

## Wuquf in Arafat

by  
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On the 9<sup>th</sup> of *Zul Hijjah*, *Wuquf* in Arafat is performed from *Zuhr* to sunset.

The main action in *Wuquf* is not to pray lots of *Nafils* but to stand facing the *Haram* asking Allah (swt) for forgiveness while recognizing Him as our Lord.

The Prophet said, "*Al Hajju Arafah*," meaning that standing in *Arafat* is the *Hajj*. Why?

To answer this, we must first understand the **first *Wuquf*** that all of us performed in front of Allah (swt).

وَإِذْ أَخَذَ رَبُّكَ مِنْ بَنِي آدَمَ مِنْ ظُهُورِهِمْ ذُرِّيَّتَهُمْ وَأَشْهَدَهُمْ عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ أَلَسْتُ بِرَبِّكُمْ قَالُوا بَلَىٰ شَهِدْنَا أَن تَقُولُوا يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ إِنَّا كُنَّا عَنْ هَذَا غَافِلِينَ



*O Prophet, remind mankind about the incident when your Rabb brought into existence the offspring from the loins of Adam and his descendants (virtually each single individual of mankind) and made them testify about themselves. Allah asked them: "Am I not your Rabb?" They all replied: "Yes! We bear witness that You are." This We did, lest you mankind should say on the Day of Resurrection: "We were not aware of this fact that You are our Rabb and that there will be a Day of Judgment." [7: 172 Translation of meaning]*

This happened when Allah (swt) gathered us all in one large assembly before the birth of any of us.

It is also very important to note that this event took place when Man was made Allah's vicegerent (*khalifa*) on this earth.

At that time, Allah (swt) asked the rhetorical question "Am I not your Rabb?" By replying "Yes", we have established a covenant with Allah (swt) to accept only Him as our Lord.

In other words, He made sure that as *Khalifa* we don't forget the real owner, and act as if we are the owners.

Satan, the accursed, also resolved that he would persuade Man to take his own desires as his god or have Man worship someone other than Allah (swt).

Herein lies the significance of *Hajj*. *Wuquf* in Arafat is really the place where we go through the process of once again recognizing our Lord. It is no coincidence that ***Arafat* means recognition**. This is the real significance of *Hajj*.

We assess our past. We ask for His forgiveness, and resolve to worship only Allah (swt), to stop accepting others as our Lord, and if necessary, to take action to change those who deny Allah (swt) and worship others or enforce other unjust systems.

