



ISRAA' & MI'RAAJ:

PROVING THE TRUTHFULNESS OF WHAT WAS CONVEYED

I would like to remind myself and fellow congregation to strive in increasing our *taqwa* of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions.

Indeed, we truly hope to attain salvation and noble stature in the Sight of Allah. Today's khutbah is a reminder for us about the incident of "Israa' & Mi'raaj: Proving The Truthfulness Of What Was Conveyed."

The great event of al-Israa' wal-Mi'raaj was selected for today's khutbah due to its unique nature that really challenges one's imaan, especially those in the field of da 'wah, calling mankind

to full servitude unto Allah. In the book of seerah by ibn Hishaam or ibn Is-haaq, both had agreed that this great event was preceded by three significant events in the lives of Rasulullah sallAllahu

'alayhi wasallam, namely: 1- The passing away of his beloved wife Khadeejah radiyAllaahu 'anha who was very instrumental in assisting him sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam in the work of

da'wah to the Makkan society. 2- Then, he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam lost his uncle Abu Taalib who was very protective of him sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam,

protecting Rasulullah on numerous occasions from the onslaughts of the Mushrikeen of Makkah. Even worse, despite all the sacrifice, Abu Taalib had died in a state of disbelief.

3- After the demise of many of those that had assisted him, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and the Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een then shifted their da'wah to the

people of Taa'if. However, the response that they had received was not as favorable as expected. Not only they were rejected, but even the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

was physically assaulted and injured. Indeed, al-Israa' and al-Mi'raaj took place after a series of catastrophic events that befell upon Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

in his da'wah effort that was commanded by Allah. The main theme and focus of his da'wah then revolved mainly on matters of "ghaybiyyaat" or "sam 'iyyaat", which are matters that are unseen in

this world and can only be conveyed or heard about. It is a grave matter that is very significant but it was very difficult to instill the belief of the Makkans in having imaan upon those matters.

If Nabi Moosa 'alayhissalam was greatly tested by Allah with the Children of Israa'eel wanting to see Allah in building yaqeen in their 'aqeedah,

Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was constantly challenged to prove the virtue and superiority of having imaan unto Allah and the Last Day, something that can only be

heard through explanations by the Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and Qur'anic verses. It can only be "seen" through the Signs manifesting the greatness of Allah, on earth and in the

heavens.

In this great event, Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has bestowed a great reward, in that it was a journey of the body and soul for Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala wanted Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam to witness for himself what was ordained by Allah regarding the belief in Allah,

belief in the angels, belief in the Messengers, belief in the Scriptures, belief in the Last Day, and belief in *al-Qadr* (Divine Decree) that both the good and bad of it all originating from Allah,

The Omnipotent Creator. Indeed, the journey of al-Israa' wal-Mi'raaj was successful in instilling yaqeen especially in having imaan upon matters of ghayb or sam 'iyyaat.

Furthermore, it helps to strengthen one's sabr in da 'wah and calling mankind to have imaan upon the six articles of faith. From the famous *hadeeth* Jibreel:

"... He (the inquirer i.e. Jibreel) said: "Inform me about imaan (faith)." He (the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) replied: "That you affirm your faith in Allah, in His angels,

in His Books, in His Prophets, in the Day of Judgment, and you affirm your faith in the **Divine Decree about good and** evil."... " (al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

The gift from Allah in the journey of *al-Israa*' and *al-*Mi'raaj aims, among others, to provide emotional and spiritual healing and lighten the load from the distress and pressure that he

sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam greatly endured. If on earth his da'wah mission in calling mankind to have imaan in Allah and the Last Day was met with insults and humiliation, then it was

the very opposite with the reception and treatment that he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam received from other Messengers and the angels in the heavens that embraced his arrival with

great honor, respect, and dignity. The journey of this great event had occurred in two stages, the first one from Masjid al-Haraam to Masjid al-Aqsa.

Distance-wise, it is a land journey that is far and taxing. It is a journey that goes beyond Mount Sinai and its valley where the dialogue between Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and

Nabi Moosa 'alayhissalam occurred, and also the birthplace of Nabi 'Isa 'alayhissalam in Bayt al-Lahm (Bethlehem). The second stage began from Masjid al-Aqsa and ascended

through the first heaven, the second, third, all the way to Bayt al-Ma 'moor where the angels worship Allah and perform tawaaf, and finally ending at Sidratul Muntaha.

At Bayt al-Maqdis (Masjid al-Aqsa), Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was received by all of the early Messengers and Prophets, where he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

was appointed to lead salaah. This was very symbolic, signifying the handover of authority to the leadership of Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam,

the transfer of risaalah from Bani Israa'eel to Bani Ismaa 'eel or the ummah of Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, and the change of qiblah from Bayt al-Maqdis to Baytullah in

Makkah. The journey of *al*-Mi'raaj then took Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam to the life of Barzakh (grave), where he was shown various incidents in the land of Mahshaar (gathering)

until the final destination for mankind, whether becoming the people of Paradise or Hellfire. Surely, all the difficulties and agonies that he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam endured while

trying to convince the people to have belief in Allah and the Last Day would wither away after seeing those unseen matters. Matters that are only heard in the verses of al-Qur'an in this dunya,

but becomes true reality on the Day of Reckoning. Everything was seen through "'ayn alyaqeen" by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam to be conveyed to his ummah.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "No! If you only knew with knowledge of certainty... You will surely see the Hellfire.

Then you will surely see it with the eye of certainty. Then you will surely be asked that Day about pleasure."

(at-Takaathur 102:5-8)

Such is the greatness of the power of Allah, that He displayed to Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam the scenes of mankind from the past, the present, and the future.

The truthfulness of Allah's risaalah upon mankind is all mentioned within Islamic teachings, and its validity is eternally everlasting then, now, and forever.

The journey of *al-Mi'raaj* ended at Sidratul Muntaha where Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam met Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala and uttered to His Majesty with full reverence:

"All reverence, prayers, and good things are due to Allah." And in a sacred reply, Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions:

"Peace be upon you O Prophet, and the mercy of Allah and His blessings." With *khushoo* ' and humility, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam then uttered:

"Peace be upon us and the righteous servants of Allah." Simultaneously, the angels received those utterances and supplicated.

Such historical dialogue was kept permanent as part of the recitation in the "tashahhud" position in salaah that is due upon us five times daily.

The journey of *al-Mi'raaj* ended with full hikmah and barakah, with the perfection of "karaamatul insaaniyyah" when Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala awarded the five daily

prayers as a gift to Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam to be given to his entire ummah. The hikmah behind this gift of five daily salawaat is for mankind to be grateful for the ni'mah of

Islam and *imaan*. And with salaah, we can experience the journey of *al-Mi* 'raaj if they are performed with resounding imaan, full contemplation, ikhlaas, and khushoo' for Allah

Subhaanahu Wata'aala. Indeed, al-Israa' wal-Mi'raaj has taught us many valuable lessons and teachings, among them: 1- One's own submission and acknowledgement of

imaan unto Allah and the Last Day must be ascertained to the utmost level by referring to illustrious verses of al-Qur'an and authentic Ahaadeeth.

Imaan is not attained through wishful thinking, it is not an illusion or plaything, but it is the truth that can only be grasped through authentic knowledge, 'amal (practice),

and patience. 2- Calling mankind to the path of Allah, as it was diligently manifested by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam with full sabr and istigaamah, is a highly noble

deed in the Sight of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. 3- The five daily salawaat is truly a gift from Allah, and an honor for Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam that is to be passed on to his

ummah. Fulfilling the five daily prayers is indeed a success in this worldly life that will be handsomely rewarded in the Hereafter. Its fulfillment largely depends on one's strength of imaan

and yaqeen in Allah and the Day of Reckoning, which will be determined by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

"And seek help through patience and prayer, and indeed, it is difficult except for the humbly submissive [to Allah].

Who are certain that they will meet their Lord and that they will return to Him."

(al-Baqarah 2:45-46)



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

