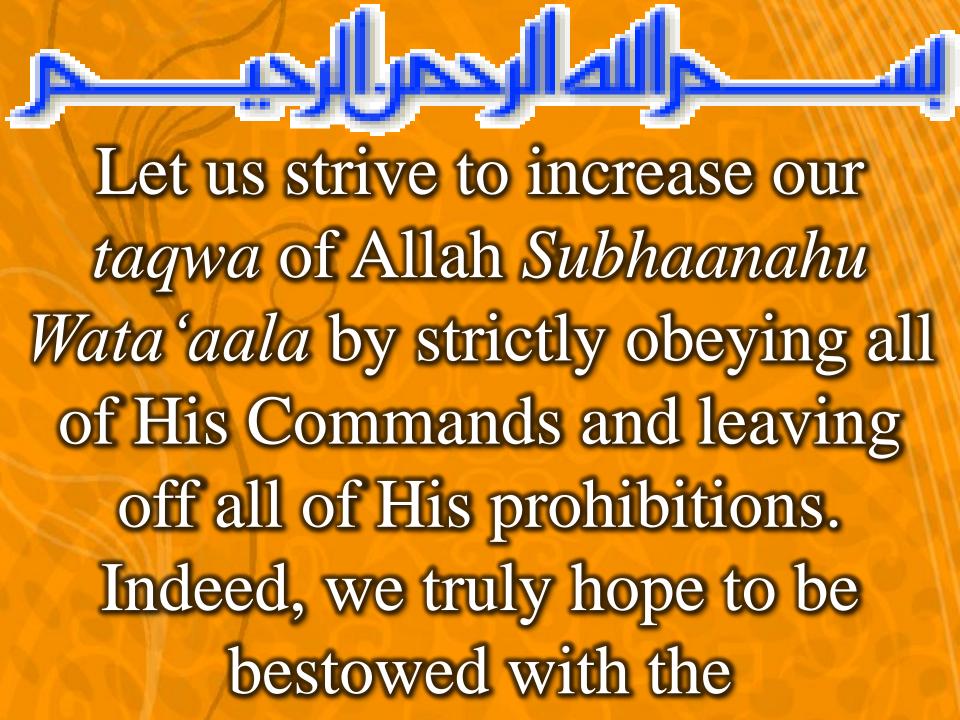




DA WAHIS

AN

OBLIGATION



hidaayah of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala and for all of our 'ibaadah to be accepted by Him as provision for the blissful lives in this world and the Hereafter.

Da'wah is a waseelah (the means of approach) in conveying the teachings of Allah unto mankind. It is the main duty of the essengers even if they have to wade through various obstacles

and resistance in conveying the risaalah of al-Islam. They would fulfill such responsibility without boredom, frustration, and surrender.

What is meant by da'wah? In general, da'wah means to call, invite, persuade, tarbiyyah (educate), train, and guiding those being called upon to acknowledge and accept the truth in the

risaalah of Allah. It also encompasses matters relating to "ibaadah unto Allah, the relationship between mankind and universe, and also the duty of Amar Bil Ma'roof Wan Nahy 'Anil Munkar.

It is through da'wah work that we can see the effectiveness, comprehensiveness, and perfection of Islam in driving and providing hidaayah to mankind until

the Last Day. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"... This day I have perfected for you your religion and completed

My favor upon you and have approved for you Islam as religion..."

(al-Maa'idah 5:3)

Indeed, the work of da'wah is obligatory upon every Muslim. It is very important in safeguarding the sanctity and nobility of Islamic teaching. However, Islam has outlined several basic

principles in the work of da'wah, as Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has mentioned in al-Qur'an:

"Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction, and

argue with them in a way that is best. Indeed, your Lord is most knowing of who has strayed from His way, and He is most knowing of who is [rightly] guided."

(an-Nahl 16:125)

From this verse, we are informed of three main principles in in the da'wah work, namely: 1-Al-Hikmah (wisdom) The du'aat (Islamic callers) must have wisdom and

remain wise in their da'wah work. They also should have adequate Islamic knowledge, sound understanding, highly skilled, and solid comprehension of Islamic teachings.

