



REFLECTING

<u>UPON</u>

SACRIFICE



In a few days, we will be celebrating 'Eiduladha and perform the 'ibaadah of qurbaani (or ud-hiyah). As we know, the slaughtering or qurbaani is a manifestation

of sacrifice by the slave in servitude and devotion unto Him. Indeed, may our sacrifices, good deeds, and righteous acts be accepted by Allah, and for them to become witnesses to our deeds in this world and the Hereafter.

For us Muslims, the great sacrifice undertaken by Nabi Ibraaheem 'alayhissalam in the slaughtering of his son Nabi Ismaa'eel 'alayhissalam is truly a true manifestation of the utmost

submission and a symbol of full devotion and obedience in fulfilling the command of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. It is from this great incident that the ordainment of the

'ibaadah of qurbaani came about and linked with the 'ibaadah of hajj that is commemorated every year. Such devotion displayed by Nabi Ibraheem 'alayhissalam in fulfilling

the command of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala as mentioned in al-Qur'an, truly represents the ultimate taqwa of a slave towards his Creator.

The Muslim ummah must comprehend the fact that every incident or stories mentioned in al-Qur'an carries beneficial lessons for us to derive from. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala

mentions in al-Qur'an: "There was certainly in their stories a lesson for those of understanding. Never was the Qur'an a narration invented, but a confirmation of what was

before it and a detailed explanation of all things and guidance and mercy for a people who believe."

(Yoosuf 12:111)

Such was the great story of sacrifice depicted by Nabi Ibraaheem 'alayhissalam in responding to the command of his Creator Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. May the fruits from deep

internalization upon the story of Nabi Ibraaheem and Nabi Ismaa'eel 'alayhimassalam continue to motivate and encourage us to constantly strive in becoming the best of people with full

submission and surrender to the Will of Allah *Subhaanahu*Wata 'aala.

Then the question begs: Today, have we truly become those slaves possessing the great spirit of sacrifice that

equals to the sacrifice of Nabi Ibraaheem and Nabi Ismaa'eel 'alayhimassalam? If we truly research and understand thoroughly the seerah of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam,

we find it clearly teaching us that his life journey sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam is filled with self-sacrifice, emotional sacrifice, surrendering the wealth, body and soul that he

sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam personally endured. Therefore, Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has commanded upon us to emulate the life of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi

wasallam as our greatest exemplary. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"There has certainly been for you in the Messenger of Allah an excellent pattern for anyone whose hope is in Allah and the Last Day and [who] remembers Allah often."

(al-Ahzaab 33:21)

This verse illustrates how Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam was always faced with difficulties and tribulations. However it is only through jihaad and great sacrifice that they can

all be overcome. Hence, the Muslim ummah of today must realize that the concept of sacrifice must be engrained within each single one of us as an agenda that must be upheld in this life,

so as to allow them to become eligible in attaining the Pleasure of Allah Subhaanahu

Wata 'aala.

The clash between hagg (truth) and baatil (falsehood) is from sunnatullah. This is because the reason for the coming of Islam itself is to destroy and extinguish baatil.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "And say, "Truth has come, and falsehood has departed. Indeed is falsehood, [by nature], ever bound to depart."

(al-Israa' 17:81)

Therefore, if we want to see Islam dignified and victorious far above other creed and ways of life, then it behoove the Muslim ummah to be ready and ever willing to sacrifice for the

sake of Islam. One question that may arise: Do the Muslims living today have the heart and soul that is willing to sacrifice in championing their deen?

The seerah of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and his Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een have proven to us how they were willing to fight and struggle for the

deen that they truly loved. After the demise of his uncle (Abu Taalib) and his wife (Khadeejah radiyAllaahu 'anha) in the 10th year of Prophethood, the pressure, intimidation, death threats,

and oppression upon Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had greatly exacerbated. But for the sake of Allah and the beloved deen, he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam steadfastly

remained patient and placed tawakkul that only Allah Alone that can provide aid and assistance. Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had attempted to sought protection in Taif from the

onslaughts in Makkah but was instead met with severe resistance, intimidations, and oppression, being pelted with stones, thorns, and feces. However, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

remained patient and supplicated to Allah for guidance upon the people of Taif. Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and his Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een made a

great sacrifice in leaving their beloved homeland, which is Makkah, and migrated to Madeenah solely to build strength for the Muslims though being in a foreign land.

