

## THE DUTY TO PROTECT WOMENINISLAM

## بسحرالته الرحين الرحيد

Let us all strive to increase our taqwa with the true taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions.

Indeed, we truly hope that we will attain the love and mercy of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. Today's khutbah will emphasize the importance regarding: "The Duty To Protect Women In Islam."

Islam has granted women a special status that truly befits them. For sure we have heard stories of the desert Arabs during the Jaahiliyyah (period of Ignorance) that would bury

their daughters alive, right after birth or in their teens. This is just because they deem daughters would only bring shame and disgrace to the family. Allah has mentioned such matter in

#### al-Qur'an:

"And when one of them is informed of [the birth of] a female, his face becomes dark, and he suppresses grief. He hides himself from the people because of

the ill of which he has been informed. Should he keep it in humiliation or bury it in the ground? Unquestionably, evil is what they decide."

(an-Nahl 16:58-59)

Lately, we have been startled by several terrifying and horrifying incidence involving the womenfolk. Through the mass media, we have been exposed to numerous heart-breaking

tragedies inflicted upon women such as murder, physical abuse, prostitution, rape, trafficking, and many others. Indeed, this is truly a grave matter and we cannot afford to turn a blind eye

or even uttering, "Pity them" regarding unwanted incidents inflicted upon the womenfolk. Allah has created every being in this universe in pairs.

And that includes the creation of human being where Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala made the women to be paired up with the men. In terms of responsibilities as vicegerent of Allah on the

face of earth, Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala did not differentiate between men and women in matters pertaining to rewards and good deeds for every righteous deed performed.

In the Sight of Allah, men and women both share the same role in attaining the perfect life on this earth.

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

"Whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer - We will surely cause him to live a good life, and We will

# surely give them their reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of what they used to do."

(an-Nahl 16:97)

The men have been entrusted as leaders in protecting women. This very responsibility is befitting due to their superiority and natural characteristics in certain aspects as bestowed

by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. Hence, the men must always strive to comprehend the essentials and need of the women. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has reminded the

men that they are the leaders for the women. Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala* mentions in al-Qur'an:

"Men are in charge of women by [right of] what Allah has given one over

# the other and what they spend [for maintenance] from their wealth..."

(an-Nisaa' 4:34)

It is evident that it is the very responsibility of the men in providing care and protection to the women at all times, especially when they are disgraced or abused. History has shown that

Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam is the greatest defender of the women. His messengership, as the prophet and messenger, not only in conveying the risaalah of

Islam that is perfect and complete, but at the same time successfully elevating women to a higher status that is more noble as compared during the Jaahiliyyah period.

In this regard, from the hadeeth of 'A'ishah radiyAllaahu 'anha, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had said:

### "The best of you are those who are best to their families, and I am the best of you to my family."

(at-Tirmidhi: saheeh)

Indeed, the Islamic teachings that were conveyed by Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had proven to be successful in changing the status of women in the entire the world,

from the abyss of humiliation and discrimination, then elevated unto becoming noble and honored. In another hadeeth, Abu

Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh

# reported the Messenger of Allah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam as saying:

"... So act kindly towards women."

(Muslim)

Even though Islam has honored the women, unfortunately there are still those who would degrade them such that they become victims of discrimination. Their voice and opinion goes

unheard, and even if taken into account, they are taken very lightly without interest.

Furthermore, even the women's voice and views that are related to their very own and personal affairs

are at times neglected or received without seriousness. Such attitude will only expose the women to unjust actions and treatment. Imagine if those being discriminated against are our

own mothers? Or imagine the feeling of a man if the victim of oppression is actually his wife, daughter, or female relatives?

Even to this day, we still find oppression by men upon women. Certainly we would be grieved and saddened upon hearing the news of women being raped, abused, violated, and oppressed

in various form of psychological stress. On the other hand, there are women that would actually allow themselves to be manipulated and become the object of cheap

advertisement, where in the end those immoral men would succumb to their lustful desire in taking advantage and disrespecting the honor of a woman.

Therefore, in safeguarding the dignity of women, a change of attitude must come from the men, whom are the preserver and protector of women. The women themselves must

preserve and value their own selves, rising to uphold their rights by respecting and loving the men that are always protecting them. We are certain that only those truly having imaan will be

capable to shoulder this very amaanah. The complete imaan will propel us to fulfill this very duty with perfection.

Hence, the one that does not complete his responsibility in protecting the rights of women, then it would only mean that his imaan is incomplete, even if he has performed multitudes of

good deeds and 'ibaadah. To ensure that the men are having complete imaan and taqwa, let us strive to acknowledge and respect the rights of women. At the same time, it behooves the

women to protect and appreciate their own esteemed selves by striving to avoid anything that would lead to destruction in this world and the Hereafter.

"O you who have believed, protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones, over which are

[appointed] angels, harsh and severe; they do not disobey Allah in what He commands them but do what they are commanded."

(at-Tahreem 66:6)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَ أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَ الْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَ الْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَ الْأُمْوَ اتْ فَاسْتَغْفِرُ وْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيْمُ

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 *fugaraa*' 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.



## DI SEDIAKAN OLEH:

BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH:

UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR