



SABR: THE PATH TO BEAUTIFUL REWARDS

Let us have the taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala in its absolute sense, practicing the Sharee 'ah in all aspects of our lives, fulfilling the duties required by Allah and avoiding all that is prohibited,

for the sake of our well-being in this world and the Hereafter. We truly hope that with our diligence in increasing our taqwa, we will continue to receive the guidance, protection, and bestowed with the rahmah and pleasure of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

The reality of our life today that is filled with tribulations, calamities, and daunting challenges, require us to equip ourselves with sufficient provision, which is sabr.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala has reminded us of the reality of the life of this world, which is never void of calamities and tribulations. Days upon days we are informed of the news of various types of calamities and hardships that are endured by

humanity around us such as depression, loss of lives, accidents, and death of loved ones. However, there are in them beautiful promises for those whom successfully passed those tribulations with great

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "And We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits, but give good tidings to the patient." (al-Bagarah 2:155)

It is clear that Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has decreed that every individual will be tested and no one can escape from this stark reality. However, despite all the tribulations there are glad

tidings for the chosen slaves of Allah, those whom are capable of exercising sabr while enduring the excruciating pain of difficulties and tribulations.

Therefore, let us contemplate upon verses of al-Qur'an and ahadeeth of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam so that we will realize the great hikmah of sabr while enduring tribulations and calamities that were sent down as a test for us.

Among them: 1- Sabr enables one to be rewarded with prosperity, rahmah, and hidaayah. Allah has expounded to us regarding the tribulations in this life and the need for having sabr in al-Qur'an:

"Those are the ones upon whom are blessings from their Lord and mercy. And it is those who are the [rightly] guided."

(al-Baqarah 2:157)

2- Sabr in the wake of a museebah (calamity) guarantees the forgiveness of one's sins Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam has reminded us of the reality of the tests and museebah throughout our lives

as a process of cleansing our sins, well and beautifully planned by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. We must realize of this reality so as to have strong will in facing all museebah with sabr and redha (pleased with Allah's decree).

On the authority of Abu Hurayrah, radiyAllaahu 'anh the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "No fatigue, nor disease, nor sorrow, nor sadness, nor hurt, nor distress

befalls a Muslim, even if it were the prick he receives from a thorn, but that Allah expiates some of his sins for that."

(Muslim)

3- The reward of good deeds without any hisaab (accounting)

This is an awesome reward prepared for those having utmost sabr at the strike of calamity. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"Say, "O My servants who have believed, fear your Lord. For those who do good in this world is good, and the earth of Allah is spacious. Indeed, the patient will be given their reward without account."

(az-Zumar 39:10)

4- Those with sabr will be privileged to be granted Jannah as their final abode

This is as it was clearly stated by Allah *Subhaanahu Wata 'aala* in al-Qur'an:

"Gardens of perpetual residence; they will enter them with whoever were righteous among their fathers, their spouses and their descendants. And the angels will enter upon

them from every gate, [saying], "Peace be upon you for what you patiently endured. And excellent is the final home.""

(Ar-Raad 13: 23 - 24)

The salutation of peace from the angels to the dwellers of Paradise in this Qur'anic verse clearly mentions the main reason for their placement in Jannah, which is their resilient sabr while enduring all the difficulties in the lives of this world.

Imam ibn al-Qayyim al-Jawziyyah rahimahullah stated that, "Imaan is divided into two parts, firstly having shukr for all the ni'mah bestowed upon, and secondly having sabr when afflicted with calamity."

It means, our imaan is not yet complete until we are able to express obedience through servitude to Allah as a manifestation of our shukr, and also after it is proven that we are capable of having sabr at the very moment we are tested

and afflicted with calamity. What we see nowadays is that many of the Muslims are capable of performing 'ibaadah with obedience, praying in jamaa 'ah, giving sadaqah, and many more, but when tested by Allah with accidents,

loss of loved ones, failures, material loss, and calamities, we fail to persevere and remain as true slaves of Allah whom are supposed to be pleased, content, and patient with these tribulations.

