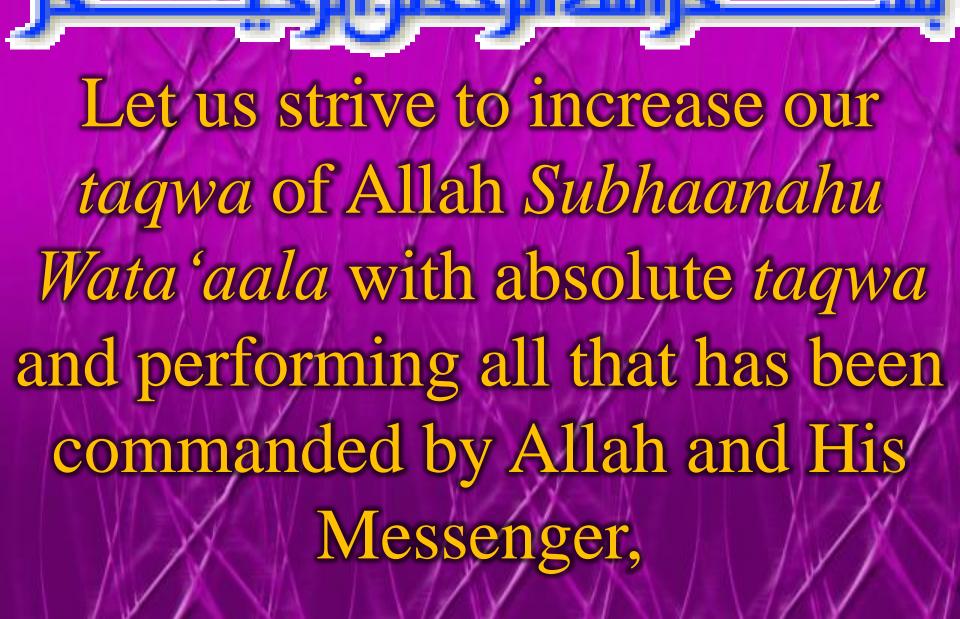


BROTHERHOOD

AMONG MUSLIMS



as well as abstaining from all of His prohibitions. May salawaat (blessings) and salaam (peace) be upon our beloved Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam.

On this blessed day, let us reflect upon the *khutbah* titled: "Brotherhood Among Muslims."

The bond of brotherhood is a vital Islamic principle that is deeply engrained in the hearts of the Muslims. The firmness of the bond of brotherhood among Muslims is heavily emphasized

in realizing solid Islamic ukhuwwah. Moreover, the Islamic bond that is joined and established based upon deeprooted 'aqeedah is much stronger as the Muslim ummah tightly clings upon

the same core and basis, which is upholding ad-deen as the foundation of its fraternity. How significant it is for us to safeguard the bond of brotherhood amongst Muslims for it was the advice

of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam (on the authority of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh):

"... O servants of Allah, be brothers ..."

(al-Bukhaari, Muslim and Abu Dawood)

Islam has taught the Muslim ummah to remain united and emphasized the Muslims to live as one family (brethren), as it was mentioned in al-Qur'an:

"The believers are but brothers, so make settlement between your brothers. And fear Allah that you may receive mercy."

(al-Hujuraat 49:10)

Islam prescribes the Muslims to be alert and aware of the affairs of their Muslim brethren. It teaches the Muslim ummah to aid their brethren that are less fortunate and oppressed.

The fraternity upon one religion or creed is truly noble and leaves a great impact in the nurturing the unity of the ummah. Without it, the society will split and divide, weaken, and further

susceptible to manipulation. Therefore, when brothers, we must exercise manners and actions that promotes the fostering of brotherhood

such as helping one another and mutual cooperation especially in welfare and beneficial matters. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"The believing men and believing women are allies of one another. They enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong...

(at-Tawbah 9:71)

If there exist within us differing opinions and ideologies in understanding a particular branch of knowledge or in political parties or others, it does not mean that we should sever

the ties of kinship and brotherhood that is ordained to be strengthened in Islam. However much we differ due to our differences in understanding based upon the religious texts,

Islam does not allow at all for the Muslims to be divided. That is, if such differences are based upon the differences resulting from ijtihaad of the Muslim scholars.

Similarly, difference of opinion is a matter that is inseparable from the trait and norm of mankind. Moreover, difference of opinion is something that makes Islam more dynamic

and flexible as a religion. In this regard, narrated Anas ibn Maalik radiyAllaahu 'anh that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"Do not hate one another, and do not be jealous of one another, and do not desert each other, and O servants of Allah! Be brothers..."

