

QURBANI

More Than Just Tender Meat



Life With Allah

الحياة مع الله

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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A Means to Attain Taqwā

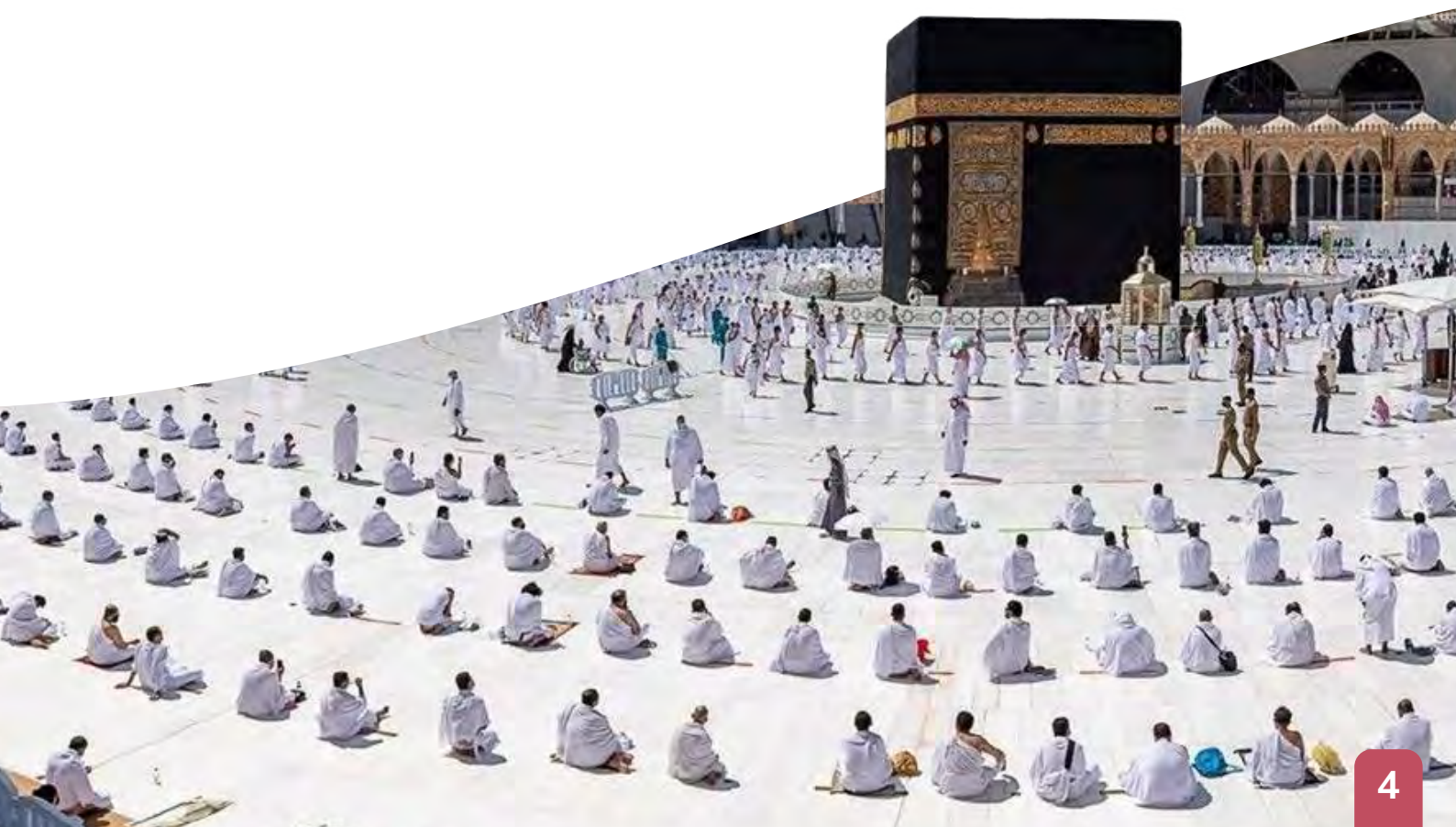
“Never does their meat or their blood reach Allah, but what does reach Him is your taqwā (piety).”

(22:37)

Our outwardly acts of worship must be accompanied by taqwā and sincerity.

Taqwā resides in our hearts. **Allah ﷻ wants our hearts to submit to Him, fear Him and love Him.** Qurbāni isn't just about the succulent lamb chops; its primary purpose is to get us closer to Allah ﷻ.

