

THEDANGER OF PRIDE AND ARROGANCE

I would like to remind myself and all of us to sincerely strive in increasing our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands and abstaining from all of His prohibitions.

Verily, the slave that is conscious of the greatness of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala will be more vigilant and having taqwa in their lives, realizing their insignificance,

and revering the glory and majesty of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. Today's khutbah intends to alert us on "The Danger Of Pride And Arrogance."

Having pride or bragging about oneself is a trait that is only befitting for Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala with all of His Perfection. Praising oneself is only appropriate and worthy

for His Majesty. Moreover, it is a mark of perfection that is obligated upon Him. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"He is Allah, other than whom there is no deity, the Sovereign, the Pure, the Perfection, the Bestower of Faith, the Overseer, the **Exalted** in

Might, the Compeller, the Superior. Exalted is Allah above whatever they associate with Him." (al-Hashr 59:23)

Takabbur (pride) is a trait that is only specific for Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. We have been strictly prohibited from vainglory, vanity, and selfconceit as mentioned in the hadeeth qudsi narrated

by Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh where Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"Allah (Subhaanahu Wata 'aala) said:

"Pride is My cloak and greatness is My robe, and he who competes with Me in respect of either of them I shall cast into Hell-fire.""

(Abu Dawood, Ahmad, ibn Maajah, al-Bayhaqi, and ibn Hibbaan: *saheeh*)

History has recorded that the first kufr had occurred in the heavens, which was actually due to takabbur. Iblees who was pious in his worship to Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala for a very long

period, was in the end declared kufr and thrown out of Paradise by Allah, due to his own pride. Even though Iblees' only mistake was refusing to prostrate to Adam 'alayhissalam as

commanded, not even prostrating to Allah, but it was this rebellion and refusal that manifested the takabbur and vanity within Iblees. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala has recorded the

incident in various ayaat in al-Qur'an, among them: "And We have certainly created you, [O Mankind], and given you [human] form. Then We said to the angels,

"Prostrate to Adam"; so they prostrated, except for Iblees. He was not of those who prostrated. [Allah] said, "What prevented you from prostrating when I commanded you?"

[Satan] said, "I am better than him. You created me from fire and created him from clay." [Allah] said, "Descend from Paradise, for it is

not for you to be arrogant therein. So get out; indeed, you are of the debased.""

(al-A'raaf 7:11-13)

Iblees refused to make sujood (prostration) to Adam 'alayhissalam due to his pride and self-conceit. Iblees was full of himself not because of his avid worship, not because of his service

and contributions, and not because of his knowledge and status, but it was only due to his own origin.

Iblees never claimed being God, and he never disobeyed from prostrating to Allah.

But he refused to prostrate to Adam only because he deemed his origin of creation was better than Adam. He felt that being created from the fire is superior than being created

from soil (earth). Such is the takabbur and arrogance of Iblees la 'natullah that committed kufr and will be thrown into the Hellfire. Humans and other creations should never think of

themselves as being better than others solely due to their origin of creation. One can never feel that his ethnicity is better and nobler than others, for Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala

created all human beings and creations. An Arab should not feel that he is better than a European. The Malays should not feel that they are nobler than the Indians.

A Chinese should not feel that he is better than an Iban or a Kadazan (Kadazan-Dusun). This is due to the fact that Allah creates all humans.

Furthermore, none of us have the privilege to choose to be born to a certain ethnicity. What differentiates between us in the Sight of Allah is our taqwa,

which is being vigilant upon all of our deeds so that they will adhere to the Shara' that was revealed by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in

al-Qur'an: "O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another.

Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted." (al-Hujuraat 49:13)

Abu Nadrah al-Mundhir ibn Maalik ibn Qut'ah radiyAllaahu 'anh reported: I heard the sermon of the Messenger of Allah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam during the middle of the day.

He sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"O people, verily, your Lord is one and your father is one. Indeed, an Arab has no excellence over a non-Arab,

nor does a non-Arab have any excellence over an Arab, nor does a red skin have any excellence over a black skin, nor does a black skin have any excellence over a red skin, except through taqwa..." (Ahmad and al-Bayhaqi: saheeh)

Arrogance and takabbur are from among diseases of the heart. They are diseases that are very dangerous to our imaan and 'ageedah. Hence, everyone must avoid these characteristics and traits.

We must strive our utmost in cleansing our hearts from these traits. These diseases can be overcome in various ways, among them:

1- Constant awareness and understanding of the origin

of the human being. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has created all of us from Adam 'alayhissalam who was created from clay. We are all created from semen, something that we ourselves

detest. Therefore, it is unbecoming for us humans to be proud and arrogant due to our origin.

2- Constant remembrance of our own weaknesses and shortcomings.

Everyday we will sweat and excrete waste (defecate and urinate). We can sense and smell the foul odor emanating from our bodies if they are unclean.

Similarly, our excretions are extremely disgusting with pungent odor that we would have to use external or foreign objects just to cleanse and perfume our body.

3- Always performing good deeds even if they are perceived as lowly or insignificant by the masses. This can be something to the effect of picking up trash, sweeping the floor,

cleaning the toilet, or carrying goods. These acts will not lower one's own status and dignity; moreover it will scrape away any sense of pride and arrogance.

4- Realizing one's own weakness and deficiency as compared to other creations of Allah such as the animals, the mountains, and many others.

Let us purify our hearts from all dispraised characteristics, especially takabbur and arrogance. It is because anyone possessing these traits even if minute will not enter the Paradise of Allah in

the Hereafter. In the hadeeth of 'Abdullah ibn Mas'ood radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"Anyone who possesses half a mustard seed of kibr

(pride) in his heart will not be granted admission to Paradise. And anyone who possesses half a mustard seed of imaan will not enter the (Eternal) Fire."

(at-Tirmidhi, Abu Dawood, and ibn Maajah: *saheeh*)

"But the ones who deny Our verses and are arrogant toward them - those are the companions of the Fire; they will abide therein eternally." (al-A'raaf 7:36)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ بِالْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ. أَقُولُ قُولِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَ الأَمْوَ اتْ 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 akhlaag, 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