



LIFELONG **LEARNING IS** FROM ISLAMIC

TEACHING

On this blessed Friday, I would like to remind myself and also those in attendance to strive in increasing our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala by diligently

performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. Indeed, we truly hope to attain the blessings, pleasure, and protection of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala in

this world and the Hereafter. Today I will be delivering a khutbah titled: "Lifelong Learning Is From Islamic Teaching."

In the life of this world, we are encouraged to seek and attain various branch of knowledge in bringing prosperity and well being to this world. We are to purify our intention with sincerity

in seeking knowledge purely for the sake of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala Alone. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has placed the strength of the intellect and acquiring knowledge as

being superior above other strengths that the human possess. The continuity in the culture of learning had begun from Nabi Adam 'alayhissalam all the way to the final messenger Nabi

Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. The historical incident regarding the first revelation in the Hira' Cave is directly related with knowledge. Allah Subhaanahu

Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "Recite in the name of your Lord who created - Created man from a clinging substance.

Recite, and your Lord is the most Generous - Who taught by the pen - Taught man that which he knew not." (al-'Alaq 96:1-5)

These verses clearly indicated that Islam calls upon the **Muslims to become** knowledgeable individuals and place heavy importance on seeking knowledge. History has manifested that

the supremacy of a nation is truly dependent upon the level of knowledge within its society. The nation that heavily emphasize on knowledge will definitely rise and excel as a prominent

and civilized nation in the eyes of the world. True are the words of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and His Messenger that knowledge is truly important in this worldly life.

Therefore, the process of seeking knowledge is in reality a continuous effort throughout one's entire life. The old wise saying goes, "Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave."

Hence, the gist of those words expounds to us that Islam heavily encourage everyone to seek knowledge. Aside from that, what can be understood is that age limit and other constraints

whether in the materialistic or financial or even physical sense, should not be made as a stumbling block from us to continue seeking knowledge, because in Islam, it is truly a continuous and lengthy

process. This command is further solidified based upon the hadeeth of Anas ibn Maalik radiyAllaahu 'anh, where Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"The seeking of knowledge is obligatory for every Muslim."

(at-Tirmidhi, ibn Maajah, al-Bayhaqi, and Abu Ya'la)

Islam truly ennobles and honors knowledge, and therefore urges the Muslim ummah to become knowledgeable people. In this regard, seeking knowledge becomes waajib

upon every Muslim whether young or old. Seeking knowledge throughout one's entire life is strongly encouraged to elevate the height of civilization of the Muslim ummah in the

coming future. Hence, the learning process that is referred to is not just confined to the sessions spent in schools and universities, but instead includes learning through

reading, lectures, workshops, seminars, and any way or form that can increase one's knowledge. With that, the age (life) that was gifted by Allah will be filled with beneficial knowledge for one

self and the society. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has clearly explained the status of those with knowledge in al-Qur'an:

".... Allah will raise those who have believed among you and those who were given knowledge, by degrees. And **Allah is Acquainted with what** you do." (al-Mujaadilah 58:11)

According to Sayyid Qutb rahimahullah in his tafseer Fee Zhilaal al-Qur'an, he wrote: "Allah's Knowledge is not limited in its depth and vastness, and truly

unattainable by mankind. Therefore, we must not be arrogant by always striving to increase our knowledge. Anything that can bring

about goodness and well being should be learned whether formally or not, for it is demanded in Islam."

Imaam al-Ghazzaali rahimahullah emphasized that: "Knowledge is the life of the heart from blindness, the ray's vision from oppression, and bodily

strength from weakness. With knowledge, the slave of Allah reaches a place for the good doers and having a high rank, which distinguishes between humans and animals."

Therefore, everyone must strive to inculcate his or her process of lifelong learning in creating a society that is knowledgeable, highly skilled, and highly competent.

Human development and human capital development can only be done through extensive knowledge and high level of skills.

In conjunction with the National Senior Citizens' Day 2013 that is celebrated in October themed "Lifelong Learning", let us altogether strive to attain quality living that is prosperous and

civilized. It behooves each and every one of us to have knowledge and continue to seek knowledge. Lifelong learning is the most accurate solution that is to be practiced by today's

generation. Among the measures to be taken are as follows: 1- Frequently attending Islamic lectures and gathering of knowledge whether in the masaajid,

suraus, seminar halls, public forum, discourses, and others. 2- Fully utilizing good health and longevity bestowed in seeking and increasing knowledge especially in

correcting and improving our *'ibaadah*.

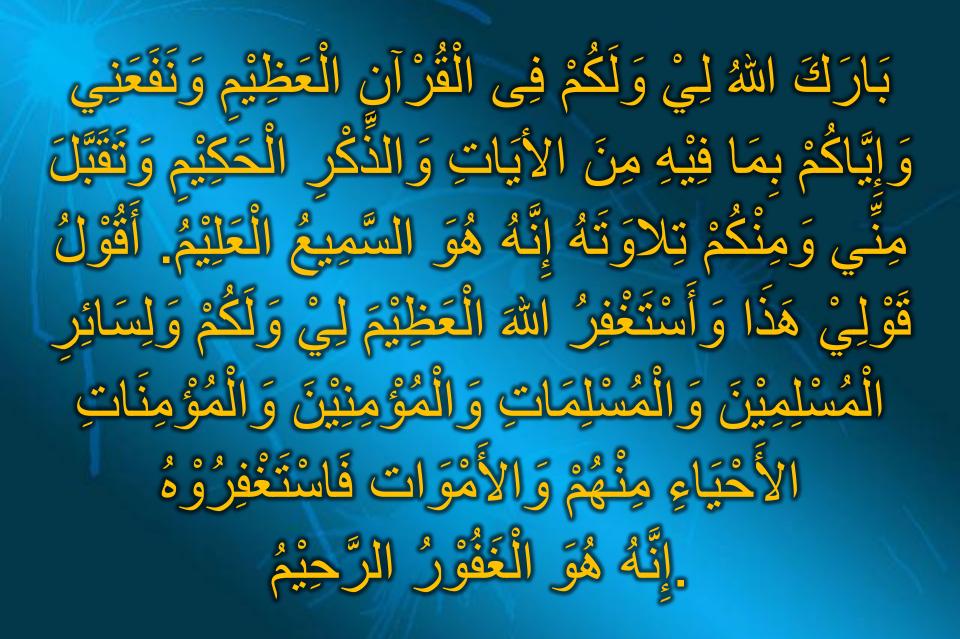
3- We must ensure that our family members will inherit and practice beneficial knowledge especially the knowledge of fard 'ayn.

4- To ensure that our longevity is filled with good deeds in attaining husnul khaatimah (the good end).

Lastly, I would like to implore and remind that it is quite unfortunate that a portion of the musalleen would just leave after completing the Maghrib prayer without attending the

majaalis 'ilm organized by the masjid or surau committee. Instead, please do make time to attend and benefit, even for a short period.

"... Say, "Are those who know equal to those who do not know?" Only they will remember [who are] people of understanding." (az-Zumar 39:9)



O Allah, You are All-Powerful, we are truly grateful unto You for bestowing upon us *rahmah* and *ni'mah*, that we are able to continue the efforts in strengthening the Muslim nation especially the state of Selangor, as an advanced state, prosperous, and providing welfare services. Hence, we beseech You, O Allah, strengthen our *imaan*, accept our good deeds, solidify our unity, increase our sustenance, enrich us with beneficial knowledge,

fill our hearts with noble characters, guide us to the path that is pleasing to You, protect us from all types of calamities and Your severe tribulations so that our state will continue to prosper and remain blessed.

O Allah, open up our hearts to complete the five daily *salawaat* and *'ibaadah* of *zakaat* as You have ordained. Bless the lives of those who have fulfilled their *zakaat* obligation, loving the poor and needy. Purify their wealth and hearts, protect the *fuqaraa'* and *masaakeen* from *kufr* and continuous poverty. O Allah, increase and expand the sustenance of those who made *waqf* from of their wealth, accept their *waqf* with eternal rewards until the Hereafter.



ILLUSTRASI OLEH :

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH,

DI SEDIAKAN OLEHI:

