



LOVING THE MESSENGER

SALLALLAHU

ALAYHI WASALLAM

Let us all strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions.

IN

The title of today's khutbah is "Loving The Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam." Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"Say, [O Muhammad], "If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful."" (Aali-'Imraan 3:31) This verse explains to us the reality of loving Allah and His Messenger. Indeed, anyone claiming that he loves Allah, then it necessitates loving His Messenger,

and with that he will be loved by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and will have his sins forgiven. Love is a word that is often uttered by everyone in his or her daily lives.

The word love manifests the emotion or feeling of deep love towards someone or a thing; whether between the husband and wife, mother and child, between family members, relatives, and others.

Love does not innately flourish in one's heart; moreover it is something or an action that can be measured through a person's behavior.

In the context of discussing love and affection, we as Muslim individuals cannot escape from the matter regarding our love and affection to our Creator and His Messenger

Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala has sent down His Messenger to mankind to guide them to the True Path through his teachings and

actions. The question is, what is the form of love that we must manifest and prove to Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in our daily lives?

Let's imagine the type of love that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had for his ummah. He sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was blessed by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala as

having great love and passion that is genuine and sincere for his ummah. He sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had expressed his love with loving words that are pure and original, as in the love of a father for his son.

The sign of his deep love for his ummah can be internalized from his deep concerns when mankind are gathered in the Mah-shaar, waiting for their turn to be judged by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala

upon all of their deeds. It is then that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam will start pleading to Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala so that his ummah will be lightened off their load and freed from the torment of the Fire.

How amazing! It is not his spouse, family, relatives, Companions, or wealth that he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had concerns for, but instead his ummah.

Going back to original the question, how should we manifest our deep love for Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in our daily lives?

Definitely, among the things that we should have or prove in our sincere love for the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam are:

1- Instilling deep love and attachment with utmost ikhlaas for the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. This is to be inculcated and nourished in our hearts above all, at all times.

On the authority of Anas radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "None of you will have faith till he loves me more than his father, his children and all mankind." (al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

This is the type of love that we should take example and emulate from our pious predecessors, whom loved the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, just like the love of the Ansaar in Madeenah

while awaiting the arrival of the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam during the Hijrah. Take heed, for if the love for Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam is not nourished in our hearts,

then this will cause us to spare no effort in learning, appreciating, and emulating the life of our beloved Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in our daily lives.

2-Always willing to defend the honor of Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam from any slander or defamation, whether physically or verbally. Such was the example of Zayd bin Harithah radiyAllaahu 'anh

who was willing to give his life in defending the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam from being injured by the people of Ta'if during their da'wah to the people in that locality.

Let us internalize the love that the Companions had, such as that of Talhah and Abu Dujaanah radiyAllaahu *anhum*, whom used their bodies as shields in protecting the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam from being

struck by the enemy's arrows during the battle of Uhud. Let us reflect upon the diligence of Hassan bin Thabit radiyAllaahu 'anh in defending the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam with prominent lines of poetry and eloquence.

Therefore, are we willing enough to defend the nobility of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and his teachings, whether physically or with the tongue, as it was courageously done by his Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een? 3- Always willing to defend the sunnah of Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. The ummah that loves the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam will always stand

up to defend his sunnah. They will inculcate and emulate his lifestyle as their model and way of life. They are ever willing to champion all of his teachings and strive to curb all of his prohibitions.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "And whatever the Messenger has given you – take; and what he has forbidden you – refrain from. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is severe in penalty." (al-Hashr 59:7)

4- Always sending salawaat (blessings) upon the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. This is from among the manifestation of our love for him, as mentioned in a hadeeth. On the authority of

Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu anh, Rasulullah said sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam: "He who invokes blessings on me once, Allah sends ten blessings upon him." (Muslim)

The ummah that loves their Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam would be willing to sacrifice their wealth and lives in upholding the cause and message brought by their Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam that is upholding

the kalimah of Allah on this earth. The ummah that loves their Prophet sallAllahu alayhi wasallam would always remain obedient to the Commands of Allah and His Messenger,

and also abstaining from His prohibitions. However, if we closely observe the lives of some of the Muslims nowadays, they are engrossed
and obsessed in glorifying the celebrities, artists, athletes, and certain personalities as icons and role models. They are willing to spend lots of time and wealth, sacrificing their time

and energy just to imitate the lifestyle of their celebrated icon or superstar. They would express love and affection by diligently searching for itsy bitsy details on the

lives of their favorite icon, as if that is the lifestyle that is upon Truth. At the same time, there are also Muslims that questions the nobility and teachings of

the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. They would even dispute the status of ahaadeeth and some of them would blatantly reject them!

It is high time for us as Muslim ummah to change our worldview and lifestyle towards fully emulating the ways of Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

Let us all take the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallamas the best model to be imitated in our daily lives. Ingrain and implant in us the true love for Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

Let us all become an ummah that is always proud and diligent in following the steps of our beloved Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in every aspect of our lives.

For example, the way we eat and drink, greeting each other, daily interactions, entering and exiting the toilet, and even the higher administrative matters such economic activities,

governance, and international relations. Take heed for the completeness of one's imaan is dependent upon the depth and intensity of the love for Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

"Say, [O Muhammad], "If your fathers, your sons, your brothers, your wives your relatives, wealth which you have obtained, commerce wherein you fear decline,

and dwellings with which you are pleased are more beloved to you than Allah and His Messenger and jihad in His cause, then wait until Allah executes

His command. And Allah does not guide the defiantly disobedient people." (at-Tawbah 9:24)

Conclusion: 1- Ummah that loves their Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam would be willing to sacrifice everything in upholding

the cause and message brought by their Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam that is upholding the kalimah of Allah on this earth.

2- The ummah that loves their Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam would always remain obedient to the Commands of Allah and His Messenger, and also abstaining from His prohibitions.

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيم وَتَقْبَلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُوْمِنِيْنَ وَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْبَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَات فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ يَّهُ 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 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