Prior to the hijrah to Madeenah, the Quraysh (pagans) had surrounded and attempted to assassinate Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam himself, but Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala had

saved him from such evil plot. Not long after Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had settled in Madeenah, a series of battles in defending Islam took place.

Among them is al-Badr al-Kubra, which symbolized the utmost jihaad and sacrifice of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and his Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum

ajma 'een, a Muslim army of 313 soldiers fighting against 1000 enemy combatants. With unwavering imaan and yaqeen, the Muslims were victorious. The battle of Tabook taught us the

meaning of sacrificing one's wealth, lives, and resources as manifested by Abu Bakr, 'Umar, 'Uthmaan, and other great Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een who gave up

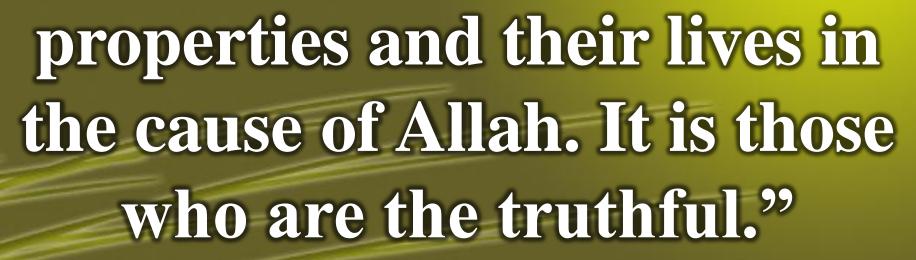
significant portions of their wealth in funding and equipping the Muslim army for jihaad. Furthermore, there are many more military expeditions that portrays great sacrifice by Rasulullah

sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam and his Companions radiyAllaahu 'anhum ajma 'een in defending their 'aqeedah and Islam, which necessitate deep contemplation and

internalization by today's generation. Such is the spirit that was successful in raising Islam as the way of life since 1400 years ago. They were willing to "sacrifice" with their wealth and

soul purely for the sake of Allah and His Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"The believers are only the ones who have believed in Allah and His Messenger and then doubt not but strive with their



(al-Hujuraat 49:15)

To become the best of nations "khayra ummah", it behooves us to possess the thinking, mindset, attitude, and character that are ever willing to "sacrifice" as displayed by previous

generations. Just look at how the enemies of Islam today, led by the Zionists, ferocious and vicious in dominating the Muslim world, aggressively spreading their agenda of capitalism

throughout the entire Muslim world. The realities in the land of Palestine specifically in Ghazza, in 'Iraq, Afghanistan, Egypt, Syria, and few other nations gives clear indication of

dubious nature of our enemies in opposing Islam. Their cohorts that are led by the United States are willing to "sacrifice" the wealth and lives of their own

people just to ensure that their capitalism ideology is widely spread all over the globe especially in the Muslim lands.

It is waajib for the Muslim ummah to sacrifice and enjoin jihaad in any way or form in defending and guarding Muslim lands that are under the oppression of the enemies of Islam,

whether through financial means, military, medicine, education, development, human resource, and many more. If the sacrifice and jihaad of the Muslim ummah is not

multiplied or greatly enhanced, then it is not impossible for the Muslim lands to be dominated. The Muslims in Palestine, where Masjid al-Aqsa lies as the first qiblah for the Muslims

and the third holiest place after Masjid al-Haram and Masjid an-Nabawi, are still under the authority of the Zionist regime la 'natullah. Similarly, the Muslims in 'Iraq, Afghanistan, and other

nations are predominantly under the kuffaar authority, whether directly or indirectly. Now, Syria and Egypt are burning with severe war crisis that can severely threaten the

sovereignty of Islam. Hence, in restoring the glory and sovereignty of Islam and the Muslims, a great sacrifice from the entire Muslim world is truly required.

Are we Muslims today ready to undertake a great sacrifice as we prepare to celebrate the 'eid of sacrifice all over the world in just a few days?

For those of us having the spirit of sacrifice, we will always be compelled in fulfilling the devotion and obedience upon all the commandments of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala,

whether in the order or prohibition of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala, in our fine effort to attain His Pleasure even if we have to sacrifice and forego everything, be it our property

or lives. We must consciously understand that our very existence and purpose in this world is solely and pure for full servitude unto the Will of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

"Go forth, whether light or heavy, and strive with your wealth and your lives in the cause of Allah. That is better for you, if you only knew."

(at-Tawbah 9:41)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلْاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ اقْوْلُ 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