



جَابَاتَانِ اِغَامَا اِسْلَامِ سِلَانْغُورِ

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

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# THE NEED FOR TAWBAH AND PENITENCE



I implore all of us to strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala by performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. Let us increase our dhikr (remembrance)

of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala,  
increase in sending salawaat  
(blessings) and salaam (peace)  
upon our beloved Prophet  
Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi  
wasallam, and try our utmost in

implementing all of his sunnah.

It is truly hoped that it will bring about benefit to all of us in this world and the Hereafter.

On this blessed day, let us ponder and contemplate upon the khutbah entitled: “The Need For Tawbah And Penitence.”

It behooves every Muslim to  
always engage in tawbah  
(repentance) to Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala. Tawbah  
meaning to return in submitting  
the self and obeying the  
commands of

Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala,  
The Oft-Forgiving and The  
Most Merciful. It is the ultimate  
outcome from the regret and  
remorse of the slave whom had  
fallen into the abyss of sins and  
wrong-

doing towards Allah

Subhaanahu Wata'aala. The  
need for tawbah is mentioned in

al-Qur'an:

**“O you who have believed,  
repent to Allah with sincere  
repentance.**

**Perhaps your Lord will  
remove from you your  
misdeeds and admit you into  
gardens beneath which rivers  
flow...”**

**(at-Tahreem 66:8)**



Through this verse, Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala has  
called upon mankind to hasten  
in repenting to Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala with  
tawbah nasooaha (sincere  
repentance).

Repenting to Allah Subhaanahu  
Wata'aala in wiping away the  
sins that we have committed.  
Furthermore, the intent of the  
tawbah itself is so that Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala

will forgive our sins and ultimately, we sincerely hope to be rewarded with His Jannah. However, the tawbah that is to wipe away our sins must be properly done by fulfilling the four

main conditions, namely:

- 1- The repenter must fully and thoroughly regret upon their wrongdoings.
- 2- To stop completely from committing those wrongdoings.

3- Resolved and determined to not repeat the same mistake.

4- If the wrongdoing was committed against another person, then it requires one to seek forgiveness from the person that was wronged.

What is the correct way of making tawbah? Tawbah is not just mere words and utterances but instead requires penitence and deep regret, for tawbah without those elements present in the

heart will not be deemed as  
tawbah nasooaha. Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions  
in al-Qur'an:

**“But repentance is not  
[accepted] of those who  
[continue to] do evil deeds**

**up until, when death comes to one of them, he says, “Indeed, I have repented now,” or of those who die while they are disbelievers. For them We have prepared a painful punishment.”**

**(an-Nisaa’ 4:18)**



The verse mentioned that there are three groups of people who would repent but Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala does not accept their repentance. They are:

1- One that often repeats the

wrongdoing after making  
tawbah.

2- One that repents when death  
is fast approaching, and when  
the major signs of the Day of  
Judgment have appeared.

**3- One that dies in the state of disbelief.**

**For these groups, it is not only that their tawbah will not be accepted from them, even more severe is that Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala**

has prepared for them severe  
torment on the Last Day.

Why is it that tawbah is not  
accepted from those group of  
people? Definitely it is because  
their utterance of tawbah did not  
originate

from a sincere heart, not having full regret and guilt upon their wrongdoing. They merely express their tawbah due to regret that is only temporary in nature or coercion due to their

circumstances. But when their hawaa (evil desire) would peak again and while they are in negligence, then they would revert and repeat the same sinful acts that they used to indulge in.

**Their awareness and realization would only appear moments before their life is nearing its end, but unfortunately by then their utterance of tawbah will render meaningless.**

**In the hadeeth of ibn ‘Umar  
radiyAllaahu ‘anhuma,  
Rasulullah sallAllahu ‘alayhi  
wasallam said:**



**“Allah accepts the repentance  
of the servant as long as the  
soul does not reach the  
throat.”**

**(Ahmad, ibn Maajah, at-Tirmidhi: hasan)**

Therefore, as His believing slaves, we should increase our tawbah unto Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala with full sincerity, regret, and penitence in their true sense.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala

mentions in al-Qur'an:

**“The repentance accepted by Allah is only for those who do wrong in ignorance [or carelessness] and then repent soon after. It is those to whom Allah will**

**turn in forgiveness, and Allah  
is ever Knowing and Wise.”**

**an-Nisaa' (4:17)**

**Based on this verse, it is  
clear to us that Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala**

will always provide ample space  
and opportunity for His slaves  
that have committed evil deeds  
to repent from their  
wrongdoings. Allah Subhaanahu  
Wata'aala never

closes that door of tawbah for as long as one realizes of his own evil deeds, fully regrets it, and hastens to repent to Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. Therefore, such golden opportunity offered

by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala  
should not be ignored and  
disregarded, for Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala has  
clearly shown to us of His  
Utmost Attributes of Forgiving  
and Merciful.

To ensure that our tawbah will  
be accepted by Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala as  
tawbah nasooaha, several matters  
that pertains to the adaab in  
making tawbah must be  
prioritized,



**among them:**

**1- Wearing clean clothes and ensuring that the location and surrounding for making tawbah are in a state of cleanliness.**

2- Evoking fear within the heart for the evil deeds and sins that have been committed, and feeling gravely worried if they are not forgiven by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

At the same time, we should always remain hopeful that our tawbah will be accepted by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

3- Selecting suitable times in which du'as are accepted

especially during the last third  
of the night. This period is most  
conducive for us to beseech  
forgiveness from Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata'aala because  
the serene and tranquil moments  
will

help in stirring regret and  
penitence within us.

4- Having good thoughts that  
Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala  
will accept our tawbah.

Henceforth, what is of utmost importance for the slave in his repentance is to strive with sincerity in purifying himself from dispraised matters and deeds such as arrogance, pride, and

others. These deplorable traits that exists within the heart will only damage and destroy our tawbah to Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

**“Those who avoid the major sins and immoralities, only [committing] slight ones. Indeed, your Lord is vast in forgiveness. He was most knowing of you when He**



**produced you from the earth  
and when you were fetuses in  
the wombs of your mothers.  
So do not claim yourselves to  
be pure; He is most knowing  
of who fears Him.”**

**(an-Najm 53:32)**

The conclusions that can be drawn from today's khutbah are:

1- Tawbah is indeed a requirement from Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala to His slaves that must be

hastened in its fulfillment.

2- Tawbah is not mere utterance upon the tongue but must be accompanied with full regret and realization deep within. It is tawbah that is inculcated

with this sincere regret and penitence that is known as tawbah nasooaha. Indeed, as human beings, we are definitely not free from committing mistakes and errors.

3- The best of those that have committed wrongdoing is when they perform tawbah and sincerely hoping for forgiveness from Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

**“And keep yourself patient  
[by being] with those who call  
upon their Lord in the  
morning and the evening,  
seeking His**

**countenance. And let not your  
eyes pass beyond them ,  
desiring adornments of the  
worldly life, and do not obey  
one whose heart**

**We have made heedless of  
Our remembrance and who  
follows his desire and whose  
affair is ever [in] neglect.”  
(al-Kahf 18:28)**



بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي  
وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلْ  
مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ. أَقُولُ  
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ  
الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ  
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ 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***



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JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

**DI SEDIAKAN OLEH:**

**BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH,**

**JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR**

**ILLUSTRASI OLEH:**

**UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,**

**JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR**