

Let us strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala by abiding by all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions.

May our fasting in this blessed month of Ramadaan make us among those having true taqwa. On this blessed day, let us contemplate upon the khutbah entitled:

"Tarbiyyah From The University of Ramadaan."

We are truly grateful to Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala for blessing us with the opportunity to experience another Ramadaan, the chief of all months. Our feelings of being blessed and

gratefulness should be manifested with great determination to fulfill the 'ibaadah of fasting at its highest level and intensifying other supererogatory 'ibaadah.

We must undergo a major change in determining our level of fasting. Our level of fasting should rise to a higher level and not just remain as typical fasting. We would fast every single year,

but do we really want our fasting to be at the same old level? Of course we would want to attain better quality of fasting. Our target and determination should be the fasting level of khusoos or

khusoos al-khusoos, as it was outlined by al-Imaam al-Ghazzaali rahimahullaah. While enjoying the bounty and wisdom of fasting, let us unravel the hidden secret of fasting and the blessed

month of Ramadaan that we will celebrate. It was narrated that Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh said: Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"There has come to you Ramadaan, a blessed month, which Allah, the Mighty and Sublime, has enjoined you to fast. In it the gates of heavens are

opened and the gates of Hell are closed, and every devil is chained up. In it Allah has a night which is better than a thousand months;

whoever is deprived of its goodness is indeed deprived." (an-Nasaa'i, Ahmad: *saheeh*)

Ramadaan that we will soon embark upon will teach us several important life lessons. One great hikmah is that Ramadaan teaches us about efficient time management.

Beginning from having *suboor* (pre-dawn meal), we are trained to be punctual. Religious rulings have determined the proper duration and timing to end our suhoor.

The sunnah is to delay the suboor and hasten in breaking the fast (*iftaar*). This is from the practice of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam as it was relayed by 'A'ishah radiyAllaahu

'anha in several ahaadeeth. However, once we have done our *iftaar*, let us not delay the Maghrib prayer that we may miss its allowable time.

The tarbiyyah (training) that we will undergo throughout Ramadaan is to become successful in self-evaluating (muhaasabah) our own selves. We shall be successful in perfecting our

akhlaaq, reflecting and remorseful upon the lives of the poor and needy. As such, Allah has ordained fasting irrespective of one's stature and lineage, young or old, rich or poor.

The wealth, affluence, and ease that one enjoys could never replace the obligation of Ramadaan fasting. Even more amazing is that the reward of fasting is not capped and becomes the

exclusive rights of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala Alone. It was narrated from Abu Hurayrah radiy Allaahu 'anh, Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"For every good deed that the son of Adam does, he will have (the reward of) ten the like thereof, except for fasting. It is for Me and I shall reward for it." (an-Nasaa'i: saheeh)

Therefore, throughout the entire Ramadaan Allah is offering a reward package that is manifold. Obligatory acts will be rewarded 70 times, while the reward for sunnah acts is equivalent to

obligatory acts. The Muslims are highly encouraged to aid and honor the poor and destitute, giving zakaah to eligible recipients, feeding the orphans, hasten in giving charity, and giving off wealth

in the path of Allah. The next important lesson is that Ramadaan helps inculcate honesty (amaanah). We become honest both externally (zhaahir) and internally (baatin).

Amaanah by not disobeying Allah's Commands while in the state of fasting during Ramadaan and outside of Ramadaan, replacing reprehensible traits with praiseworthy characteristics.

