

GIVE IT UP FOR EID UL ADHA

In a fortnight's time the greatest annual assembly of peace on the planet will take place. Muslims from all over the world will gather on the Arabian plains of Arafat for the annual pilgrimage known as the Hajj.

One of the mandatory requirements during the Hajj is the sacrificial ritual. On this day Muslims around the world share that happiness the pilgrims feel and join them by performing identical, individual sacrifices in a worldwide celebration of Eid-ul-Adha, **"the Festival of Sacrifice"**.

Throughout Hajj, Muslims remember and commemorate the trials and triumphs of the Prophet Ibrahim (peace be upon him). Jews, Christians and Muslims believe that the Patriarch of these three monotheistic religions, Prophet Ibrahim or Abraham (peace be upon him) was commanded to sacrifice his son. (Ismail according to Muslims and Isaac (peace be upon them) according to the others). Upon hearing this command, he submitted unconditionally to Allah's will, only for the Almighty to reveal to him that his **"sacrifice"** had already been fulfilled with the substituting of a ram. It was a demonstration that his love for Almighty Allah superseded all others and that he would lay down his own life or the lives of those precious to him in submission to His will.

The Noble Quraan mentions, **"And who could be of better faith than he who surrenders his whole being unto Allah and is a doer of good and follows the**

creed of Ibrahim who turned away from all that is false - And Allah chose Ibrahim as His friend." (Surah 4: Verse 125)

In keeping with this Prophetic Tradition, Muslims commemorate this event. It is incumbent on that have the financial means, to offer sacrifice of a goat, sheep, cow or camel. Qurbani/Udhiyya (ritual sacrifice) is a sacred and very meritorious act and should be done only for the pleasure of Allah, Most High.

The celebration must be used as a simulation for development of character of a Muslim's readiness to sacrifice everything for the sake of Allah. May Allah Ta'ala grant us the strength of spirit and will to emulate the example of the Prophet Abraham (peace be upon him), in every facet of our daily struggle to become better Muslims.

The SANHA family of officials, members, management, staff, certified plants and friends wish you and your family a peaceful and blessed Eid ul Adha. We also wish Eid Mubarak, Hajj Mabroor, Hajj Maqbool & a safe journey home to our returning Hujaaj, Aameen!

Click below for recommended reading:

- <http://www.sanha.org.za/hgazette/8/hgazette8.htm>
- http://www.sanha.org.za/hgazette/1/Halaal_Gazette_11.htm