

Speech by Shaykh Abdul Ahad Mbakke 1: Tabaski 1972¹

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Tabaski of the year *Aḍsashin* or *Baḍsashin*² (1971 or 1972)

Peace be upon you, fellow Muslims, fellow Murid disciples. I extend my greetings and thanks to you and ask for your forgiveness. I ask forgiveness from you: my relatives, fellow Murid disciples, friends, guests, and local inhabitants. This being said, let us have a brief discussion because the time we have is quite limited. The discussion will focus on two main issues: 1) faith in God, and 2) enjoying God, our Owner. Faith in God is our foundation. It is the source of all our achievements as Muslims.

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Because it is our foundation, we ought to take care of our faith in God and act upon it with all sincerity in tangible and intangible ways. We should know that anything contrary to a strong faith in God is of no use to us, for God, our Owner, told us the following: "Whoever denies the faith, his work has become worthless, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers."³ Additionally, we should enjoy the fact that God is our Owner, and be happy about [being His servants], for our success and all things useful to us depend on this. We should enjoy our faith in God because even if we do not, He will remain our Owner for He created us and gave us all we have. Also, we are bound to return

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to Him in the end and He will lead us wherever He pleases. Thus, we must know that to enjoy our faith in God is a blessing from Him. This is why God, our Owner, told us the following: "Surely those

¹ *Tabaski* in Wolof or *ʿĪd al-aḍḥā* in Arabic (the feast of the Sacrifice for Muslims).

² This is based on the Murid calendar using the Arabic alpha numeral system.

³ Quran 5:5.

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who said Our Lord is Allah and then remained steadfast shall have nothing to fear nor to grieve. They are the people of Paradise. They shall remain in it forever as a reward for their deeds."⁴ Thank you!

⁴ Quran 46:13-14.