



## ZAKAAT AL-FITR: THE SEAL FOR IBAADAH IN RAMADAAN



Let us strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala with full certainty and sincerity, by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His

prohibitions. May we become among those having *taqwa* and *imaan*, attaining salvation in this world and the Hereafter.

## The topic of today's khutbah is

"Zakaat al-Fitr: The Seal For 'Ibaadah In Ramadaan." Ramadaan is a month of mercy and forgiveness. In this month, Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has decreed the 'ibaadah of fasting for an entire month, for the purpose of elevating

the status of mankind unto becoming *muttaqeen*. 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)

In this month, we are highly encouraged to increase our righteous deeds especially giving in the path of Allah such as the obligatory and supererogatory sadaqah, for Allah Subhaanahu

Wata 'aala has promised tremendous reward that are limitless upon every deeds that we perform.

Therefore, let us strive to increase our ability to perform righteous deeds

especially sadaqah and zakaah, for the Prophet (عليه وسلم) loved giving sadaqah especially during Ramadaan.

During Ramadaan, Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala has ordained zakaat al-fitr. This is intended to purify the body and soul of the fasting person from sins that were previously committed.

Also, it was also ordained to aid the poor and needy so that they too can celebrate 'Eidulfitr with joy. This is based on the hadeeth of ibn 'Abbaas radiyAllaahu 'anhuma whom narrated:

The Messenger of Allah (عليه وسلم) enjoined zakaat al-fitr on the one who fasts (Ramadaan) to purify him from any indecent act or speech and for the purpose of providing food for

the needy. It is accepted as zakaah for the person who pays it before the 'Eid prayer and it is sadaqah for the person who pays it after the Eid prayer.

(Abu Dawood, ibn Maajah, ad-Daaraqutni, al-Haakim: *hasan*)

Hence, the scholars had stated those that delayed in fulfilling zakaat al-fitr until its allowable time expires (after salaat al-'eid), that they have sinned and remain obligated to fulfill it.

Furthermore, it becomes a debt upon them until it is fulfilled even if at the end of their lives. Indeed, zakaat al-fitr is waajib upon every living Muslim during Ramadaan

and Shawwaal, whether they are free individuals or slaves, male or female, adult or children, poor or wealthy. Narrated 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar radiyAllaahu 'anhuma:

The Messenger of Allah (عليه وسلم) enjoined zakaat al-fitr, a saa' of dates, or a saa' of barley, upon all the Muslims, slave and free, male and female,

## young and old, and he commanded that it be paid before the people went out to pray.

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

This hadeeth clarifies the required quantity for zakaat alfitr that is to be fulfilled, which is 2.7 kg of the staple diet that can be given in the form of money based upon the current price of rice,

as it was concluded by the Fatwa Council of Selangor. For everyone's information, the amount for zakaat al-fitr for the year 2014 that is to be fulfilled is RM7 per person.

Therefore, I would like to humbly invite the Muslims to mark this Ramadaan as the initial step in fulfilling our zakaah. You can fulfill your zakaat al-fitr with any of the 2427 appointed

zakaat collectors that are stationed at various masaajid, suraus, shopping complexes, or any of the 25 zakaat counters throughout Selangor that are open 7 days a week during the entire

Ramadaan. Furthermore, one can also fulfill their zakaat using other facilities provided such as short messaging service (SMS), internet banking, debit card and Islamic credit,

company agents, and university facilities. In addition, let us ensure that our wealth such as our earnings, savings, gold and silver, business revenue, halaal stocks,

EPF withdrawn funds, agricultural produce, livestock, and others, have all their rights fulfilled with zakaat through all available facilities mentioned earlier.

All the facilities made

available are for us to benefit in fulfilling our zakaat obligation with ease and perfection. Those 25 zakaat counters and mobile counter services throughout Selangor not only collects zakaat,

but also provides the facility to process requests for *zakaat* assistance.

For Ramadaan and 'Eidulfitr' of this year, the Zakaat Board of Selangor (LZS) has expedited the disbursement

of RM23.4 million to 32,843 families of the poor and needy asnaf (zakaat recipients) in Selangor. This was done to ensure that they can perform their fasting and celebrate 'Eidulfitr with

completeness. Actually, this total distribution was more than the actual zakaat al-fitr accumulated in 2013 at RM19.6 million. With proper collection management, along with structured and

systematic distribution, LZS was able to ensure that every eligible poor and needy asnaf were not left out from receiving zakaat aid this year.

Furthermore, LZS had increased their aid with an additional RM7.5 million to the poor and needy for their Ramadaan and 'Eidulfitr preparation, as compared to last year.

This distribution increment is due to the effect of increasing awareness among the Muslims upon the obligation of zakaat. May Allah grant tremendous reward to those that fulfilled

their zakaat. May Allah bless their wealth, and may their zakaat purify their hearts and wealth. Ameen.

That is the special du'aa that is recommended to be supplicated by the zakaat recipients for those generous ones that had fulfilled their zakaat. When the Muslims living in a nation that

peaceful and tranquil, living with love and care regardless of rank, with the rich fulfilling the need of the poor that the poor would supplicate for the wellbeing of the rich, then solid

ukhuwwah (brotherhood) and mutual respect will flourish. In result, no wealthy person will stand with arrogance nor will the poor and needy continue begging, for in the wealth

accumulated by the rich, there remain the rights of the poor and needy that must be fulfilled. This was mentioned by Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala in al-Qur'an:

"And from their properties was [given] the right of the [needy] petitioner and the deprived." (adh-Dhaariyaat 51:19)

## In conclusion, I humbly implore upon all of us:

1- Let us strive to increase our good deeds in Ramadaan especially in sadaqah and zakaah for Allah has promised multifold rewards

to His slaves engaging in righteous deeds.

2- Let us not procrastinate in fulfilling zakaat al-fitr for it is a fard that is ordained in Ramadaan aside from the obligation of fasting.

There is no more excuse for all kinds of facilities have been made available.

3- Indeed, *zakaat* is a mercy from Allah to the worlds. When we fulfill the obligation of *zakaat*, then

Allah bestows blessings in our wealth, tranquility in the hearts, peacefulness, and harmonious living, especially pleasure with Allah in this world and Hereafter.

4- Every Muslim should constantly reflect upon themselves and ponder upon the lives of the poor and needy, and at the same time aiding them responsibly.

"And the example of those who spend their wealth seeking means to the approval of Allah and assuring [reward for] themselves is like a garden on high ground which is hit

by a downpour - so it yields its fruits in double. And [even] if it is not hit by a downpour, then a drizzle [is sufficient]. And Allah, of what you do, is Seeing."

(al-Baqarah 2:265)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَبَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلْاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ أَقُولُ قُولِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِر الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْبَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتَ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ 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.

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 (waqt) 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