These are valuable provisions as contemporary challenges poses scenarios that must be encountered by the du'aat such as the borderless world, stressful living, and time limitation.

2-Al-Maw'izatul Hasanah (good instruction or advice) This would provide the best approach in raising effective awareness in one's life. Hence, it behooves the

du'aat to inculcate within their personality praiseworthy characteristics such as speaking with good words, wellmannered, treating everyone as companions, always friendly,

and tolerant.

3-Al-Mujaadalah (argue in the best way)

This principle is actually a healthy approach in enhancing one's knowledge and discourse in seeking the

truth. Avoid discussions in religious matters that will only lead to self-satisfaction and good feelings, for it will deviate from the truth and the pleasure of Allah, as stipulated in da'wah

objectives. In reality, da'wah can actually transform the mindset and cognizance, causing the hard soul to become soft, taming the wild desire, and melting the stubborn heart to surrender

and submit to Allah's Orders. In searching for exemplary individuals having the traits of great Islamic callers as previously mentioned, then it would require us to refer back to Rasulullah sallAllahu

'alayhi wasallam. Here we reflect upon an incident where he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, whom have always remained istiqaamah and patient, was feeding food and drinks to a blind

Jewish beggar. With each feed, the beggar would curse Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam with obscenities and vulgar words without realizing the one feeding her is the person being cursed (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam). Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam would continue feeding that Jewish beggar until he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam passed away.

The task of feeding was then resumed by Abu Bakr radiyAllaahu 'anh. However, the Jewish beggar felt a difference in the way of feeding that she was accustomed to.

So Abu Bakr radiyAllaahu 'anh then informed her that the one who had been feeding her all these while was Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam himself,

who had passed away. Upon hearing such revelation, the Jewish beggar was crushed with remorse and regrets for her verbal abuse and vulgarities all these while.

She would have never thought that the one she hated, vilified, cursed, degraded, and badmouthed was actually the same person that was kind, compassionate,

and courteous to her. In the end, that Jewish woman embraced Islam. The da'wah medium nowadays is not limited or confined to only verbal (utterance) or written method but instead it

includes da'wah through actions and good exemplary, otherwise known as da'wah bil haal. Da'wah is not necessarily conveyed or done at masaajid and suraus but can also take place at

areas of attractions that do not violate the Sharee 'ah. Nowadays, da'wah via Internet must be given due priority for the cyber sphere has a very high volume of users and enthusiasts.

More interestingly, it is very well liked by the youth and teenagers, who would be uninterested in attending formal religious programs at the masaajid or suraus. The ability of mastering this

technology will help spur the development of da'wah Islamiyyah in becoming more dynamic, widespread, and easily accepted by the global community.

One more da'wah approach that is very effective nowadays is through arts. We are all aware that everyone is prone to arts and entertainment, whether music, drama, or film.

Indeed, Islam allows entertainment for as long as it does not transgress the limits of Sharee 'ah, and does not cause negligence or heedlessness.

Let us fulfill the da'wah mission that is the very responsibility of every Muslim. Let us fulfill it according to our own abilities. If we are skilled in IT, then utilize such

expertise in calling mankind to Islam. Utilize social media outlets and the Internet as a platform or arena in spreading the risaalah of al-Islam.

We must diligently strive and indulge in the approach of da'wah bil haal. Safeguarding our akhlaaq and possessing noble values that are reflected and manifested within the society

are from among the methodology of da'wah bil haal that is easy to implement. The du 'aat must persevere in stepping out of their comfort zone. Let us go out and get down to the

da'wah field in cultivating and nurturing those souls that are empty, having weak imaan, and engrossed in immoralities, to return to the true authentic teachings and comprehension of Islam.

"You are the best nation produced [as an example] for mankind. You enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong and believe in Allah. If only the People of the Scripture had

believed, it would have been better for them. Among them are believers, but most of them are defiantly disobedient." (Aal-'Imraan 3:110)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ أَقُوْلُ قُوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأُسْتَغْفِرُ 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