Taqwā = avoiding the prohibitions and implementing the commands.



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Affirming His Oneness and Our Sincerity to Him

Qurbānī should not be an ‘empty’ ritual or a cultural act. Instead we should perform it sincerely, for the sake of Allah ﷻ alone.

Allah ﷻ instructed the Prophet ﷺ to:

“Say, ‘My prayers and sacrifice, my life and death, are all for Allah, Lord of all the Worlds. He has no partner. This is what I am commanded, and I shall be the first of those who submit to Him.’”

(6:162-3)

Qurbānī is a reminder to steer away from anything which leads to associating partners with Him or making anyone or anything equal to Him in our hearts.



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A Means to Remember and Glorify Allah ﷻ

“For every Ummah (religious community) We prescribed the act of sacrifice, so that they may invoke the name of Allah over the livestock He provided for them: So, your God is One God, so submit to Him Alone...”

(22:34)

Dhikr is the hallmark of the Qurbānī and these blessed days.

Qurbānī should make us glorify Allah ﷻ for having guided us to Islam and for giving us the ability to remember Him and to perform the rites of sacrifice.

Allah ﷻ says: “He has subjugated them to you in this way so that you may **glorify Allah ﷻ** for having guided you...” (22:37)



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An Opportunity to Thank Allah ﷻ,
Feed the Poor and Celebrate 'Eīd

“We have made camels part of the symbols of Allah for you. There is much good in them for you, so invoke Allah’s name over them as they are lined up for sacrifice. Then when they have fallen down dead, feed yourselves and those who do not ask, as well as those who do. We have subjugated them to you in this way so that you may be thankful.”

(22:36)

Qurbānī is a reminder that Allah ﷻ has given us this great gift of being able to rear, slaughter and consume delicious meat. This gives us an opportunity to help others to celebrate 'Eīd, and strengthens the bonds of brotherhood amongst the Ummah.





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An Means to Venerate
the Symbols of Allah ﷻ

Showing respect to the outwardly symbols which represent and remind us of Allah ﷻ helps us to develop our taqwā.

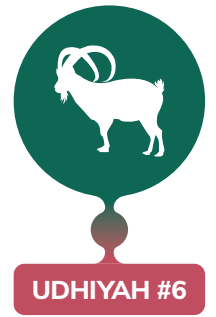
ذٰلِكَ وَمَنْ يُعَظِّمْ شَعَائِرَ اللّٰهِ
فَاِنَّهَا مِنْ تَقْوٰى الْقُلُوْبِ

“Whoever honours the symbols of Allah – indeed, it is from the piety of hearts.”

(22:32)

In accordance with this āyah, our predecessors would carefully rear and choose their best and most valuable animals to sacrifice.





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A Means to Share Your Food with the Needy

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“I used to forbid you to store the meat of the sacrificed animals for more than three days so that there would be enough for everyone. But now Allah ﷻ, the Mighty and Sublime, has bestowed plenty upon us, so eat some, give some in charity and store some. Indeed, these days are the days of eating, drinking and remembering Allah ﷻ.”

(Nasā'ī)

The meat should also be shared with neighbours and family members to increase the ties of kinship.



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A Means to Attain Great Reward

The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said:

“There is nothing more beloved to Allah ﷻ that a slave can do on the day of Naḥr than spill blood (i.e. Qurbānī). On the Day of Judgement, it will be brought forth with its horns, hair, and hooves. Indeed, the blood will be accepted by Allah ﷻ even before it spills on the ground, so whole-heartedly delight in (performing the sacrifice).”

(Tirmidhī)



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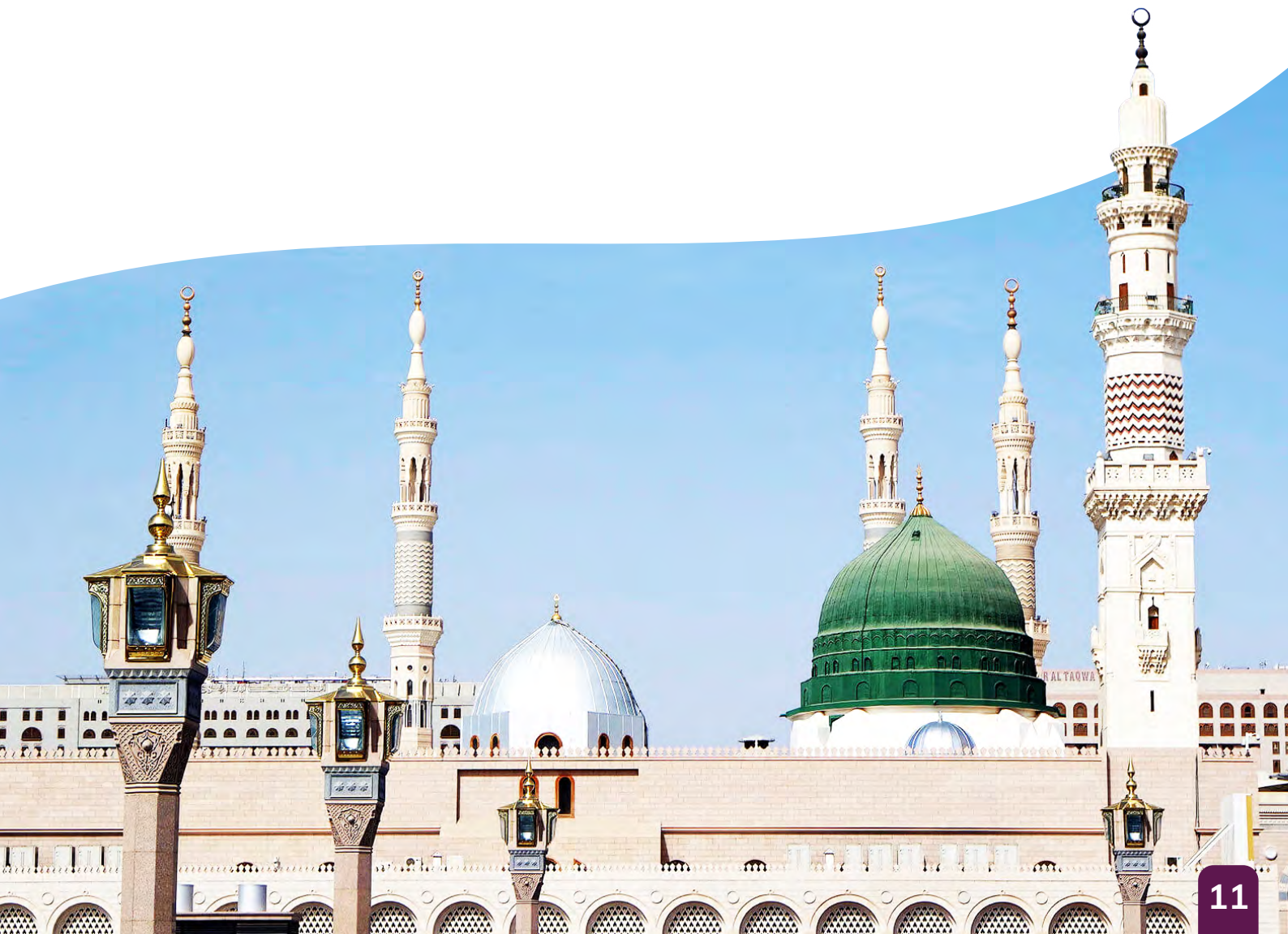


How Can You Not Love Him ﷺ?

Of the two animals the Messenger of Allah ﷺ slaughtered, one was **“on behalf of his ummah – for whoever testified to the Oneness of Allah ﷻ and testified that the Messenger of Allah ﷺ had conveyed the message.”**

(Ibn Mājah)

Subhānallah! Rasūlullāh ﷺ sacrificed an animal on our behalf.



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A Commemoration of the Great Sacrifice of Ibrāhīm and Ismā'īl ﷺ

The sacrifice was a result of **their deep conviction in Allah ﷻ, their unyielding submission to Him and their unwavering sincerity.** Allah ﷻ does not ask us to put a knife to our children's necks, but He asks us to sacrifice other things, be it time, money, our desires or even societal pressure to conform.

Ask yourself today: 'What am I going to give up for the sake of Allah ﷻ?'

Qurbānī isn't about only sacrificing an animal; it is a reminder to fully submit even if we find the command difficult or fail to perceive the wisdom behind it. It is a cue for us to sacrifice everything which takes us away from Him.



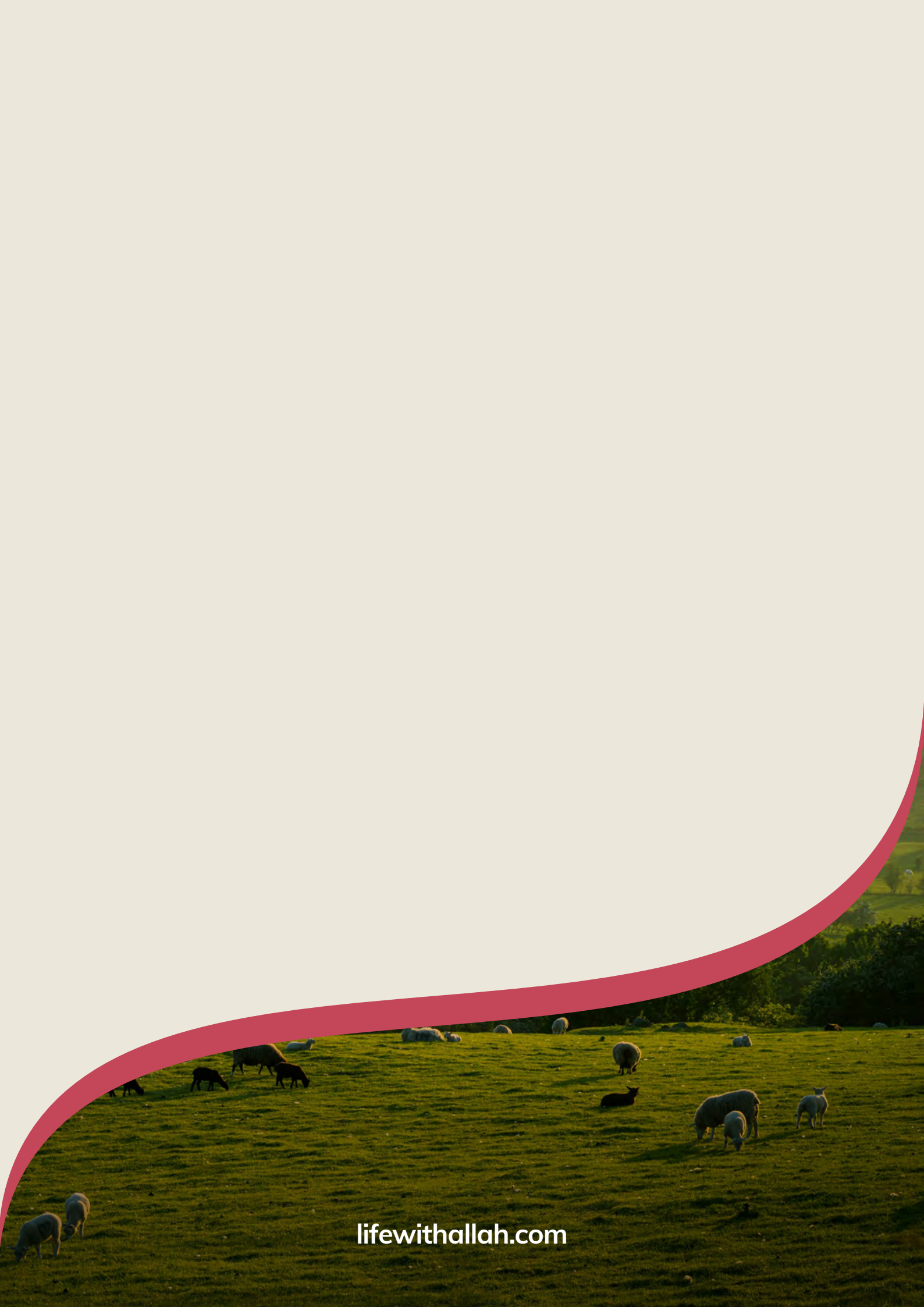
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A Symbol of Complete Submission to Allah ﷻ

Qurbānī represents the essence of Islām: complete submission to Allah ﷻ. In an era where it has become fashionable to question everything, we should look to Ibrāhīm ؑ who **didn't ask: 'Why?'** Instead, he submitted and fully obeyed Allah ﷻ – and for that he was rewarded handsomely. Qurbānī isn't about merely sacrificing an animal; it is a reminder **to fully submit even if we find the command difficult or fail to perceive the wisdom behind it.**





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