



REMIEMBERING IDICATUES PREPARATION FOR THE TLAST DAY



Let us strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands and leaving out all of His prohibitions. May we attain blissfulness in

this world and mercy in the Hereafter. Today's khutbah intends to remind us on the significance of "Remembering Death: Preparation For The Last Day."

Death can be simply understood as the separation of the soul from the body, or life from the body. Verily, every living being will taste death, whether young or old, children or adult, sick or

healthy. It has been decreed by Allah, which we humans cannot escape from. Whether we like it or not, ready or not, wherever we may be. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in

al-Qur'an: "Wherever you may be, death will overtake you, even if you should be within towers of lofty construction..." (an-Nisaa' 4:78)

The opposite of life is death. Death does not mean one's life has ended and no longer has accountability. This is because the matter of life and death is a test from Allah in determining those with the

best deeds. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"[He] who created death and life to test you [as to] which of you is best in deed - and He is the Exalted in

Might, the Forgiving." (al-Mulk 67:2)

Through various explanations from al-Qur'an and *al-Hadeeth*, we learn that Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala* has already

predetermined one's death. When the time comes, it will not be accelerated or delayed for even a split second. The angel of death will take away one's soul regardless of the location, situation, and status

of the person. When death comes, there is nothing left for him in this world, no ground to step on, no mouthful of food to consume, no drop of water to drink, and no air to breathe.

The soul then returns to Allah, and the body returns to the ground. Except for his deeds, whether good or bad, returns to its owner as provision. In the wake of death, the disbelievers will

be terrified and full of remorse, because his bad deeds are made visible to him. However, the believers will rejoice when his good deeds are shown to him, while his family members

would panic in trying to resuscitate him. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "No! When the soul has reached the collar bones. And it is said, "Who will

cure [him]?" And the dying one is certain that it is the [time of] separation. And the leg is wound about the leg. To your Lord, that Day, will be the procession."

(al-Qiyaamah 75:26-30)

Death marks the end to life of this world, and the beginning for the life of the Hereafter. In the Hereafter, the reckoning will be different than the life of this world. Everything will be

based on imaan and obedience to Allah during the life of this world. Regardless of how one dies, whether the normal death, burned in a fire, drowned, or murdered, one will definitely

experience the realm of barzakh or life in the grave. There is no fixed duration for one to remain in this period. In the life in the grave, the soul will be questioned by

the angels Munkar and Nakeer. Those that successfully passed through the questioning will be granted bounties with carpet and clothing from Paradise. His grave will become wide,

as far as the eye can see. For those that failed, they will be prepared with bedding from the Hellfire, and a grave that narrows and crushes the bones.

Then, when the instance is decreed for the Judgment Day, mankind will be resurrected and gathered at the plain of Mahshaar. Imagine the massive crowd, for there will be people from

the time of Nabi Adam 'alayhissalaam until the Day of Resurrection that will be gathered at the plain of Mahshaar. However, the believers will be in pleasure and delight, while those that

disobeyed will be punished. Everyone will have to pass through the bridge (Siraat al-Mustageem), where their deeds will be weighed and accounted for. All to prove that Allah is The Most Just,

and that mankind will be judged with utmost justice. Let us make muhaasabah to ensure that our hard work, day and night, is not only to fulfill the need and pleasure of this temporary life, but

instead as provision for the everlasting life of the Hereafter. The provision for the Hereafter is not restricted to only matters of specific 'ibaadah. Any work that appears to be worldly such as

earning a living and seeking wealth, are also deemed as provisions for the Hereafter if they are done with the correct intention and in accordance with the Shara'. Have certainty that by

inculcating Islamic values within our work, and having istiqaamah in our 'ibaadah unto Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala, it will guard our lives, tranquil the hearts, and facilitate our affairs,

in addition to attaining blessings of fortune from unexpected sources. Take heed, for the Hereafter is where we will gain the real profit or loss, based on our efforts during the worldly

life. The Hereafter is no longer a place for work and righteous deeds. Hence, let us fully utilize our time now, our youthfulness, our healthiness, and our free time to seek and accumulate

profitable provision. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala urges mankind to work and do good deeds for their own benefit. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala will not incur any loss even if mankind refuses

to obey Him, for He is The Most Perfect and The Most Rich. Similarly, Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala does not increase in nobility with mankind's submission, for Allah is The Most Glorious

and The Most Noble. Let it not be that we truly regret later, asking to be returned to the world to perform good deeds. Such is a useless matter that will not take place, also certainty that is

meaningless. Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala* mentions in al Qur'an:

"Our Lord, we have seen and heard, so return us [to the world]; we will work righteousness. Indeed, we

are [now] certain." (as-Sajdah 32:12)

Every time we listen to the Jumu'ah *khutbah*, are we not always reminded to have *taqwa* in preparing our

provision for the Afterlife? It is attained by fulfilling the amaanah from Allah and implementing the responsibilities as His khaleefah, for taqwa is the best provision for life in the

Hereafter. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"...And take provisions, but indeed, the best provision is fear of Allah. And fear Me, O you of

understanding." (al-Baqarah 2:197)

Referring to the gestures of Rasulullah (عليه وسلم) when proclaiming taqwa, he would place his hand over his chest,

pointing towards the heart (qalb), whose function is to acknowledge and remain in constant remembrance of Allah. Always remembering Allah will develop ihsaan that would shape the

character of the obedient slave unto the commands of Allah and His Messenger. Therefore, let us avoid from placing material wealth in our hearts so as to shift our outlook towards the

Hereafter. Instead, let us place material wealth in our hands. With a heart that is alert and alive in remembering Allah, we shall attain wealth with our hands, and with those same hands

we will give away that wealth for His Sake. We must always comprehend that worldly gain is an amaanah from Allah. This world is only a tool, not the objective.

Among the lessons and reflection points from today's *khutbah* are:

1- We must always remember that the moment of death will certainly arrive and none can prevent its

occurrence.

2- Let us increase in making du'aa so that we will die in a state of husn al-khaatimah (the good ending), which is having imaan in Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

3- Let us remain prepared in facing death by always performing righteous deeds for the eternal life of the Hereafter.

"Whoever does a good deed it is for himself; and whoever does evil - it is against the self. Then to your Lord you will be returned." (al-Jaathiyah 45:15)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَبَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلْاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ اقْوُلُ قُولِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغُورُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأُحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَاتِ 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

