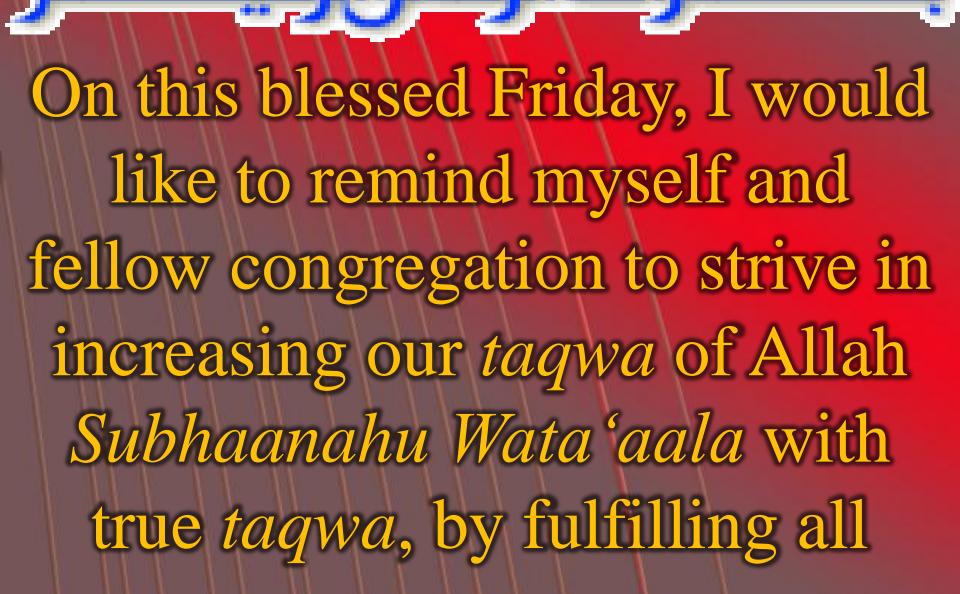


TABUNG HA.II EMPOWERS THE UMMAH



of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. Indeed, we truly hope to attain prosperity and blessings in our lives, and ultimately blissfulness in this world and the Hereafter.

The call for hajj has already begun and our Muslim brethren have departed heading towards the Holy Land in Makkah. Therefore, we wish for their well being in performing their hajj rites,

and may they attain hajj mabroor. We are truly fortunate for our hajj affairs are efficiently administered by Tabung Haji (Malaysian hajj pilgrims fund). Hence, in conjunction with the 50th

golden jubilee of the establishment of Tabung Haji on the 30th of September 1963, the masjid committee will expound on a khutbah titled: "Tabung Haji Empowers The Ummah."

Tabung Haji, which refers to "Lembaga Tabung Haji" (Malaysian hajj pilgrims fund board), was established not only for managing the hajj affairs of the Muslims, but also as an outstanding

world-class Islamic investment institution that has been proven efficient in managing funds that increases the capital and assets of the Muslim ummah through Sharee 'ah-

compliant investments. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "But seek, through that which Allah has given you, the home of the Hereafter; and [yet], do not forget

your share of the world. And do good as Allah has done good to you. And desire not corruption in the land. Indeed, Allah does not like corrupters."

(al-Qasas 28:77)

The efforts and initiatives endured in the past five decades by Tabung Haji until it is now firmly standing, was definitely not a walk in the park, filled with obstacles and adversities.

Back then, to fulfill the necessary expenses to the Holy Land, the Muslims had to diligently strive day and night to accumulate the funds needed. Various traditional ways of saving

money were inculcated. Some had pawned their ancestral land, sold their livestock, and even mortgaging precious wealth inherited from previous generations, just so they will

have enough to cover the expenses for the journey to the Holy Land. Due to the strenuous need in fulfilling the demand of daily expenditures of those eras,

quite often one's trip for hajj gets delayed and in the end gets cancelled off. At times, such economic pressure would drag on even after one has returned from hajj.

Due to the demand of contemporary challenges, environmental changes, and communal aspirations as the society is becoming more religious, it necessitates the importance for internal

changes within each single one of us. If we do not change, then we will remain irrelevant. It is due to this that Tabung Haji has laid out strategic planning and firm commitment through system

improvement and effective management. It must be reminded that the world of commerce is no longer the same as before. Business activities have been diversified so that

Tabung Haji becomes an Islamic financial institution that is capable to firmly stand own on its own and helping in empowering the economy of the Muslim ummah.

