

## INDEPENDENCE ACCORDING TO THE ISLAMIC PERSPECTIVE



Let us increase our dhikr of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and salawaat and salaam upon our beloved Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

Let us strive hard to implement his sunnah in our daily lives, as much as possible. Truly we sincerely hope that our sincere efforts will profit us in this world and the Hereafter.

## The title of today's khutbah is "Independence According To The Islamic Perspective."

Freedom in Islam is a ni 'mah bestowed upon mankind on this earth by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. However, this ni mah is not thoroughly felt by all. Hence we see and hear about how

certain lands and people are colonized by others, as in the case of Palestine. How certain people are driven out of their own lands, living in exile, like our Rohingya Muslim brethren.

Furthermore, those that are treated as slaves, smuggled and bargained like commodities all for mere worldly gain. These are true manifestations

that some of us are not truly entitled to the ni mah of liberty and freedom, as we are enjoying fully in this blessed nation, walhamdulillah.

Independence or liberty that is commonly understood by many is freedom from being colonized by foreign or external powers. For that reason, we find the citizens of this country celebrate

their Independence Day annually on the 31st of August. However, the question remains, what is the actual definition of independence as deemed in Islam?

It is clear and obvious, that Islam is a deen that is founded upon tawheed, revealed to liberate mankind from the shackles of enslavement to the creation unto the servitude to

The Almighty Subhaanahu Wata'aala. Hence, true freedom and independence is attained when mankind solely follows the guidance and surrenders whole-heartedly their soul to Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

## Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "Say, "This is my way; I invite to Allah with insight, I and those who

## follow me. And exalted is Allah; and I am not of those who associate others with Him.""

(Yoosuf: 12:108)

This verse explains how mankind will only attain salvation when they receive the guidance from Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala and His Messenger. On the other hand, those that denounce

and shun away from the guidance of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala, their lives will be filled with heedlessness, which will ultimately lead to their own destruction.

In the hadeeth of ibn 'Umar radiyAllaahu 'anhuma, the Messenger of Allah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"I have been ordered to fight against the people

until they testify that there is none worthy of worship except Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah, and until they establish

the salaah and pay the zakaah. And if they do that then they will have gained protection from me for their lives and property, unless [they

commit acts that are punishable] in Islam, and their reckoning will be with Allah the Almighty." (al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Islam never hinders mankind's own liberty and freedom. On the contrary, such freedom must be properly utilized in seeking His Pleasure Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

Therefore, those that attempt to free themselves from Islamic obligations are in reality not from among those having attained independence but instead are those that are constantly

engaged in war with Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala and His Messenger. The question of independence today is not only concerning the freedom from foreign colonization,

but more importantly is the freedom of the mind and thoughts of the Muslims themselves. This is such because even after 55 years of independence, there are many within our society

having corrupted akhlaaq. Many within our society still glorify the un-Islamic way of life, many still with their minds enslaved with ideologies and isms of the Jews and Christians.

Such truthfulness in the revelation of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala in al-Qur'an:

"And never will the Jews or the Christians approve of you until you follow their religion..." (al-Baqarah 2:120)

The true freedom for every Muslim individual is when they are able to free themselves from the grip of their whim and evil desire that will destroy their lives in this world and the Hereafter.

For as long as our minds are directed to committing acts that are prohibited by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala, then it is clear that we have not yet attain true independence.

The meaning of independence in the un-Islamic perspective is to totallyand absolutely free oneself from any form of bond or ties to regulations (laws) and religion.

They want to have the liberty to commit zina, consume intoxicants, gamble, perform illegal racing, and many more. To them, regulations and religion are mere tools by certain quarters in

curbing their freedom. As a consequence of this lustdriven mindset, there are those within the society that have totally lost their guidance and purpose of

True independence for the Muslim community is achieved when they are capable of freeing themselves from negative and un-Islamic thoughts

that are widely spewed by the various forms of media. In the end, we find many Muslims nowadays whom view Islam as a very backward, archaic,

and antiquated religion. They deem Islam deservingly kept only in the Masjid (Mosque) and Surau. They deem Islam incapable of addressing

the prevailing social conundrum that Islam hinders progress to its ummah, and Islam is a religion of rigidity and extremism. All these false allegations and accusations hurled are born of mindsets and ideologies produced by the colonial upbringing for many centuries. It is for no other reason than to purposely destroy the lives of the Muslims.

Moving on, in the context of a sovereign nation, Islam has stipulated that the Sharee 'ah is the utmost law and regulations that must be used in a nation that is governed by the Muslims.

The leaders are those having bestowed amaanah upon them to uphold Islam and purifying it from any foreign influence. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"[And they are] those who, if We give them authority in the land, establish prayer and give zakaah and enjoin what is right and

forbid what is wrong. And to Allah belongs the outcome of [all] matters." (al-Hajj 22:41)

The leader with an independent heart must free their minds from mentalities that only prioritize themselves, putting them first. On the contrary, the citizen and people are to be

put forth first for they are the responsibility of every leaders. For example, 'Umar bin al-Khattaab radiyAllaahu 'anh was a leader that took great care upon the welfare of the masses.

In one occasion, in one night while he radiyAllaahu 'anh secretly patrolled around the city, he heard the cries of young children. Upon further investigation, he found these young children crying

because of hunger. Hence, he himself took wheat and grain from the Bayt al-Maal, cooked it, and served it to that poor family. Such was the great example of a leader that had great care and

concern for the well being of the people rather than their ownselves. It behooves the leaders of today to have the same qualities that of 'Umar ibn

al-Khattaab radiyAllaahu 'anh. Not only should they be good in promising changes to the people, but more importantly to fulfill all those promises that had been made.

In conjunction with the independence celebration this year, it behooves us to take certain measures, namely:

1- Let us strive together to fully liberate our minds and thoughts from being colonized by ideologies and doctrines that are not upon the Sharee 'ah of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

- 2- Let us practice upon the true authentic Islamic teachings.
- 3- Let us strive and put in effort to improve our socioeconomic status so that we can further improve the

quality of life for the Muslims in this nation, and elsewhere. 4- Let us strive to increase our knowledge and expertise so that we can prevent misconstrued and deviant thoughts from affecting us.

"Follow, [O mankind], what has been revealed to you from your Lord and do not follow other than Him any allies. Little do you remember."

(al-A'raaf 7:3)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ أَقُولُ قُولِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِر الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأُحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأُمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوْهُ 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 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