(al-Bukhaari)

This hadeeth reminds us to always safeguard our ties of kinship and fraternity amongst us. Envy, hatred, betrayal, and other vile attitude would only result in enmity and hostility within

the Muslim ummah, which ultimately leads to disunity. In preserving our bond of brotherhood, Islam has outlined several guidelines, among them:

1- Every Muslim must strive to aid and support their Muslim brethren as a unified body, as it was prescribed in the hadeeth of Nu'man bin Basheer radiyAllaahu 'anh

where Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "The similitude of believers in regard to mutual love, affection, fellow-feeling is that of one body;

when any limb of it aches, the whole body aches, because of sleeplessness and fever."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

The firmness of the Islamic brotherhood is deeply emphasized in instilling the love and care for each other, for it will build a strong unity of the Muslim ummah.

Furthermore, the brotherhood that is built upon this love and care will be bestowed with rahmah and great blessings from Allah.

2- Every Muslim must not harbor feelings of ill will and strife towards each other, what more with hurling accusations and slander against each other. If there arises any displeasing

or unsatisfying matter, then it calls for a discussion within the spirit of mushaawarah (consultation), united and cooperative in the fundamental principles. But in matters without consensus

agreement especially in trivial or secondary matters (furoo'), then we must be tolerant, openminded, and forgiving. Every Muslim should also do away with deplorable traits such as

being envious of others. Envy will only sever the bond of brotherhood among Muslims. Similarly with dispraised attributes like causing fitnah, backbiting, suspicion, and always

looking for faults and mistakes of other Muslims. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"O you who have believed, avoid much [negative] assumption. Indeed, some assumption is sin. And do not spy or backbite each other. Would one of you

like to eat the flesh of his brother when dead? You would detest it. And fear Allah; indeed, Allah is Accepting of repentance and Merciful."

(al-Hujuraat 49:12)

Therefore, every Muslim is reminded to not easily accept and believe everything conveyed to them, especially those originating from unreliable or suspicious sources.

Islam highly discourage the Muslims to have liking to hear and easily believing in what is transmitted by others at face value because it could be false or made up news maliciously/ intended to

disgrace and humiliate others, or even ruin the unity of the Muslim ummah. Such emphasis is mentioned by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala in al-Qur'an:

"O you who have believed, if there comes to you a disobedient one with information, investigate,

lest you harm a people out of ignorance and become, over what you have done, regretful." (al-Hujuraat 49:6)

Islam heavily promotes good relationship amongst each other, and this can be truly observed in the relationship between Muslims, where Islam came with rahmah to unite the hearts,

strengthening the ranks, and directing them to a unity of brotherhood. At the same time, avoiding elements that can lead to disunity and division that will only weaken the fraternity.

The purpose of this union is to nurture noble and honorable values so that mankind can fully engage in 'ibaadah to Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

The bond utilized by Islam in uniting the Muslim ummah is one that is solid and firm, unlike the other ones, unlike the knot that crumbles when the rope is destroyed. On the contrary,

the bond of ukhuwwah in Islam is one that is very powerful, even stronger than blood relations, ethnicity, mother tongue, or even native land. It is the bond of imaan, where the Muslims

are governed by it. With the bond of imaan, the believer can further strengthen their brotherhood and relationship, as mentioned in a hadeeth by Anas ibn Maalik radiyAllaahu 'anh

that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "None of you truly believes until he loves for his brother what he loves for himself."

(al-Bukhaari, Muslim, at-Tirmidhi, an-Nasaa'i, and ibn Maajah)

This is the basis of Islamic brotherhood that is established in the religion, safeguarded with the spirit of imaan, erected by true love (mahabbah) as its solid foundation.

Hence with such spirit, it spurs the formation of praiseworthy characteristics such as respecting others, helping others, striving to do good, preventing evil, ultimately becoming the

living norm for the Muslims within the society. This is among the guidance and lessons derived from ahadeeth that should be heeded by all Muslims in preserving the strength and

integrity of unity in the bond of brotherhood, for its preservation will produce a sense of goodwill that is engulfed with peaceful atmosphere.

The conclusion and lessons derived from today's *khutbah* are:

1- As part of the Muslim ummah, we are all brothers, so it is obligated upon us to strengthen our tie of kinship

at all times.

2- To maintain the brotherhood amongst Muslims, we must always preserve and safeguard ourselves from succumbing to behaviors that can sever

the relationship such as guarding the tongue so as to not utter matters that are prohibited by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

3- Always and diligently clinging upon the teachings of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah so that we will not stray from the very path that has been outlined by it.

"The believers are but brothers, so make settlement between your brothers. And fear Allah that you may receive mercy."

(al-Hujuraat 49:10)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُوْلُ قُوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِر الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْيَاءِ 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