

Sacrificing a ewe or a she-goat for Al-`Aqeeqa

Shaykh Aboo `Abd-al-Mu`iz `Alee Farkous al-Qoobee

Article taken and slightly adapted from: ferkous.com

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: Should the sacrificial sheep or goat of Al-`Aqeeqa¹ be male?

Answer: All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon whom Allaah sent as a mercy to the Worlds, upon his Family, his Companions and his Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

It is permissible to sacrifice for Al-`Aqeeqa males or females, in accordance with the Prophet صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ saying, on the authority of Umm Karz Al-Ka`biyya who asked him about Al-`Aqeeqa, he صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ answered, "**For a boy, two sheep (or goats), and for a female one sheep (or goat), and it does not matter if it is male or female.**"². We infer from this hadeeth that it is permissible to sacrifice a female sheep or a she-goat for Al-`Aqeeqa.

The perfect knowledge belongs to Allaah عَزَّ وَجَلَّ. Our last prayer is all praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of the Worlds. Peace and blessing be upon our Prophet, his Family, his Companions and Brothers till the Day of Resurrection.

Algiers, Rabee`Al-Awwal 9th, 1426H. Corresponding to: March 28th, 2005.

¹ Al-`Aqeeqa: It is the sacrificing of one or two sheep on the occasion of the birth of a child, as a token of gratitude to Allaah عَزَّ وَجَلَّ.

² Reported by Aboo Dawood, chapter of "Sacrifices" (hadeeth 2835), by At-Tirmidhee, chapter of "Sacrifices" (hadeeth 1516), by An-Nasaa'ee, chapter of "Al-`Aqeeqa" (hadeeth 4218), by Ahmad (hadeeth 26962) and Al-Baihaqee in As-Sunan Al-Kubra (hadeeth 19879), on the authority of Umm Kurz Al-Ka`biyya رَضِيَ اللهُ عَنْهَا. This hadeeth is judged authentic by Ibn Al-Qayyim in Tuhfat Al-Maulood (50) and Al-Albaanee in Saheeh Al-Jaami` As-Sagheer (hadeeth 4106) and in Irwaa' Al-Ghaleel (4/391).