

Contactless Qurbānī: Deprivation of a Blessed Sunnah

“It is neither the flesh nor the blood that reaches Allāh Ta’ālā, but it is your Taqwā (fear of Allāh Ta’ālā) that reaches Him.” (Al-Haj 37)

In the wake of the present trying conditions in the world, our lives have been affected in many ways. Many of the little things we were accustomed to have suddenly vanished.

If we are not careful, gradually important aspects of our Dīn, could very well become distant memories.

Alhamdulillah, among the countless favours of Allāh Ta’ālā that many of us have been blessed with is the diligent upkeep of the sacred 'ibādat of Qurbānī. We have been blessed by Allāh Ta'ālā with the ability to physically slaughter our own animals. Muslims in many parts of the world have no choice but to do their Qurbānī through abattoirs and butchers where their only participation is to pay for the animal.

The fond memories of acquiring the Qurbani animal, tending to it, slaughtering it, consuming from it and later distributing it's meat is the legacy our parents have left for us. We have an obligation to pass this on to the next generation. When carrying out Qurbānī the spirit of sacrifice should be foremost in our hearts and minds. This cannot be passed on with the contactless or outsourced Qurbānī.

We must strive to keep up and enliven the spirit of Qurbānī.

We should endeavour to slaughter our own animal. Those who are unable to slaughter, should at least witness their Qurbānī animal being slaughtered.

Rasūlullāh ﷺ even encouraged his beloved daughter Fatimah رضي الله عنها to witness her Qurbānī animal being slaughtered. Females may practice on this Sunnah, subject to meeting all the requirements of Hijaab and segregation from males.

Our Nafl or optional Qurbānī can be sent elsewhere, but let us at least do our obligatory Qurbānī ourselves.

May Allāh Ta’ālā grant us the true spirit of sacrifice and grant us the ability to emulate the ultimate sacrifice of Ibrāhīm 'Alahis Salām by sacrificing everything for Allāh Ta’ālā and fulfilling His command in every matter. Āmīn

