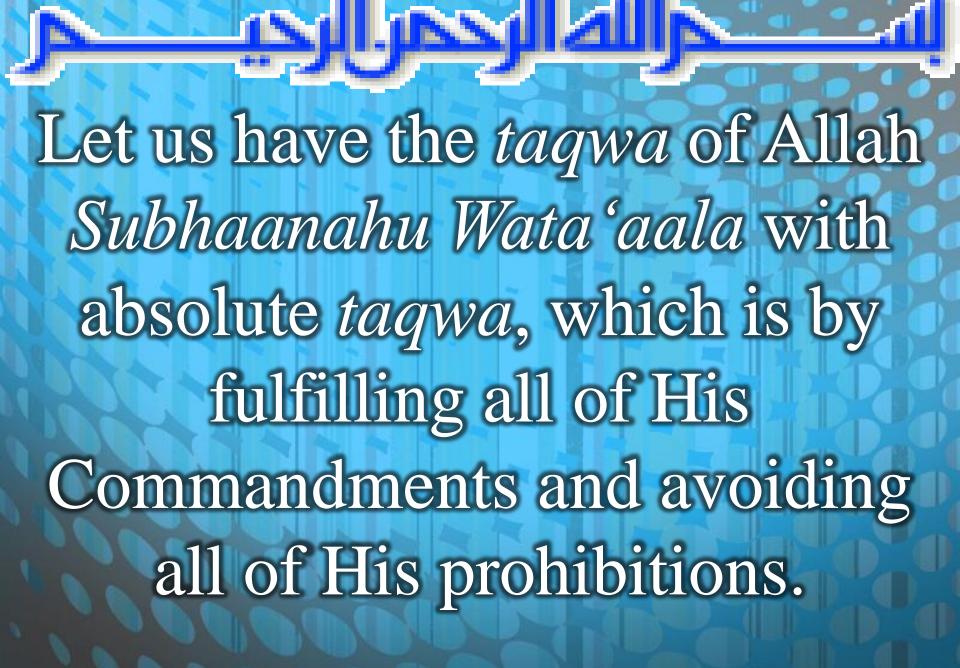




THE BEAUTY OF RAINBOW COLORS



Indeed, we truly hope to become among the successful ones in this world and the Hereafter. Take heed, for denying Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala will only inflict difficulties upon us.

In a hadeeth, it was narrated that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:
"... Whoever does not care

"... Whoever does not care about the Muslims is not one of them ..."

(at-Tabaraani: da 'eef with sound meaning)

The topic of today's khutbah is "The Beauty Of Rainbow Colors."

Politics or siyaasah is an aspect of life that is significant in the building and development of the ummah. Aside from specific 'ibaadah, economics, education, physical and

social development, politics is no less important in fulfilling the agenda for the formation of a civilized ummah. These aspects are all closely related and are all in need of each other, for Islam

is a way of life that nurtures well-being in life. With a stable political situation, all daily matters and affairs will execute smoothly, and vice versa.

The best example for us to turn to as guidance is the political move of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in establishing the Madeenah Charter, intended to create a justice system for the

Medinan society without discrimination against race, ethnicity, and lineage. The Madeenah Charter provided a very effective foundation for the cultivation of solid da'wah work,

by consolidating the system and commitment of Islamic politics. Politics was made as a very effective da'wah avenue at that time, that the support garnered by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was not only from the Muslims but also non-Muslims. In result, the fruit of the labor for the great patience and resilience manifested by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

in his da'wah effort was that people embraced Islam en masse, being attracted to the hikmah and siyaasah of his da'wah work, sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

This directly indicates to us to give adequate attention and significance to politics as a fertile arena for da'wah Islamiyyah.

Nowadays, whether in the printed or electronic media, the topic of the upcoming general election or more precisely "politics" has become the hottest topic spoken about, discussed,

and mentioned. Whether at the leadership level or down to the general public, all are engrossed in this latest frenzy, preoccupied in discussing politics.

Hence, we will hear arguments, reasoning, criticisms, support, opposition, and others that will definitely touch the emotions and feelings of the masses at all levels and places.

The poster wars amongst political parties contesting in the election is evident all over, at various corners and locations, just to garner support for each group, so much so that even the

tree stump by the roadside that has long been abandoned, is now fancily wrapped and decorated with posters in various styles. With the latest technology in the online world,

the speed to convey the campaign message and provide latest updates are exuberantly fast and even up-to-the-minute. Such robustness in the political sphere is attracting more

interests with offerings and promises announced by political leaders in winning the hearts of the supporters, especially the voters.

What must be fully comprehended is that in reality, the general election is not an arena or medium for us to be blaming each other, pointing fingers, digging up the faults and mistakes of

others, hurling abuses, defaming and slandering others, showing off, or even "outmuscling" others. On the contrary, in this current election fever, we are bombarded with multitudes

of stories, accusations, and even the slightest and minute faults of friends or foes. Even more unfortunate is when such mess would escalate and result in misunderstanding and

conflicts, which further leads to fitnah, brawl, and even physical injuries. What is disappointing is that the current political circumstances have been made as the scapegoat and

alibi in justifying the means. Hence, it would not be surprising for us to witness the prevailing disputes and conflicts in the political scenario ends in bloodshed and even murder.

