

AILMENT:

BLESSING OR

MISFORTUNE

Let us all have the taqwa of Allah in its truest sense and do not die except in the state of Islam. Let us increase our taqwa of Allah by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions.

May we always attain rahmah and barakah from Allah. Let us altogether ponder and contemplate upon today's khutbah titled: "Ailment: Blessing Or Misfortune."

Allah has bestowed upon us blessings that are countless and innumerable. Among the greatest ni mah that are often overlooked by many is the blessing of good health.

From the hadeeth of ibn
'Abbaas radiyAllaahu 'anhuma,
the Messenger sallAllahu
'alayhi wasallam said:

"There are two blessings in which most people are most deluded by: good health and free time."

(al-Bukhaari)

The ni 'mah of good health are often deemed as insignificant by most of mankind. Such is the case probably because they have not truly benefited from the blessings of good health in

getting closer to Allah and preparing for the Last Day. It is for this reason that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had strongly reminded us to preserve our health and utilizing

ni'mah of health in the best possible manner before we are hampered with illness. In another narration from ibn 'Abbaas radiyAllaahu 'anhuma, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

admonished a man and said: "Take advantage of five before five: your youth before your old age, your health before your

illness, your riches before your poverty, your leisure before your work, and your life before your death."

(al-Haakim, Ahmad, al-Bayhaqi, and others: *saheeh*)

Good health is truly among the biggest ni mah from Allah. When sick, that's when the person truly feels the great value of good health. We humans are truly oblivious to the blessing of

good health. While heedless upon such ni mah, definitely one would not remember Allah, what more having the taqwa of Allah. Instead, they will drown in disobedience.

This is what is meant when it is mentioned that one has committed "kufr" (disbelief) upon the ni mah bestowed by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala, meaning utilizing the ni'mah from Allah

but only to rebel and transgress against Him. Take heed, for the ni'mah of good health bestowed by Allah is only temporary and it will definitely be questioned about on the Last Day,

whether it was truly benefited with or wasted in vain. In the hadeeth of Abu Barzah al-Aslami radiyAllaahu 'anh, the Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"The feet of a slave will not move on the Day of Judgment until he has been questioned about [four things:] his life how he spent it, his knowledge how he acted upon it, his wealth — where he earned it and how he spent it, and his body — how he used it."

(at-Tirmidhi)

Hence, let us utilize good health as a medium that would assist us to remain in true obedience to Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala for the sake of attaining reward and not incurring His Wrath.

If we want to gage the true significance of the ni mah of good health, then we should often visit the sick. This is because good health is paramount over everything. Only the sick will truly

comprehend the real value of the ni mah of good health. How many of those who are sick that truly wishes to have both their feet back so they can walk, performing righteous deeds, and

visit their colleagues, but unfortunately none of those are achievable. How many of those who are sick become totally disconnected from the society, incapable of hearing and speaking, but could only

hope to be able to see and listen so as to continue reciting al-Qur'an or listening to its recitation. Unfortunately, all those yearning and desire only occurs once the ni mah of

good health has been revoked by Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala. How many patients have become blind and could only hope for their eyesight to be restored so they can

appreciate the creations of Allah and His Mightiness, but it only remains a dream. Did we all forget these types of people? Woe to those that attempt to resist the norm and oppose fate, forgetful

and neglectful towards Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. Let us be grateful for the ni'mah of the limbs by increasing our steps to the masjid and towards good deeds. Let us be grateful for the ni'mah of

the tongue by increasing our recitation of al-Qur'an or adhkaar. Let us be grateful for the ni 'mah of hearing and safeguards it from listening to songs and music that leads to heedlessness.

Let us be grateful for the ni 'mah of eyesight by not looking at prohibited matters, which only incurs the Wrath of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. All these are among ways for the

slave to cherish and appreciate the *ni* 'mah of good health bestowed by Allah *Subhaanahu Wata* 'aala upon him or her.

Today, various types of chronic diseases are on the widespread, namely the commonly known triplets or trio of diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease, which includes both

evil eye and black magic. Some would die young while others living in agony for many years. What is certain is that our age is not that long except for those granted with "subsidized"

(prolonged) age by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. From the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"The ages of (the people in)
my nation will be between
sixty and seventy, and few of
them will exceed that."

(at-Tirmidhi and ibn Maajah: hasan)

Furthermore, it is truly of no benefit for one to have long life but yet it is not filled with obedience to Allah Alone. The reality of life nowadays has shown that disobedience can no longer

be curbed. In a hadeeth, 'Abdur Rahmaan bin Abi Bakrah radiyAllaahu 'anhuma narrated from his father that a man had asked Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam:

"O Messenger of Allah! Which of the people is the best?" He (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) said: "He whose life is long and his deeds are good." He (the man) said:

"Then which of the people is the worst?" He (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) said: "He whose life is long and his deeds are bad."

(at-Tirmidhi: hasan saheeh)

Furthermore, Nabi sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam had prayed to Allah so that his age will not be lengthened until he becomes senile.

Truly, Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala is not oppressive to His slaves. Every pain or illness that afflicts an individual truly has wisdom behind it. Among the blessing in disguise behind

such affliction are:

1- To erase sins, so the sick person should increase making istighfaar to Allah towards the end of his life. Narrated Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri and Abu Hurayrah

radiyAllaahu 'anhuma: The Prophet sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"No fatigue, nor disease, nor sorrow, nor sadness, nor hurt, nor distress befalls a Muslim,

even if it were the prick he receives from a thorn, but that Allah expiates some of his sins for that."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

2- To increase good deeds Suhaib radiyAllaahu 'anhum reported that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"Strange are the ways of a believer for there is good in

every affair of his and this is not the case with anyone else except in the case of a believer for if he has an occasion to feel delight, he thanks (Allah), thus there

is a good for him in it, and if he gets into trouble and shows resignation (and endures it patiently), there is a good for him in it." (Muslim)

3- To increase imaan and sabr. When tested with ailment, often one becomes impatient, whine, and even worse is to curse the sickness that one is suffering from.

Whereas, everything that befalls upon a believer is good for himself or herself. If one treats them just like how Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam did, then these calamities will purify

all of his sins.

4- To bring mankind back to Allah and remain istiqaamah (steadfast) upon the religion Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"And We showed them not a sign except that it was greater than its sister, and We seized them with affliction that perhaps they might return [to faith]."

(az-Zukhruf 43:48)

Indeed, every ailment or pain that strikes upon the slave is indeed a trial from Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. It can become a blessing if the one afflicted is pleased, grateful, and becomes closer

to Allah. On the contrary, it becomes a museebah (calamity) if such trial only takes one further away from Allah. Truly, glad tidings to those that

are patient in enduring the painful tribulation for it is a proof and manifestation of the love of Allah for His slave.

"No disaster strikes except by permission of Allah. And whoever believes in Allah - He will guide his heart. And Allah is Knowing of all things." (at-Taghaaboon 64:11)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلْاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قُوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأُسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِر الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْبَاءِ 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