

Donating the Money Allocated for Udhiyah

Slaughtering the animal in `Eid is better than donating the money, for if all Muslims were to do that, this virtuous tradition will become obsolete.

The prominent Muslim scholar **Sheikh Yusuf Al-Qaradawi**, states the following: Slaughtering the animal is more preferable, for that is part of Islam's rituals and a mode of seeking Allah's Pleasure, as Allah said, (...**So pray unto they Lord, and sacrifice...**) (Al-Kawthar 108:2)

Muslims slaughter animals during `Eid in emulation of Prophet Abraham who was about to slaughter his son, Isma`il (Ishmael), to show obedience to Almighty Allah, when Ishmael was redeemed by a ram brought to Abraham by Angel Gabriel. The Angel then conveyed to him Allah's Command to slaughter the ram instead.

This act henceforth became a Sunnah (tradition) followed by Muslims. So to slaughter the animal in `Eid is better than donating the money, for if all Muslims were to do that, this virtuous tradition will become obsolete.

However, a donation can be made posthumously on behalf of a person who dies before fulfilling a religious duty of offering a sacrificial animal, if it will be useless to present a sacrificial animal due to, say, for instance, people are not in need of meat.

In short, it is preferable to slaughter animal and offer monetary donation if possible.