



JOURNEY TO THEHOLY LAND



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

May Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala grant us ease and blessings in wading through the lives of this world and the Hereafter.

The topic of today's *khutbah* is "Journey To The Holy Land."

At this moment, millions of Muslims are gathering around Baytullah al-Haram in Makkah, to respond to the call of Allah, as it was mentioned in al-Qur'an:

"And proclaim to the people the hajj [pilgrimage]; they will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every distant pass."

(al-Hajj 22:27)

Hajj is from among the pillars of Islam, a strong foundation in the religion. It is obligated upon every Muslim if all conditions fulfilled, to be performed once in their lifetime.

By performing the 'ibaadah of hajj, then one's Islam is deemed as complete and perfect. The Muslims arrive as the guests of Allah in responding to His Call, with only one solemn pledge:

"Here I am O Allah, here I am, there is no partner for You, here I am, Verily all praise for You, and every bounty is from You, and all dominion is Yours - You have no partner."

Utterance of the talbiyyah with a sincere heart and khushoo' will be rewarded with the glad tidings of Allah's Paradise. In Islam, some 'ibaadah are badaniyyah in nature,

which emphasize on the physical capability such as salaah and fasting. Some are qalbiyyah, meaning worship of the heart such as dhikr. Also there are 'ibaadah that are maaliyyah in nature,

which involves money and wealth such as zakaat, infaq, and sadaqah. The 'ibaadah of hajj is a combination of all three types, namely badaniyyah, qalbiyyah, and maaliyyah.

The physical body partakes by performing the deeds, the heart obeys and surrenders, and the wealth as a determining factor. All three forms a unity that is inseparable.

Truly, we congratulate those that are honored to be among the guests of Allah for this year. To be selected for the noble journey to The Holy Land is

indeed a ni mah and success in the life of the slave of Allah. Hajj provides tarbiyyah for Muslims to have mujaahadah by spending a significant portion of their wealth,

having strong determination, and firm resolution. They must be willing to leave their homeland, parting with their loved ones, their career and livelihood, enduring the extreme hot or cold desert weather, and consuming food

that are at times may not be appetizing. However, in answering the call from Allah, they defiantly went through those struggles with resilience, that their imaan shot high and solidified.

The journey for hajj necessitates adequate provision and sufficient preparation. In addition to the required knowledge, other essential matters that should be taken into account are:

1- When leaving home to begin the journey to the Holy Land, purify one's intention with utmost sincerity for the sake of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala Alone. This niyyah will be the

differentiating factor whether one goes for hajj truly in answering the call of Allah, or just mere ritual act. The niyyah is the basis for all acts, whether in hajj or other 'ibaadah. If the intention and

determination is not strong, then the 'ibaadah will not reach the level of perfection. This is as it was mentioned in a hadeeth where Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"The reward of deeds depends upon the intentions..."

(al-Bukhaari)

2- Upon reaching the destination, take full advantage of such blessed opportunity. Indulge oneself in 'ibaadah as much as possible, fulfilling the arkaan (pillars) and

waajibaat (obligatory acts), and making du'a at locations and times that are mustajab (accepted). Insha Allah, our du 'a will be accepted by Allah. Increase the sunnah acts such as tawaaf, salaah,

i'tikaaf, tilaawah al-Qur'an, adhkaar, and istighfaar in Masjid al-Haram. because one raka 'ah of salaah in Masjid al-Haram is equivalent to 100,000 times raka 'ah in other masaajid,

and one salaah in Masjid an-Nabawi is equivalent to 1000 times salaah in other masaajid. 3- The Noble Sanctuary of Makkah is likened to a mini akhirah,

meaning that while there, one must be honest towards himself or herself. When afflicted with hardship, do not blame others but instead attribute its cause to one's own self.

Therefore, one must be very mindful and vigilant of every word uttered and action so as to not offend others.

4- While being in the thick of the crowd, do not question or judge the actions of others.

There, one will observe salaah being performed in different ways according to the madhhab being adhered to. Therefore, do not hasten to question or dispute the different ways performed by the Muslims there.

5- Undoubtedly, hajj is a very challenging 'ibaadah. Hence, those going for hajj must equip themselves with solid patience. In this context of sabr, there are three areas that will necessitate sabr

sabr in fulfilling the commands and obedience, sabr in abstaining from evil deeds and prohibitions, and sabr when afflicted with calamities and tribulations.

In the beginning, we will be tested by sacrificing comfort and normal daily activities. However, the soul will endure and have sabr without any regret,

and deem that all difficulties endured are from sunnatullah. Grief and happiness, difficulty and ease, will come interchangeably. The 'ibaadah of hajj can develop mankind to have amaanah, ikhlaas, honesty, and reliability, also producing individuals having tawaddu' (piety) and free from blameworthy traits such as takabbur (pride), riyaa' (showing off), arrogance, and khiyaanah (betrayal).

Even more, while performing hajj, it is forbidden to cause disturbance and wickedness. In a hadeeth, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"He who performs hajj and does not speak obscenely or commit evil will return clean from his sins just as the day his mother gave birth to him."

(Agreed Upon)

The 'ibaadah of hajj has many secret and hikmah behind its rites, among them: 1- The wearing of ihraam This is a symbol of equality among mankind in the Sight of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

No wealthy tycoon, nobleman and royal family member, and slaves that are deemed as lowly or debased. With the white garment worn, gone are the status and rank for those that think

highly of themselves, gone are the dignity for those that deem themselves honorable, and gone are pride and arrogance. 2- Wukuf in 'Arafah It falls on the 9th of Zhulhijjah, reminding us of the future event that will take place,

where all creations will be assembled in al-Mahshaar on the Day of Resurrection. Everyone will be worried and concerned, whether their deeds will be accepted or rejected by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

By pondering upon this event, the heart will lower in humility and desperately hope for the mercy of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. Do not be like some Muslims, whom are lacking in their

good deeds but boldly claim having attained great reward, hence consider themselves more honorable than others. Even worse are those that brazenly claim that they will definitely enter Paradise.

Such attitude manifests the symbol of a human being that is arrogant and heavily immersed in his arrogance that is only fueled by Iblees la 'natullah.

We sincerely hope that all of our brethren that will become the guests of Allah this year will attain hajj mabroor (accepted). Therefore, they must renew and purify their intention

before beginning their journey to the Holy Land. Have sabr in facing various situations while there. Utilize the ample opportunities to perform as much fard and sunnah at all times.

Stay vigilant so as to not fall into evil deeds and sinning. All body parts must be closely monitored such as the eyes, mouth, limbs, and others.

Those that have tried their utmost in performing hajj will truly feel sorrow and yearn to return to the Holy Land. Furthermore, there are some that are hoping to die in the blessed land.

For us who hasn't fulfilled the hajj obligation, then: 1- Have the intention and determination to perform hajj as soon as possible 2- Strive and begin saving

up to obtain the sufficient amount.

- 3- Strive to perform hajj at a young age.
 - 4- Strive to increase one's knowledge on matters pertaining to hajj.

"Hajj is [during] well-known months, so whoever has made hajj obligatory upon himself therein [by entering the state of ihraam], there is [to be for him] no sexual relations and no disobedience

and no disputing during hajj. And whatever good you do – Allah knows it. And take provisions, but indeed, the best provision is fear of Allah. And fear Me, O you of understanding. (al-Baqarah 2:197)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُوْلُ قُوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِر الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْبَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَاتِ 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



DI SEDIAKAN OLEH:

BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH:

UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR