

Editorial

Hajj; An Evolutionary Program of Islam

■ Hojjat al-Islam Mohammad Asadi Movahed

The history of Hajj can be linked with the history of human life. According to the Holy Qur'an, the first house that was built for people is the Ka'ba in Mecca, which from the very beginning of man's life was among the rituals of monotheists and prophets of God from Adam, peace be upon him, to the last of the prophets, who have always traveled to that land for circumambulation and performing Hajj rituals.

Hajj is one of the evolutionary programs of Islam, in which a single person, by stepping into it and fulfilling it sincerely, reaches the position of closeness to God. Hajj is so important that it is one of the five pillars of Islam.

Hajj plays an important role in the personal and social life of Muslims, which can have important effects. Hajj is a special covenant of God among His servants and it is the full crystallization of the truths and values of the school and thoughts of Islam.

If we want to express the purpose of Hajj in one sentence, we should say that the purpose of Hajj is to reach God and to move according to God's will throughout life, and according to the interpretation of the narration, to achieve the good and prosperity of this world and the hereafter.

But to put it a bit more extensively, the fruit and result of Hajj in the individual sphere is being forgiven, becoming heavenly, and spiritual and moral transformation, when a Haji consciously goes to the

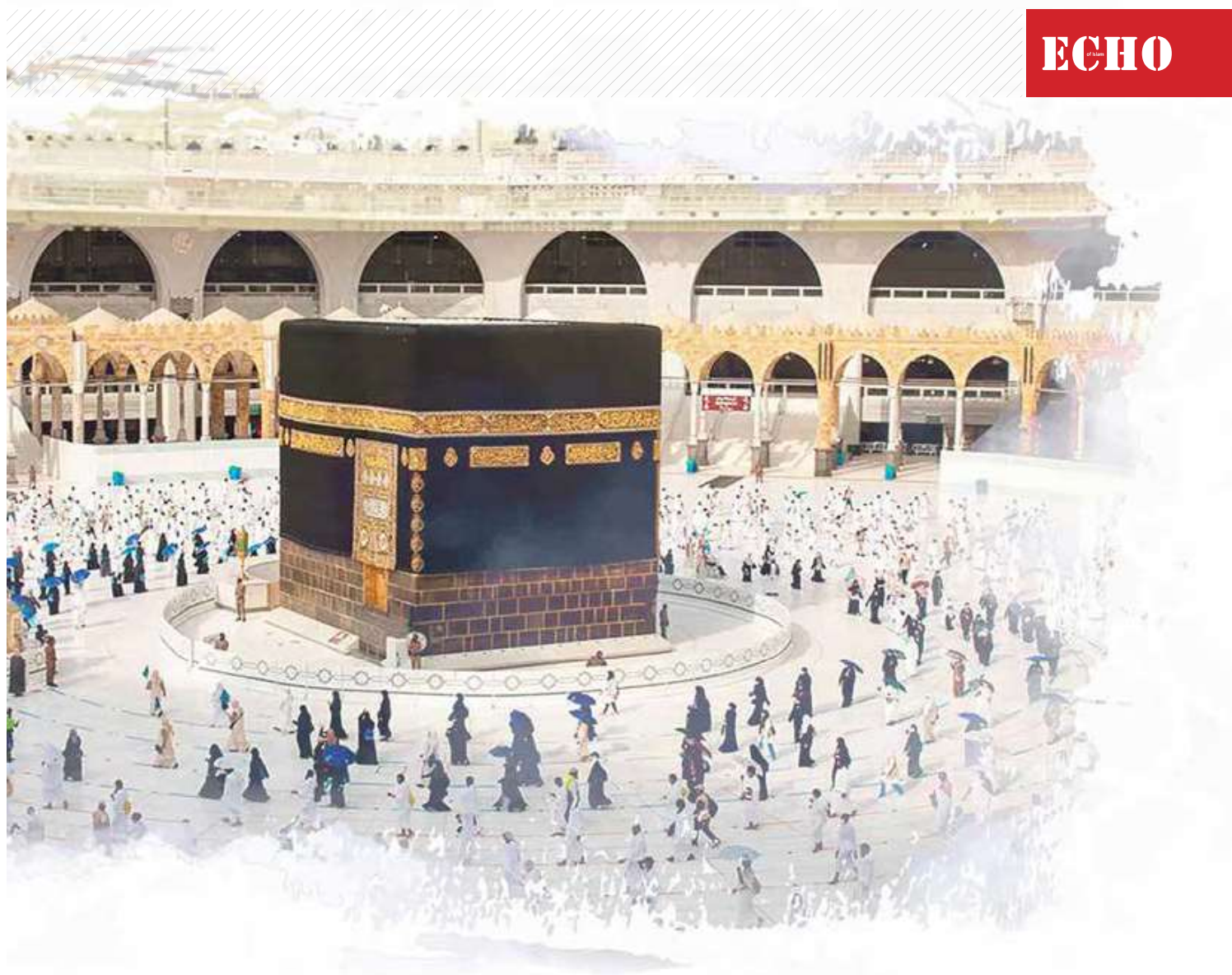
Land of Revelation, with the purity of his soul from human vices and bad morals, with a new look and view to life, by the inspiration of individuals such as Ibrahim Khalil (AS), prophet Mohammad the Messenger of God (PBUH.), Imams of the Baqi' (AS) and Hazrat Fatima (SA) will find a fresh and new life, and as a result, he/she transfers this spiritual and moral Evolution to others.

Hajj has many blessings and benefits for the Islamic Ummah in political and social aspects, it shows the solidarity of Muslims and their authority, if the Hajj is used and benefited properly, the rulers, scholars, and intellectuals of Muslim countries can sit together every year and make decisions to solve the problems and progress of Islamic societies. If this happens, it is no longer necessary for Muslims to look to Western societies and ask centers and organizations such as the United Nations, which is dependent on the West and is arrogant, to decide about their fate and problems.

Therefore, when the Qur'an calls upon us in verse 27 of Surah Al-Hajj:

وَأَذِّنْ فِي النَّاسِ بِالْحَجِّ يَأْتُوكَ رِجَالًا وَعَلَى كُلِّ ضَامِرٍ يَأْتِينَ مِنْ كُلِّ فَجٍّ عَمِيقٍ

In this verse, Allah is talking about benefits, not a single benefit, that is, if the Hajj rituals are per-



formed correctly, there are many benefits for the Islamic Ummah in personal, moral, social, economic, political, and military fields.

Since Hajj is a comprehensive act of worship and entails changes in all moral, behavioral, and social aspects of the pilgrims and considering that the Kaaba and Hajj are “the guidance of the worlds” and the light ray of Islam spreads from there to the whole world, therefore, it is possible for us to understand the quote of the supreme leader of the revolution very well, that if Muslims get to know the true Islam and the Abrahamic Hajj next to the House of God, they can well establish the new Islamic civilization and take steps to realize it.

The progressive laws of the Qur’an, strengthening faith, science, and Islamic ethics, confronting

oppression and corruption and the creation of religious and popular governments, paying attention to the collective wisdom, unity, and solidarity, paying attention to rationality and wisdom, scientific development, flourishing economic, having strong and solid international relations are the characteristics of modern Islamic civilization And Haji in Mecca can become more familiar with the Qur’an and Islam, and strengthen the foundations of his ethics and faith and let the shout of acquittal be raised from the polytheists and the wrongdoers.

And by taking baggage from the Hajj collection for scientific development, flourishing economy, honor and greatness of Muslims and in a single word, to take effective steps to create a new Islamic civilization.