Therefore, structured planning has enabled account holders to partake effectively in the realm of investment that is Sharee 'ahcompliant, like the one envisioned by His Eminence

Royal Professor Ungku Aziz titled, "The Plan To Improve The Economy Of The Pilgrims" back in 1959. Today, the best of service is offered and provided by Tabung Haji to prospective

hujjaaj (pilgrims), not only in imparting pertinent knowledge for hajj preparation and its financials, instead Tabung Haji has gained esteemed reputation and admiration from foreign

hujjaaj for its success in providing protection, safety, and welfare of its hujjaaj during the hajj season. This is done through various facilities and services that is geared in aiding the pilgrims

in attaining hajj mabroor. In 2008, Tabung Haji's Medical Team in the Noble Sanctuary was honored as the recipient of the world's best medical team

award for hajj groups, conferred by the Ministry of Health, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, for its excellent service to the Malaysian hujjaaj.

Tabung Haji's efficient management that strives as its goal in providing complete and impeccable service to Malaysian hujjaaj, has enabled them to disburse maximum profits to all of its

depositors for their savings. I truly believe that prosperous results and abundant rizq (sustenance) are all due to the efforts that were pleasing to Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

They were implemented in accordance with Islamic teachings and features the very characteristic of the believing servants that are grateful and granted forgiveness from

"Rabb al-Ghafoor" (The All-Forgiving God). It is hoped that all of us will continue to support and place our confidence in Tabung Haji, in their fine efforts to further enhance the

affairs of hajj, which is the fifth pillar of Islam. This is as Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala had explained in al-Qur'an: "Indeed, those who recite the **Book of Allah and**

establish prayer and spend [in His cause] out of what We have provided them, secretly and publicly, [can] expect a profit that will never perish -That He may

give them in full their rewards and increase for them of His bounty. Indeed, He is Forgiving and Appreciative."

(al-Faatir 35:29-30)

Such is the rooh (spirit) of hajj that is instilled within Tabung Haji staffs and clients that are always having istiqaamah and yaqeen (certainty) with the management system in place

that is based upon the Sharee 'ah all these while. Without making sacrifices, be it in the form of energy, resources, ideas, and wealth, then it is unlikely that the Sharee 'ah of Allah

Subhaanahu Wata'aala will be upheld. It is this very philosophy that we learn and grasp every time we celebrate 'Eiduladha. It is the occasion which depicts the sacrifice of

Nabi Ibraaheem 'alayhissalam who was willing to leave his wife and children alone in the barren land of Makkah, solely to prove his true sacrifice to Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

Similarly, Nabi Ismaa'eel 'alayhissalam had surrendered to sacrifice his soul to be slaughtered by his own father, for the sake of upholding the religion.

We must realize that without sacrifices and struggle in upholding the religion of Allah in our own selves, our families, our communities, and our nation, the religion will then lose its awe and

honor that it will be easily mocked and manipulated by the enemies of Islam. Hence, Allah has demanded that we strive, struggle, and sacrifice for His Cause, as mentioned in al-Qur'an:

"Indeed, Allah has purchased from the believers their lives and their properties [in exchange] for that they will have Paradise..."

(at-Tawbah 9:111)

The efforts in strengthening the economy of the Muslim ummah through savings and investment, and also continuous support in utilizing the services of Tabung Haji falls within

the definition of jihaad. It is from among the ways to achieve taqwa and attaining noble akhlaaq. This is what Islam call for that is different from the capitalistic economic system.

For the capitalistic economic system, its capital is money that is to generate more money, whereas in Islamic economy, its capital is taqwa that is to achieve more taqwa.

Savings with Tabung Haji will provide avenues for the Muslims to increase their good deeds through increase in their zakaah, empowering the shi'aar (symbols) of Islam, and implementing

Islamic financial system that adheres to the Shara'. As an institution that is vital for the Islamic community as we progress towards the year 2020, on their behalf, Tabung Haji is always

making du'aa for the prosperity of this nation so that it will flourish and continues to boom. Whatever the challenges that arise, Tabung Haji will continue to march forth in increasing the

quality of progress for the Muslims in this nation. Indeed we truly believe that as a Muslim nation of exemplary to the Islamic world, Tabung Haji will remain relevant in exercising

its role in continuing to empower the Muslim ummah in fulfilling their fifth pillar of Islam. In conclusion, let us pray and hope that the 'ibaadah of hajj performed by the Muslim ummah

will be accepted and granted hajj mabroor. Indeed, Tabung Haji would like to express its appreciation and is grateful for the support from the Muslims in this nation.

"And if only the people of the cities had believed and feared Allah, We would have opened upon them blessings from the heaven and the earth;

but they denied [the messengers], so We seized them for what they were earning."

(al-A'raaf 7:96)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ الْقُولُ 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