Narrated Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* said:

"Whoever does not give up forged speech and evil actions, Allah is not in need of his leaving his food and drink (i.e. Allah will not accept his fasting)." (al-Bukhaari)

Ramadaan also develops Muslims that are concerned and actively strengthening the Islamic bond. The practice of feeding the poor, needy and orphans, and offering iftaar to others are

from among deeds that will strengthen the *silaaturrahm* (kinship). In one hadeeth, Zayd bin Khaalid al-Juhaani radiyAllaahu 'anh narrated that Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said:

"Whoever provides the food for a fasting person to break his fast with, then for his is the same reward as his (the fasting person's),

without anything being diminished from the reward of the fasting person." (at-Tirmidhi: *hasan saheeh*)

Let us compete in reaping the generous offering promised by Allah throughout the entire Ramadaan. Let us perform our fasting with diligence so that we will attain the

hikmah behind such 'ibaadah. Therefore, the Muslim ummah should: 1- Utilize fasting as a catalyst for the physical and spiritual being. 2- Have certainty that fasting

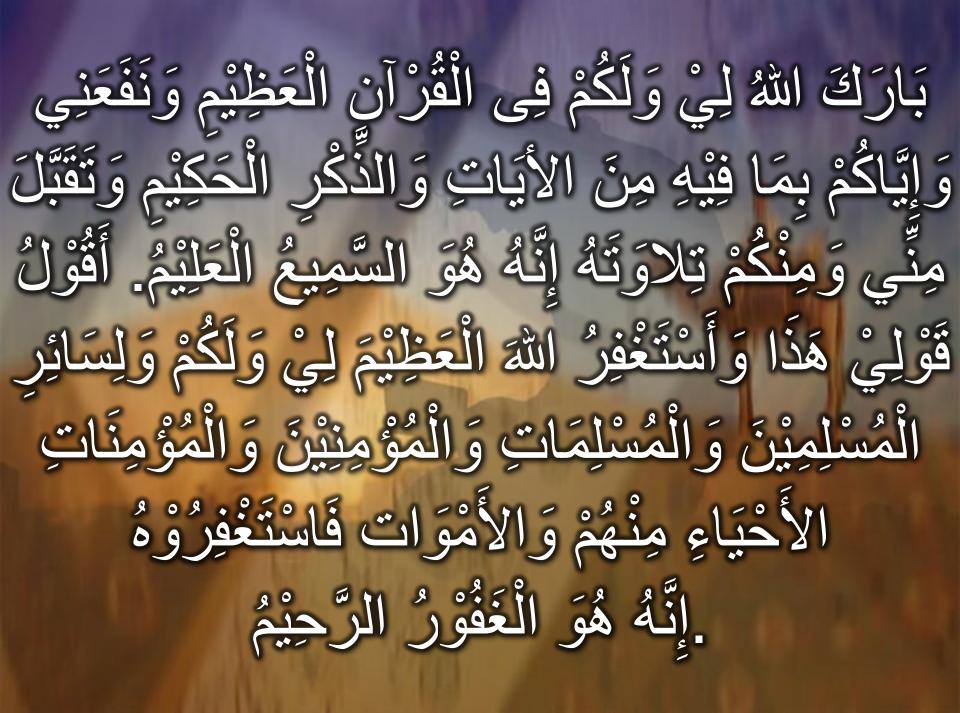
will generate a healthy physical and spiritual body. 3- Always utilizing fasting as the motivator to performing more good deeds. 4- Utilize fasting in becoming mindful and

remorseful upon the suffering of the poor and needy.

"The month of Ramadaan [is that] in which was revealed the Qur'an, a guidance for the people and clear proofs of guidance and criterion. So whoever sights

[the new moon of] the month, let him fast it; and whoever is ill or on a journey - then an equal number of other days. Allah intends for you ease and does not intend for you

hardship and [wants] for you to complete the period and to glorify Allah for that [to] which He has guided you; and perhaps you will be grateful." (al-Baqarah 2:185)



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.

O Allah, we implore upon you, keep us steadfast upon the methodology of Ahlus Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah, and protect us from 'ageedah and practices that are misguided and deviated such as extreme Shee'ism, Qaadiyani, and others.

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.

and also those that have given away and endowed (waqf) their wealth to the Selangor Islamic **Development Trust Fund (Tabung** Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor) with eternal rewards until the Hereafter.

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