



FATHER:

PILLAR OF A

HAPPY FAMILY

Let us increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala with full obedience, certainty, and sincerity, by fulfilling all of His Commands and abstaining from all of His prohibitions.

With that, we truly hope to become among the *muttaqoon*, attaining success and safety in this world and the Hereafter. The topic of today's khutbah is **"Father: Pillar Of A Happy** Family."

Fatherhood is a status that is gifted by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and it is also an amaanah to the menfolk that are married and having a family. Allah grants great reward to those fathers that

duly fulfilled their amaanah and duties. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala admires every father that fulfills their responsibility to their families. The father, being the chief of the household,

is delegated by Allah with the affairs of his family, shouldered with the responsibility to groom and raise them with fundamental Islamic knowledge, sound akhlaaq and Islamic identity.

They must be educated in having sound knowledge that Allah is their Creator, Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam as their messenger, Islam as their Sharee 'ah,

noble akhlaaq instilled as their culture, displaying ihsaan to their surrounding neighbors, and become exemplary figures in their communities.

It behooves future fathers to realize that they are vicegerents of Allah in their respective "kingdom" of household, the ruler to their families, their utterances are to be

obeyed and respected by their spouses and offspring. It is obligated upon the wives to obey and respect their husbands, treating them

with gentleness, and fulfilling their needs for as long as they do not contradict the Sharee 'ah. Unruly disobedience and defiance will only make

the wives become rebellious, thus incurring the wrath of Allah. Such is the privileged status of the father granted by Islam, being the pillar of the family.

The father must realize that Allah had obligated the children to respect, obey, and abide by their parents. It is waajib to heed the father's advice, let alone rejecting them. It is forbidden

for the children to assault their father and scolding their parents. It is *waajib* for the children to be kind, gentle, and well mannered when dealing with their father.

Every violation in terms of adaab to the father will deem the child as rebellious, only to incur the wrath of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

Thus the status of the father in Islam, he is highly revered by Allah, granted virtuous adaab and respectable honor in raising his status as the father. 1 His family is given admonition or reward

in honoring his authority as the father. Dearest fathers, be grateful for Allah has raised your status with having authority. But take full

heed, for such dominance is heavy amaanah from Allah that it is onus upon the father to fulfill them, for they are massive and severe responsibilities, that is waajib to be fulfilled.

The first responsibility is to bring family members close to Allah by familiarizing them with constant adhkaar and ad'iyah (supplications) so that they will get to better "know" Allah as the only

deity worthy of worship. As a responsible father, it is obligatory to ensure that the fundamental teachings of the religion (fard al-'ayn) are taught, instilled, and practiced by the children.

They are to be guided and educated to abide by the Sharee 'ah of Allah, performing the five obligatory prayers, instilled with the love for the masjid, and always praying in

jamaa 'ah at the masjid, not just mere encouragement and command while the father himself is glued in front of the TV or computer after the adhaan has been made.

The father must learn to develop patience and obedience in fulfilling the five obligatory prayers, reciting al-Qur'an regularly, and fasting, in training him to become one that is patient

and feels the suffering of others including starvation. These practices of fard al-'ayn (individual obligation) should be instilled as a routine practice within the family at home.

It does not befit for the father to want his offspring and family members to become good Muslims while he himself is aloof and negligent of his very duty as the pillar of the family,

having a respectable status conferred by Allah. There are those bearing the title "father" that would stay up late until 3am or 4am, preoccupied in tahajjud with facebook, twitter,

the Internet, and many others. There are also those that shamefully engross themselves in watching immoral movies and indulging in karaoke at coffee shops until the wee hours.

Recently, there have been many cases of family conflict, discord, and abuse. Most of them are due to the laxity of the father being irresponsible and negligent of his family duties.

The careless father does not assist his wife in managing the household and monitoring the children, let alone providing the love and care necessary, which only result in bitter quarrel or

even worse leads to divorce. O fathers, reflect and ponder upon the roles and responsibilities that are demanded from you! The second responsibility is to manage the livelihood (nafaqa) of the family.

The father must ensure that each mouthful of food fed to the wife and children, every sip of drink consumed, every thread of clothing worn by the family members,

must all originate from sources that are halaal and pleasing to Allah, for every source that is doubtful and haraam, it will become

the burning fuel for the Hellfire.

It is *waajib* for the father to make a living and seek provision for his family so that they will not be left to starve.

The wife is not obliged to seek employment to support the family while the husband relaxes at home, allowing his spouse to break her back just to make ends meet. It is forbidden for the father

to resort to unlawful means such as bribery, cheating on the job, gambling, and other prohibited matters such as working in a brewery, casino, gambling outlet, and many others.

The third responsibility is to provide knowledge and guidance that will rescue the family members from the torment of the Fire and misguidance in this world. Narrated Abu Hurayrah

radiyAllaahu 'anh, the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "Every child is born with a true faith of Islam (i.e. to worship none but

Allah Alone) and his parents convert him to Judaism or Christianity or Magianism"

(al-Bukhaari)

It is *waajib* for the father to raise his children having utmost akhlaaq such as not breaching the trust given. For example, like the haruan (snakehead fish) devouring its young.

The father is supposed to be the pillar of strength and security in the family. However there are fathers out there who are actually the cause for the family to break up and become dysfunctional, in the end

only causing rift, conflict, and separation between the husband and wife, which is hated by Allah. It behooves the father to understand the true objective of marriage and the responsibility that comes with it.

Allah has granted a huge and significant amaanah to be fulfilled. So definitely Allah will one day question if the amaanah had been thoroughly and completely fulfilled.

"O you who have believed, protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones, over which are

[appointed] angels, harsh and severe; they do not disobey Allah in what He commands them but do what they are commanded."

(at-Tahreem 66:6)



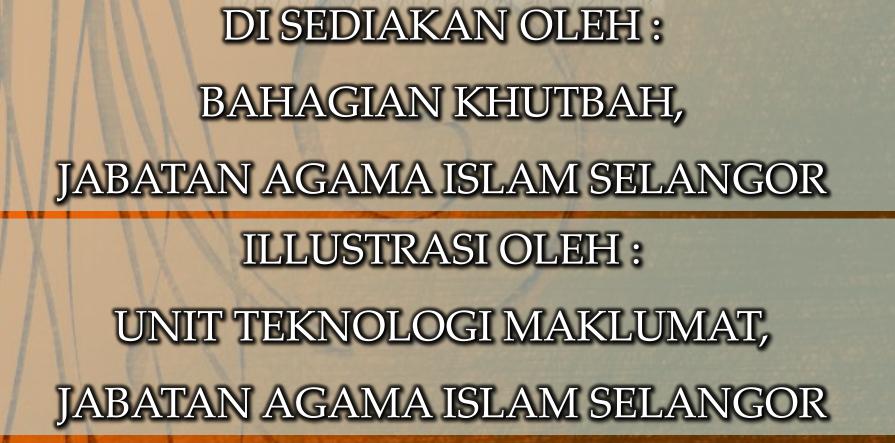
O Allah, You are the Almighty Lord, we are grateful unto You for having bestowed upon us Mercy and **Blessings, nourishing us to strive** to continue in strengthening the **Muslim nation especially the state** of Selangor, as an advanced, progressive, peaceful, and benevolent state.

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



JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR