



PONDERING

UPON AL-

QUR'AN

As we are in this blessed month of Ramadaan, let us strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala by performing all of His Commands and abstaining from all of His prohibitions.

May we all constantly attain the barakah and rahmah of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. On this blessed day, let us ponder upon the khutbah titled "Pondering Upon al-Qur'an".

Al-Qur'an is kalaamullah that was revealed to Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam through Jibreel 'alayhissalam. Among its main mission is to develop the akhlaaq of mankind,

meaning to build, establish, and elevate the akhlaaq of mankind in attaining the pleasure of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. Al-Qur'an as the impetus for praiseworthy akhlaaq,

is not only for the Muslims, but instead for the entire mankind with messages calling to attain knowledge, having belief, and performing righteous deeds.

Al-Qur'an is a mu'jizah (miracle) of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, and Allah has manifested how majestic and glorious are the contents of al-Qur'an.

From among the hikmah of al-Qur'an is that if it is recited with full contemplation, it will tranquil the heart, pouring a sense of peace into the soul, and as healing for the

grieving heart. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "And We send down of the Qur'an that which is healing and mercy for the believers." (al-Israa' 17:82)

In a period of 23 years, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had received revelations in stages. According to Imaam as-Suyooti rahimahullah, al-Qur'an has a total of 6236

verses, with 74,439 words, and 325,345 letters. Such was their accuracy and precision in their love for al-Qur'an that every letter was counted, even though they did not possess sophisticated

calculating devices. Allah has sent down al-Qur'an as guidance and reminder so that mankind will realize that in reality, they are not free to do as they please. But there is a Higher Being that

determines and controls everything. Mankind cannot control their own will and destiny, as they would wish, and limited to only their effort and endeavor. We can only plan, but fate and

destiny are in the Hands of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. From among the roles of al-Qur'an is as al-Huda (the guidance), al-Furqaan (the criterion between truth and

falsehood), al-Mubayyin (the clarifier), ar-Rushd (directing to all that is beneficial), ar-Rahmah (mercy), an-Noor (the light of life), ash-Shifaa' (the healer), and many more.

All these proves the greatness of al-Qur'an. For example, referring to the life of 'Umar ibn al-Khattaab radiyAllaahu 'anh who was originally a cruel and violent person.

He had embraced Islam after listening to verses of al-Qur'an being recited. Due to the magnificence of al-Qur'an, the heart that was hard melted and became very soft,

realizing that the teachings of Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam is indeed beautiful and honorable. 'Umar did not wait long and quickly embraced Islam with whole-

heartedness and ikhlaas. This great incident has caused Islam to spread throughout the barren desert area. This is from among the glory of al-Qur'an, that it was able to soften hearts that were hard

and harsh. The objective and purpose of al-Qur'an is as such, that whenever we are seeking guidance unto the true path in this life, then the answer is none other than to follow the

guidance of al-Qur'an. Similarly if we want to evaluate on any matter, whether if it will bring about benefit or harm to mankind, permissible or not by Allah, then the most accurate

answer is to refer to al-Qur'an for everything is within it. Al-Qur'an provides lessons regarding relationships amongst mankind. For example, knowledge and sciences

relating to relationships in the society, social interactions, economics, culture, and many others have all been elaborated in a very interesting manner.

Likewise for history of the past, all were explained with the stories of previous nations. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"This [Qur'an] is a clear statement to [all] the people and a guidance and instruction for those conscious of Allah."

(Aal-'Imraan 3:138)

Today, we are living in a time of difficulty, with unfavorable circumstances, due to the lack of contemplation and appreciation for al-Qur'an by the Muslims.

This phenomenon indicates that it is as if the Muslim ummah is not confident upon the superiority and distinction of the teachings of al-Qur'an. As a consequence of the

wickedness and negligence upon Qur'anic teachings, it is very clear that many within the Muslim *ummah* today are inundated with various problems in their lives such as poverty,

hunger, and frustrations whether internally (inner self) or externally (community). The social vices that have plagued the Muslims today are a prime example proving that the

Muslim ummah has abandoned al-Qur'an in their priorities. The prevailing scenario that shows Muslims as being involved in these social immoralities is very humiliating and degrading.

Al-Qur'an has promised severe punishment upon those that transgress against the guidance of al-Qur'an as it was mentioned:

"And whoever turns away from My remembrance indeed, he will have a depressed life, and We will gather him on the Day of **Resurrection blind.**" (Ta-Ha 20:124) Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam is the bearer of the humanitarian message that is comprehensive and complete. While al-Qur'an is the guidance or manual for

that message, providing answer to all questions posed by mankind - whether problems between the creations and its Creator, or problems between the creations and other creations.

Al-Qur'an that was revealed is actually the catalyst that triggers the great revolutionary spirit, destroying all forms of ignorance and shirk. It is the guidance, the clarifier, and

the criterion between truth and falsehood. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "The month of Ramadaan [is that] in which was revealed the Qur'an,

a guidance for the people and clear proofs of guidance and criterion."

(al-Baqarah 2:185)

This verse alludes to us that al-Qur'an is put forth to mankind having three roles: 1. As guidance for mankind. 2. As clear proofs for guidance from Allah.

3. As the criterion that distinguishes truth from falsehood. According to Imaam al-Ghazzaali rahimahullah: "Whoever clings firmly upon al-Qur'an,

he would be guided and receives guidance, and whoever practice upon its teachings, then he will be successful and blissful."

What becomes the question is to what extent are the Muslims able to properly master the Qur'anic recitation, understanding and implementing all the regulations taught in

al-Qur'an. Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had given stern reminder about those that disregard the teachings from al-Qur'an, as it was narrated from the hadeeth

ibn 'Abbaas *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma* where Rasulullah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* said:

"He who does not memorize any part from

the Qur'an he is like the ruined house." (at-Tirmidhi: hasan saheeh) This hadeeth provides a beautiful illustration that we can actually imagine the state of an empty soul,

living without guidance and purpose. How unfortunate for that very soul, even though seemingly complete and healthy physically, but only to be filled with emptiness and

disappointment in the spirit and soul. There are multitudes of valuable lessons in al-Qur'an that was revealed by Allah, among them:

1. Al-Qur'an carries a great mission in building the akhlaaq of mankind. 2. Al-Qur'an brings great revolutionary zeal to eliminate all form of ignorance and shirk.

3. Al-Qur'an provides the guidance that can solve all problems in life for mankind until the end of time. 4. Al-Qur'an provides the ultimate guidance for all mankind until the end of

time. Therefore, we cannot separate and be separated from al-Qur'an, for it has many lessons and teachings. Hence, it behoove the Muslims to:

1. Learn the proper recitation of al-Qur'an. 2. Comprehend the teachings of al-Qur'an even if it is only the translation of its meanings. 3. Strive to derive lessons, contemplation, and practice upon the teachings of al-Qur'an.

"And whoever turns away from My remembrance indeed, he will have a depressed life, and We will gather him on the Day of **Resurrection blind.**" (Ta-Ha 20:124)



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

