijjah

is more grave and worse than a sin committed in

[the month of] Rajab or Sha’bān or other

than them [from the other months].
Imām al-Bukhārīī stated:

كان ابن عمر وأبو هريرة يخرجان إلى السوق في أيام العشر يكبران ويكبر الناس بتكبيرهما.

Ibn ‘Umar and Abu Hurairah (رضي الله عنهم) used to go out to the market saying the takbīr during the ten days [of Dhul-Ḥijjah], and the people would say the takbīr with their takbīr.

[ صححه الآلاباني في إرواء الغليل (٦١) ]
Takbīrāt of Allāh for Dhul-Ḥijjah

كان ابن مسعود رضي الله عنه يقول:

الله أكبر الله أكبر، لا إله إلا الله،
والله أكبر الله أكبر، والله الحمد.

Ibn Mas‘ūd رضي الله عنه used to say:


Wa lillāhil-Ḥamd.

[ ابن أبي شيبة (١٢٨/١٢)]
The Day of ‘Arafah
The 9th of Dhul-Ḥijjah
Allāh ﷻ says:

وَشَاهِدٍ وَمُشْهُودٍ

By the witnessing day (Friday)
and by the witnessed day (the Day of ‘Arafah). [al-Burūj 85:3]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ was asked about fasting on
the Day of ‘Arafah. He said, it expiates for the sins of
the previous year and of the coming year. [Muslim]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:
The best Du’ā is the Du’ā on the Day of ‘Arafah.
And the best Du’ā that I and the Prophets before me said is:

لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ
لاهُ الْمُلْكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ
وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ
Lā ʾilāha ill-Allāh waḥdahu lā sharīka lah
Lahuʾl-mulk wa lahuʾl-ḥamd
wa huwa ʿalā kulli shayʾin qadīr
There is no deity worthy of worship other than Allāh,
who is alone, having no partner.
His is the dominion, and to Him belongs all praise.
He is, of everything, All-Capable. [at-Tirmidhī]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:
There is no day on which Allāh frees more people from the Fire
than the Day of ‘Arafah. He draws near and expresses His pride
to the angels saying: ‘What do these people want?’ [Muslim]
Abū Qatādah narrated:

رسُول الله ﷺ... سئِلَ عَنْ
صَوْمِ يَوْمِ عَرْفَةِ فَقَالَ:

يكفِرُ السنَّةُ الماضِيَةَ والباقِيَةَ

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ was asked about fasting the Day of ‘Arafah and he replied:

It expiates [the sins of] the previous and coming year.

[Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim (1162)]
[ صحيح مسلم (1162) ]
Stating that fasting on the Day of ‘Arafah is the most virtuous voluntary fast by consensus of the scholars.
Ibn Taymiyyah stated:
أصح الأقوال في التكبير الذي عليه جمهور
السلف والفقهاء من الصحابة والأئمة: أن يكبر من
فجر يوم عرفة إلى آخر أيام التشريق، عقب كل صلاة،
ويشرع لكل أحد أن يجهز بالتكبير عند الخروج
إلى العيد. وهذا باتفاق الأئمة الأربعة.

The most correct saying concerning the takbîr in
which the majority of the Salaf, the Scholars from the
Companions and Imāms were upon is to begin making the
takbîr from Fajr on the Day of ‘Arafah until the last day of
at-Tashrīq (the thirteenth of Dhul-Ḥijjah), [reciting it] after
every [obligatory] prayer, and it is legislated for every
person to utter the takbîr loudly when going out to the
‘Eid prayer; this is in agreement with the Four Imāms.

[مجموع الفتاوى (٢٤٢٠) ٢٢]
The Best Du‘ā on the Day of ‘Arafah

The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

خِير الدعاء دعاء يوم عرفة،
وخير ما قلته أنا والنبيون من قبل:

The best Du‘ā is the Du‘ā on the Day of ‘Arafah.
And the best Du‘ā that I and the Prophets
before me said is:

لا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اِلَّهُ وَحِدَّهُ لَأَشْرِيْكَ لَهُ
لَهُ الْمَلِكُ وَلَهُ الْحَمْدُ
وَهُوَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

Lā ilāha ill-Allāh waḥdahu lā sharīka lah
Lahu’l-mulk wa lahu’l-ḥamd
wa huwa ‘alā kulli shay’in qadīr

There is no deity worthy of worship other than Allāh,
who is alone, having no partner.
His is the dominion, and to Him belongs all praise.
He is, of everything, All-Capable.

[at-Tirmidhī (3585)]
Ibn Ḥajr رحمه الله stated:

إظهار السرور في الأعياد من شعور الدين

Manifesting joy on the days of ‘Eīd is from the symbols of the religion

[فتح الباري (4432)]
How do we divide the meat of the sacrificial animal?

Shaykh Ibn Bāz رحمه الله said:

السنة للمضحي :

• أن يأكل منها
• يهدي لأقاربه وجيرانه منها
• ويتصدق منها

The Sunnah is that the one who offers a sacrifice can:

• Eat some of it

• Gift some of it to his relatives and neighbors

• Donate some of it to charity

[ مجموع الفتاوى (388) ]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

"أيَامُ التَّشْرِيقِ أَيَامُ أَكْلٍ وِشَرْبٍ"

(وفي رواية زاد فيه: "وذكْرٍ من الله ")

“The Days of at-Tashrīq are days of eating and drinking.”

(And in a [similar] narration with the addition of:

“and the remembrance of Allāh.”)

[Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim (1141)]
[ صحيح مسلم (1141) ]
Ibn Rajab رحمه الله said:

إِخواني! إن حبستكم العام عن الحج، فارجعوا إلى جهاد النفس فهو الجهاد الأكبر.

My [beloved] brothers! If you are confined and restricted from performing Ḥajj this year, then return [back] to striving and exercising self-restraint against the desires of your soul, for it is the greatest type of struggle.

[لطائف المعارف (٥٧)]
The Messenger of Allāh ﷺ said:

من دل على خير
فله مثل أجر فاعله

Whoever guides [someone] to something good will have a reward like the one who does it

[Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim (1893)]
[صحيح مسلم (١٨٩٣)]
واحد أعلم

وصلى الله وسلم على عبده ورسوله محمدًا، وآله وصحبه أجمعين.