These are the failures that we must realize and be aware of. Never feel secure and confident with our capabilities of having obedience in 'ibaadah, for as long as we have not yet been tested and proved having ample sabr in the wake of these

tribulations. Is it not from among the pillars of Imaan that was conveyed to us in the hadeeth of Jibreel, which Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam stated, "To believe in the qadr of Allah, both the good and bad"?

In actuality, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam has taught us actions that must be taken by a mu'min whenever he is afflicted with museebah. Imam Muslim rahimahullah collected a narration by Umm Salamah radiyAllaahu 'anha,

where Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: If any servant (of Allah) who suffers a calamity says: "We belong to Allah and to Him shall we return; O Allah, reward me for my affliction and give me something better

than it in exchange for it," Allah will give him reward for affliction, and would give him something better than it in exchange.

We are to seek aid and assistance directly from Allah, and to continue having sabr during salaah and while making du 'a. Imam Ahmad rahimahullah narrated that when Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam is overcome

with worrisome or afflicted with calamity, he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam would hasten to make salaah and du'a to Allah. This is the exemplary to be emulated by every mu'min in manifesting the purity of their imaan unto Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

Making sincere du 'a and earnest pleading to Allah who decrees all calamities and tribulations, is the most appropriate thing to do and also the precise avenue for the slave of Allah to resort to when stricken with difficulty.

Furthermore, it is in line with the words of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala in al-Qur'an as He mentions:

"And seek help through patience and prayer, and indeed, it is difficult except for the humbly submissive [to Allah]."

(al-Baqarah 2:45)

How immense is the demand for us to exercise sabr, and the hikmah upon us as well. Hence, we must realize that being rebellious, furiously angry, and blaming others will not change our qadr or prevent us from any museebah.

Unfortunately, losing patience in the wake of tribulations may cause us to suffer two losses. The first one is loss due to the calamity endured, whether a loss, sadness, accidents, or death.

While the second loss is the failure to take advantage of earning more deeds and rahmah of Allah that comes along with the museebah. Contemplate deeply upon this reality, and act wisely

for the sake of your security in this world and the Hereafter. Verily, museebah is something that has already been decreed in the life of this

world, and should be endured with utmost patience. On the other hand, sabr is indeed from among the most beautiful gift from Allah unto His servants.

Let us review and recap the main points of today's *khutbah*, namely:

1- The tests and calamities are the norms of life. Fortunate indeed are those that successfully endured them with full sabr.

2- The ability and capability of exercising sabr at the first strike of museebah is a clear evidence of the completeness of imaan and gratefulness for the ni mah bestowed upon by Allah.

3- Sabr is truly the most prized and beautiful award which promises a plethora of rewards and gifts from Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala, especially for those that were successful in passing those tribulations.

"[He] who created death and life to test you [as to] which of you is best in deed - and He is the Exalted in Might, the Forgiving."

(al-Mulk 67:2)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ بِالْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرَ الْحَكِيْم وَتُقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ أَقُولُ قُولِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغُفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَالسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَات فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيْمُ

O Allah, You are the Almighty Lord, we are grateful unto You for having bestowed upon us Mercy and Blessings, nourishing us to strive to continue in strengthening the Muslim nation especially the state of Selangor, as an advanced, progressive, peaceful, and benevolent state.

We beseech and beg You, Ya Allah, to strengthen our imaan, increase our good deeds, strengthen our unity, increase our provision, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, nourish our soul with beautiful akhlaag, guide us to the Path that is Pleasing to You,

protect us from Your severe tribulations such as the long drought, severe flooding, disease outbreak, violence and instability, poverty, and others, so that our land will become more peaceful and blessed.

Oh Allah, we ask You to open up the hearts of the Muslim ummah especially in Selangor, to fulfill their zakaat obligation as You had decreed in al-Qur'an. Bless the lives of those who have fulfilled their zakaat obligation, loving and caring for the poor and needy.

Purify their wealth and soul so that they will live according to that which pleases You. Protect the poor and needy from disbelief and everlasting poverty. Allaahummaa ameen



DI SEDIAKAN OLEH: BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH, JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH:
UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR