

I implore upon all of us to strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala by performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His

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prohibitions. Let us increase our remembrance of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala and sending peace (salaam) and blessings (salawaat) upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad sallAllahu

'alayhi wasallam, while striving our utmost in performing all of his sunan. For we truly hope that they will be of benefit to us in this world and the Hereafter.

Today's *khutbah* is titled *"Internalizing Ramadaan According To The Sunnah."*

Ramadaan is a month that is full of blessings. It is a month where Muslims are bestowed with the opportunity to cleanse and purify their hearts that have darkened and tainted with

sins and disobedience to Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala. Indeed, fasting while having a pure and clean heart is a path towards having the *taqwa* of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you

may become righteous." (al-Baqarah 2:183)

Ramadaan is not merely for us to just pass through, but necessitates a thorough internalization.

Verily, those who had the opportunity to experience Ramadaan but without any internalization, then they are from those who did not profit from such blessed month.

Hence, this golden opportunity in Ramadaan must be fully utilized to the fullest in increasing our quality of fasting through internalizing and upholding the sunnah of Rasulullah

sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. Among the deeds that are highly encouraged to be internalized and practiced in Ramadaan is increasing our infaaq fee sabeelillaah (charity for the sake of

Allah) as it was always practiced by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam. He was well-known to be generous and philanthropic, and even more generous in Ramadaan.

Anyone that approached him for assistance will definitely be aided. This is a noble practice that should be emulated and internalized by every Muslims, what more while we are fasting in

Ramadaan. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "They ask you, [O Muhammad], what they should spend. Say, "Whatever you spend of

good is [to be] for parents and relatives and orphans and the needy and the traveler. And whatever you do of good - indeed, Allah is Knowing of it."" (al-Bagarah 2:215)

In reality, giving charity in the month of Ramadaan not only helps the poor and needy, but it also helps us in achieving the objective of *taqwa* from the 'ibaadah of fasting. It is as such because

giving charity will keep us away from vile traits such as greed, miserliness, and stinginess. Giving donation, in actuality, does not reduce our wealth possession. Instead Allah Subhaanahu

Wata 'aala will replace them with that which is better than what we had given away. This matter was mentioned to us by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam that every single day an

angel will supplicate for increased provision and compensation for the generous slaves of Allah. On the contrary, the angel will supplicate for loss and destruction for the slaves of

Allah that are misers. Aside from giving charity, the tilaawah (recitation) of al-Qur'an during Ramadaan is an act that was always practiced by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam

during his life. Ibn 'Abbaas radiyAllaahu 'anhuma has narrated that Jibreel 'alayhissalaam would meet Nabi Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam every night during Ramadaan, and

during each meeting he sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam would recite al-Qur'an to Jibreel. This narration clearly shows that Rasulullah sallAllahu *'alayhi wasallam* was always

reciting al-Qur'an to Jibreel 'alayhissalaam throughout the entire Ramadaan al-Mubaarak. Similarly with the Companions and the taabi'een, it was their norm to complete al-Qur'an

multiple times during Ramadaan. Hence, as the Muslim ummah, it behooves us to follow the footsteps of Rasulullah in reviving the practice of *tilaawah* al-Qur'an whether in the

masjid, the surau, or with the family at home. We should utilize Ramadaan in completing al-Qur'an however often we can, in addition to comprehend and implement its teachings in

our daily lives. The major deed aside from the obligatory prayers and fasting is the taraweeh prayer. And keeping in mind that the taraweeh prayer is to be performed with 20

raka 'ah (units) according to the Shaafi'i madh-hab and also the practice of great scholars of the past. Moreover, it is also the practice of the scholars in Masjid an-Nabawi and

Masjid al-Haraam in Makkah al-Mukarramah. Narrated Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh: Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: **"Whoever observes fasts** during the month of

Ramadaan out of sincere faith, and hoping to attain Allah's rewards, then all his past sins will be forgiven." (al-Bukhaari)

Moving on, one practice that is no less important for us to internalize and perform in this noble month is to make *i'tikaaf* in the masjid especially in the last ten nights of Ramadaan.

This is because there is one night within it that is worth more than a thousand month, which is better known as Laylatul Qadr. The reward of Laylatul Qadr alone should serve as motivation

for us to increase our *i'tikaaf* in Ramadaan. Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam himself never skipped performing *i'tikaaf* in the masjid throughout his entire life, so what more with the

last ten days. This matter was acknowledged by 'A'ishah radiyAllaahu 'anha who narrated: **The Messenger of Allah** (sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam) used to perform

i'tikaaf during the last ten days of Ramadaan until he died. Then his wives used to perform *i'tikaaf* after his death. (Agreed Upon)

Internalizing Ramadaan by practicing the sunnah of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam that was mentioned will help develop an individual that is merciful and compassionate.

Through those deeds, it will inculcate us to become individuals that are always concerned with the affairs of our surroundings. At the same time, giving charity and other forms of giving

will distant us from the evil disease of *"al-wahn"*, which is to love the worldly life and hating death.

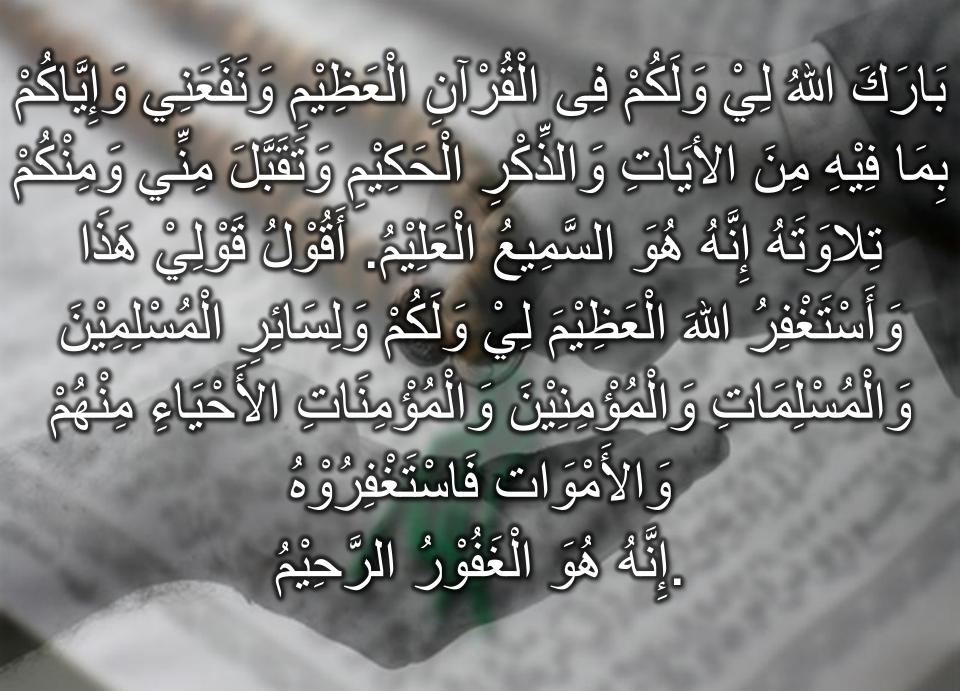
In conclusion, Ramadaan has many secrets and privileges of its own. When mankind can properly internalize and discover those privileges, then they will wish that the entire year

is Ramadaan. Therefore, let us fully utilize this once-in-a-year only opportunity and offering by practicing the sunnah of Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam, safeguarding our obligatory

prayers, increasing our supererogatory prayers, increasing our qiyaam al-layl (night prayers), providing food for *iftaar*, increasing our good deeds, and avoiding useless habits.

Furthermore, let us attempt to perform 'umrah and change within ourselves so that the spirit of Ramadaan will remain perpetual in our soul.

"Say, [O Muhammad], "If you should love Allah, then follow me, [so] Allah will love you and forgive you your sins. And Allah is Forgiving and Merciful."" (Aal-'Imraan 3:31)



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



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