



IN AGAMA ISLAM

ENTERTAINMENT

ACCORDING TO

THE SHAREEAH

Let us strive our utmost in increasing taqwa within us. It is the taqwa of Allah, which demands us to fulfill all of His Commands and abstain from all of His prohibitions.

With true taqwa, we truly hope to attain happiness in this world and everlasting peace in the Hereafter. Indeed, blissfulness of this world and the Hereafter will only become reality when we

are under the shade of His Rahmah and Pleasure Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. The title of today's khutbah will be "Entertainment According to the Sharee'ah."

Entertainment is part of the human *fitrah*. It is something that is liked by the human instinct. Most people would utilize entertainment as an avenue for creativity that manifests their thoughts, emotions, and innovations.

Entertainment is also a blend of fine art, charming words, and unique human culture that can tranquil the soul and bring happiness. As the *deen* that fulfills the necessity of fitrah, Islam does not prohibit its adherents from entertainment,

except that it must be guided and driven according to the noble values instilled by Islam. In the hadeeth of Khaalid bin Zakwan radiyAllaahu 'anh, he reported that ar-Rubayyi' bint Mu'awwidh radiyAllaahu 'anha said:

The Prophet (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) visited me the morning after my marriage and sat on my bed as you (subnarrator) are sitting now. The girls were beating tambourines and chanting eulogies about their fathers on

the Day of Badr. Then one girl said, "There is a Prophet among us who knows what will happen tomorrow." The Prophet (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) said, "Do not say that. Say what you were saying before." (al-Bukhaari)

As Muslims, we must have firm belief that Islam is complete and all encompassing, fulfilling the necessities of life in all aspects for mankind. The Sharee 'ah was revealed not to curb freedom but to control and regulate the needs of mankind

so as to ensure continuous peace and happiness in life. Entertainment in Islam is something that soothes and nurtures the soul. Furthermore, it is not solely and purely for fun and fulfilling the carnal desire without restrictions.

The concept of entertainment in Islam intends to develop and reconcile the soul, tranquil the mind, and for the relaxation of the spiritual and physical body. The question is, what is the style and method of entertainment that we resort to

nowadays? Is it in line with the Sharee 'ah? Do these entertainments really calm the inner soul and are they free from elements of disobedience and sins?

Zooming into the reality of entertainment nowadays, it can be concluded that the vast majority of entertainment out there have failed to achieve its true objective. Not only it failed to bring serenity and peace into the hearts,

it further causes problems and disorderliness in our lives. This is mainly due to the fact that they do not comply with the guidelines stipulated by the Sharee 'ah. It only intends to fulfill the whims and lustful desire.

These types of entertainment not only does not nurture the soul, but instead gravely leads to negligence, disobedience, and free mixing between genders, which ultimately leads to social disorders that

will destroy the well-being of the Muslim ummah. Pondering upon this reality, we can highlight few features of entertainment that is according to Islam that we can utilize to make comparison and evaluation, as below:

1- The content and lyrics or that entertainment format itself must not lead to negligence and heedlessness, not in clear contradiction to the 'aqeedah and Sharee 'ah such as glorification of women's beauty,

promoting all-out free mixing amongst the youth, and opposing the Sharee 'ah. Ideally, the lyrics should invite the listener to increase the love for Allah and having firm belief in the Last Day, and also towards self-improvement.

2-Not negligence and excessiveness in the entertainment such that all the rights of Allah and obligations towards Him are neglected. Hence, it is haraam for such entertainment if it leads to missing salaah,

not providing for the family, and impedes from seeking knowledge. This heedlessness is from among deeds that are waajib to be abstained from, as Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"And when they hear ill speech, they turn away from it and say, "For us are our deeds, and for you are your deeds. Peace will be upon you; we seek not the ignorant.""

(Al-Qasas 28:55)

3- There should be no free mixing between non-mahram in the entertainment pursued. If it is a performance by the Muslimah, then it must be done in a closed environment to a women-only audience. This is to block any means to fitnah

and destruction of the Muslim ummah. There should be no haraam acts being committed such as consuming intoxicants, gambling, and its like. Narrated Abu Maalik al-Ash'ari radiyAllaahu 'anh

that the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "From among my followers there will be some people who will drink wine, giving it other names while they

listen to musical instruments and the singing of female singers; Allah the Almighty will make the earth swallow them and will turn them into monkeys and pigs." (ibn Maajah, al-Bayhaqi, ibn Asaakir: saheeh)

4- The singer or performer and the audience present must observe proper Islamic adaab, covering the 'awrah, avoid any seductive body movements, and avoid appearance that can cause fitnah.

5- Positive outcome is produced from such entertainment. From the barakah of beneficial lyrics, modest performance, and safeguarding the Sharee'ah, a peaceful and blissful society will born, having unwavering imaan and sound akhlaaq, united, and loving each other.

Nowadays, there are ample source of Islamic entertainment that can be sought as alternatives to the present ones that clearly leads to heedlessness. Tremendous efforts have been exhausted in

developing Islamic entertainment, with the emergence of various nasheed groups and halaqaat of beneficial knowledge We truly understand that the objective of entertainment in Islam is to produce individuals that are

sound physically, spiritually, and in the character. The healthy and sound individual is not only free from illnesses, but also free from emotional problems, mental and spiritual disorders, and pressures from marital problems, workplace,

and others. These are the fruits due to Islamic entertainment having positive elements, controlled, educational, and soothing to the soul.

Therefore, as Muslims, we must be wise to select our mode of entertainment and its method. Indeed, the real entertainment is that which puts us in the remembrance of The Creator, Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

Let us recap the important points from today's khutbah. Among them: 1- Islam is a religion of fitrah. Hence, it allows entertainment in fulfilling the fitrah, which complies with the stipulation of the Sharee 'ah.

2- Entertainment in Islam is intended for the purpose of educating and nurturing the soul, and bringing serenity to the hearts, in addition to happiness and enjoyment of being entertained.

3- We must ensure and selectively opt for entertainment that is according to the Sharee 'ah in order to safeguard our success in this world and blissfulness in the Hereafter.

"And of the people is he who buys the amusement of speech to mislead [others] from the way of Allah without knowledge and who takes it in ridicule. Those will have a humiliating punishment." (Luqmaan 31:6)



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 akhlaaq, 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



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