'EMBRACE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMMES AIMED AT IMPROVING HOUSEHOLD INCOME'

MUSLIMS URGED ON WEALTH CREATION, POVERTY FIGHT

By Vision Reporters

Muslim leaders across Uganda used Idd al-Adha celebrations to urge believers to embrace wealth creation, self-reliance, discipline and charity, framing the religious holiday as both a spiritual and economic moment for communities struggling with poverty.

During prayers held across the country, clerics emphasised embracing hard work, government poverty alleviation programmes and supporting vulnerable groups, such as widows, orphans and the elderly.

PHOTO BY GODFREY OJORE



Muslim women during Idd al Adha prayers at Soroti sports ground yesterday (Scan the picture using the Vision Digital Experience to watch video)

PHOTO BY ANDREW MUSINGUZI



The district khadi in charge of Kibaale and Kagadi Sheikh Muhammad Isingoma (at the front), led Idd al-Adha prayers at Kagadi Main Mosque, yesterday

OBEY LEADERSHIP

In Iganga Municipality, Muslims gathered at the district headquarters where leaders urged both faithfulness to Allah and commitment to development.

Iganga Central Division county Khadi Sheikh Halid Babuge called on Muslims to fear Allah, obey Muslim leadership and respect the central government while also supporting the needy during the celebrations.

Sheikh Rajab Gadafi, who led the prayers, urged Muslims to slaughter animals generously in imitation of Prophet Ibrahim's obedience, saying the act symbolises honour and divine blessings.

Local political leaders, including LC5 chairperson Swabiru Isabirye and assistant RDC Baker Luwangula, urged Muslims to embrace government poverty-alleviation programmes and focus on economic empowerment.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Sheikh Isaac Semakula, the head of Dawa at Muhorro Main Mosque in Kagadi district, urged Muslims to combine environmental conservation with wealth creation.

While leading Eid prayers, Semakula encouraged worshippers to plant trees and embrace government programmes aimed at improving household incomes.

Kibaale Muslim district khadi Sheikh Muhammad Isingoma said charity and sharing with vulnerable groups is a core religious duty.

He also encouraged Muslims to take part in the fight against Ebola by observing health guidelines, such as hand-washing, sanitising and maintaining hygiene in public spaces.

TOLERANCE, PEACE AND UNITY

In Hoima city, retired Bunyoro Muslim district Kadhi Sheikh Musa Babanja called for tolerance, peace and unity among Ugandans, warning against rising cruelty and violence in society.

"We need to live together in peace and harmony. Murder and cruelty must stop," he said during Idd al-Adha prayers at Hoima City Main Mosque in Bwiikya.

He urged Muslims to practise patience and generosity, noting that Eid should inspire believers to support the vulnerable and promote social harmony.

Bunyoro Muslim district Khadi Sheikh Rajab Mugenyi also encouraged Muslims to assist widows, orphans and underprivileged groups to live dignified lives.

ENGAGE IN LAWFUL WORK

Buikwe district's Lugazi-based Muslims were urged to engage in dignified and lawful work while maintaining discipline and respect for their faith. Muslim Leadership Council chairperson Hajj Nuhu Ssekibembe appealed for financial support towards the completion of a mosque health facility project, noting a funding gap in construction materials.

Sheikh Abdunoor Kinene, who led Eid prayers, commended President Museveni for supporting Muslim initiatives, including pilgrimage to Mecca and the distribution of livestock for Idd al-Adha celebrations.

REMAIN CONNECTED TO THE PEOPLE

In Fort Portal city, Sheikh Abdu Swaibu Tibenda urged leaders to remain connected to the people who elected them to understand their challenges. He said leadership should focus on service delivery rather than personal interests and called for greater consultation before passing laws affecting citizens.

He also criticised selective justice in the fight against corruption and advised parents to prioritise school fees as schools prepare to reopen.

WE APPRECIATE THE TRUST

In the Teso region, Muslims appreciated President Museveni's decision to retain Vice-President Jessica Alupo and other regional leaders in his Cabinet.

Leading prayers in Soroti city, Sheikh Obilan urged Teso residents to appreciate government trust in the region, noting that leadership is determined by God.

Residents praised Alupo for maintaining strong ties with Muslim communities and supporting women's empowerment initiatives, including facilitating pilgrimage sponsorships.

Unproductive debates

In Iganga municipality, district Khadi Sheikh Sinani Muwanika urged Muslims to prioritise wealth creation over political discussions and unproductive debates.

"What will you benefit when you wake up and start discussing the wealth of former Speaker Anita Among or Premier League players?"

He urged Muslims to embrace government programmes, such as the Parish Development Model to fight household poverty.

Iganga district National Resistance Movement chairperson Hajji Abubaker Walubi cautioned newly appointed leaders against internal divisions, saying infighting denies communities essential services.

Sheikh Issa Kisambira urged Muslims to avoid alcohol and immoral behaviour during celebrations, saying such practices contradict Islamic teachings.



Sheikh Abdu Swaibu Tibenda, led Muslims into Idd al-Adha prayers in Fort Portal city

REMAIN VIGILANT AGAINST EBOLA

In Kibaale district, Sheikh Giran Irumba urged Muslims to remain vigilant against Ebola, emphasising hygiene practices, such as handwashing and sanitising. He also called for moral discipline, denouncing domestic violence, greed and drunkenness while expressing concern over the lack of ministerial representation from the district.

In Kakumiro, Sheikh Rajab Kyeyune thanked President Museveni for reappointing Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja and Minister Fred Byamukama, urging Muslims to embrace government wealth-creation programmes.

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