As a consequence of the current status quo, it has given rise to the perception that politics is vile and dirty, since those involved are disregarding the adaab and siyaasah Islamiyyah that was

taught by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. In result, a portion of the Muslim ummah deems that politics is something that they should not be involved with.

Hence we find some of them actually abandoned this field altogether, making us Muslims as those that are only governed but not governing.

As Muslims, it must be understood that political arena is only a medium or avenue in attaining prosperous living in the nation so that every citizen will be granted due justice

and enjoying prosperity in their lives. What we must know is that engaging in politics is an obligation upon the Muslim ummah. That is why as Muslims, we must participate or at the very

least partake as electors to the method in forming the government. Therefore it behooves everyone's involvement, especially from the Muslim ummah. Else, if we no longer care or have

concern about politics, then it is feared that these crucial positions will be taken over by those unfit in determining the leadership of this nation. Hence, it behoove us to take heed and lessons from this

verse in al-Qur'an: "Indeed, Allah commands you to render trusts to whom they are due and when you judge between people

to judge with justice. Excellent is that which Allah instructs you. Indeed, Allah is ever Hearing and Seeing."

(an-Nisaa' 4:58)

Therefore, it is high time for us Muslims especially the youth to have sound political awareness so that their role is not limited only as "poster hangers". Instead, they must equip themselves

with sufficient knowledge so that their future political outlook will be promising, with solid principles in fighting for the people, and more importantly in safeguarding the sanctity of

Islam. It is high time for us to contemplate and learn about the techniques and methods of politics that was taught by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

He sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was not only known as a prophet or da 'ie, but as prolific political strategist. As a matter of fact, political aspect was among the da'wah methodologies

employed by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in conveying the message of Islam. Though he was imposed with multitudes of trials and difficulties,

as an excellent political leader he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was successful in spreading the message of Islam throughout the entire world in the end.

As a political leader, the akhlaaq of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was not only admired and obeyed by his Companions, but instead he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was

well respected and honored by his enemies. History has recorded how Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was successful in this regard. It is truly amazing to know that the Ethiopian (Habshah)

kingdom, though having different religious views with Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, had actually agreed to provide political asylum to the Muslims before the hijrah to Madeenah. It is unimaginable to the mind how is it that they were willing to provide aid knowing the threat and backlash that could be inflicted upon their

leadership for such move. But of course, this was due to the diplomacy or political technique and effective siyaasah that was manifested by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam during

those times. The historical account regarding the Conquest of Makkah (Fath al-Makkah) has portrayed everything about the demeanor and political principles of Rasulullah

sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. Not only were they systematic, but his akhlaaq sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in forgiving his political enemies had clearly left a major impact that in the end

Islam gained respect and spread to the whole world. These matters were mentioned in al-Qur'an:

"When the victory of Allah has come and the conquest. And you see the people

entering into the religion of Allah in multitudes. Then exalt [Him] with praise of your Lord and ask forgiveness of Him. Indeed, He is ever Accepting of repentance." (an-Nasr 110:1-3)

It is waajib upon the Muslim ummah to take Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam as exemplary in practicing healthy politics. Let us not allow our political differences to divide us,

from becoming hostile and enemies to each other, and severing our ukhuwwah Islamiyyah. It is only right for us to utilize this political platform for da'wah bil haal that should be demonstrated

to other nations. We as Muslims are the best of people, thus it behoove us to become the best examples in every aspects. Let us become like the rainbow, though having

different colors, yet it is that very difference which demonstrates its beauty and splendor. And that would be the most important matter for us as believers, manifesting the image Islam as a peaceful religion and safeguarding harmony. Indeed, differences of opinion and views should be cultivated and tolerated so that its implication and effect are kept minimal.

Let it not be that we remain as adversaries and not even greeting each other, even after the general election has passed. Any arising problem and disputes should be solved with hikmah not

wickedness. Let those differences of opinion and views be celebrated, not served as the source of dispute. Though having different opinion, but yet such difference is akin to the

beauty of the rainbow due to the different colors within it. May we as Muslims realize these matters, and become an ummah that is advanced in all aspects of lives, specifically in the politics

forming the federal and state government that is pleasing and blessed by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. It is hoped that the outcome of the upcoming general election will then calm

cool the "raging" flame. Let us wholly concede and celebrate, embracing it totally by forgiving each other, for it is only through that the victory will become meaningful.

Furthermore, we must always be willing to be open by accepting everything as the qadr of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. We truly hope that those that win in the election

will execute their responsibilities, and those that lose will not hold any grudge or enmity, only having harmful effects.

"Say, "O Allah, Owner of Sovereignty, You give sovereignty to whom You will and You take sovereignty away from whom You will. You honor whom You will and

humble whom You will. In Your hand is [all] good. Indeed, You are over all things competent."

(Aal-'Imraan 3:26)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِبَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَبَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ. أَقُوْلُ قُوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأُسْتَغُفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِر الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ 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