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DEALING WITH EXTREMISMIN PERFORMING JIHAAD

I would like to remind myself and all of us. Let us strive to have the taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding

all of His prohibitions. Indeed, the taqwa of Allah will drive us to become vigilant in all of our actions and deeds. The true taqwa will make us very cautious and worried about the

consequences of our wrongdoings, whether it involves the rights of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala, and also the rights of humans as the slaves of Allah.

On this blessed day, let us ponder upon the khutbah entitled: "Dealing With Extremism In Performing Jihaad."

Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh reported Rasulullah (صلى الله as saying: "By Him in Whose Hand is my life, the world would not come to an end until a day would come to the

people on which the murderer would not know as to why he has killed and the slain would not know as to why he has been murdered. It would be said: "Why would it

happen?" To which he replied: "It would be because of general massacre and bloodshed (al-Harj)." And the slaughterers and the slain would be in Fire." (Muslim)

It is a common phenomenon that there will be a large number of deaths when war occurs. Wars during the 20th century had caused millions of lives killed. Today, in the 21st century, war continues to

occur in several nations such as Syria, Iraq, and Palestine, inflicting a significant amount of casualties. What is alarming this time is that it is as if the wars taking place in Iraq and Syria are actually

portraying the contents of those two ahaadeeth. We see widespread killing, so much so that the killer does not even know why he needs to kill, and the victim does not know the motive of his

demise. Mankind now would kill as they please. It truly causes great fitnah that even between two fighting factions, they would not know who are their allies and who are their enemies.

Such war does not only involve an oppressive government and its victims. Moreover, it also involves external parties and world superpower that have actually pre-planned wars in

reaping the profits from the rich natural resources, to increase their influence, controlling West Asian countries, protecting Israel's interest, and creating new markets for the military

industry. In such scenario, we have witnessed the rising of numerous groups from all over the globe to partake in those wars. These ongoing wars that keep dragging for years have triggered the birth

of militant groups such as the Free Syrian Army (FSA), Ansar Sunnah, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), and many others. Their zeal to uphold Islam as a sovereign nation and enthusiasm in

protecting the oppressed in war zones have become the main factors in attracting new recruitments from all walks of life in these wars.

What is of major concern is that some of these high-spirited groups have fallen prey to the trickery that was cunningly planned by the enemies of Islam. This is because military jihaad

requires the comprehension of deep profound knowledge. It is not confined to only the figh of jihaad, but also to comprehend matters pertaining international politics and the dark history

of the enemies' deviousness. Al-Qur'an has taught us that military jihaad necessitates sound knowledge. Hence, strong exuberance and passion alone are insufficient to pursue such noble

endeavor. This can be understood from various texts from al-Qur'an:

1- Allah *Subhaanahu Wata 'aala* did not obligate military *jihaad* at a time when the Muslims were

under oppression by their enemies. There are times where we are ordained to have sabr and there are times where we are commanded to fight. Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala mentions in

al-Qur'an:

"Have you not seen those who were told, "Restrain your hands [from fighting] and establish prayer and give zakaah? ..."

(an-Nisaa' 4:77)

2- Jihaad must be led by a righteous leader or its matters to be referred to the Muslim scholars. This is because the army of jihaad must duly know when to carry on with the fighting,

when a truce should be accepted, how to treat the prisoners and war booty, and how to uphold the rulings after attaining victory. All these were provided as guidelines from textual

evidences in al-Qur'an and ahaadeeth. For this reason, Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala had chosen Taloot as the commander due to his intelligence and physical strength.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "...He [their prophet] said, "Indeed, Allah has chosen him [Taloot] over you and has increased him

abundantly in knowledge and stature. And Allah gives His sovereignty to whom He wills. And Allah is all-Encompassing [in favor] and Knowing.""

(al-Baqarah 2:247)

3- The Muslims partaking in military jihaad must be fully equipped with sufficient sound knowledge. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala reminds us in al-Qur'an:

"And it is not for the

believers to go forth [to battle] all at once. For there should separate from every division of them a group [remaining] to obtain understanding in the religion and warn their

people when they return to them that they might be cautious."

(at-Tawbah 9:122)

Ignorance in the figh of jihaad will lead the Muslim army to commit acts that will further worsen the situation. This is because circumstances on the battlefield may cause the

enemies to resort to various tactics to weaken the Muslims. The long history of clashes between Islam and Western powers truly has caused them to constantly attempt to prevent the

inevitable rise of Islam. Among their main measures in obstructing this revivalism is by preventing the Muslims from obtaining the complete and wholesome Islamic education and knowledge.

There are various evidences that manifests clear intervention of the West in the Islamic educational system including those in prominent universities within the Muslim world.

Their next measure is to effectively leverage on the weakness between the two opposing ends within the Muslim ummah, namely the liberals and the extremists. The liberals are very loose

with the Islamic teachings, hence their weakness has caused to them to be easily susceptible to foreign ideologies and inclined to liberalism, democracy, religious pluralism, and

others. They would accept a portion of Islamic teachings that are simple common sense, but would reject and isolate other aspects.

For the extremists, it is their strong zeal and love for Islam but devoid of sound comprehension. Their ignorance is manipulated to portray a negative image of Islam to the global

community. They would perform jihaad without fully understanding its fiqh, hence their hastiness in their pursuit of upholding Islam. They would instill Islamic laws without adhering to its

actual conditions and procedures. Both of these groups are subtly funded by the West without their own realization. Both of these groups are needed by the West to hinder true Islam

from flourishing. In result, the strife amongst Muslims continues to persist if we remain aloof to this dirty game.

Islam teaches us to remain in moderation even on the battlefield. In one narration collected by Imaam Muslim and Imaam Abu Dawood rahimahumullaah, it was reported that Usaamah bin

Zayd along with an Ansaari companion radiyAllaahu 'anhuma had encircled an enemy combatant, who then quickly uttered, "Laa ilaaha illAllaah." This caused the

Ansaari companion to abandon his pursuit upon the enemy. However, Usaamah continued to attack the enemy with his spear and killed him. When the matter reached Rasulullah صلى الله), he

became furious and inquired: "Did you kill him after he uttered 'Laa ilaaha illAllaah'?" Usaamah replied saying that the man had only professed it to save his own life. But he (عليه وسلم) kept

repeating his words: "Did you kill him after he uttered 'Laa ilaaha illAllaah'?" This made Usaamah truly regretted his actions.

This hadeeth indicated that jihaad necessitates the full comprehension of its figh. Fiery spirit that is not accompanied with knowledge will spur a rigid and extreme approach as

manifested by the *khawaarij* in the history of this *ummah*.

Such *khawaarij*-like characteristics are as follows:

- 1- Easily declaring takfeer (excommunicate) upon anyone who is not upon their cause.
 - 2- Declaring war upon those who do not accept them regardless of their

background and reasons for rejecting them.

3- Using textual evidences from al-Qur'an as their proofs literally (zhaahir) without referring to its explanation from ahaadeeth

and commentaries by Muslim scholars.

The existence of these extremists has actually been prophesized by Rasulullah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) even before their actual existence.

In a hadeeth narrated by Abu Sa'eed al-Khudri radiyAllaahu 'anh, he had heard Rasulullah (عليه وسلم) say: "A group of people will appear among you whose prayer, fasting and deeds

will make you think little of your own prayer, fasting and deeds. They will recite the Qur'an, but it will not get past their throats, and they will pass through the deen like an arrow passes

through game. You look at the arrowhead, and you see nothing, and you look at the shaft, and you see nothing, and you look at the flights, and you see nothing.

And you are in doubt about the notch."

(al-Bukhaari, Ahmad, and Maalik)

In concluding today's *khutbah*, let us altogether resort to these very measures:

1- It is incumbent upon the Muslim ummah to comprehend that Islam teaches its adherents to remain moderate, with humility amongst Muslims, and firm upon the

disbelieving (*kuffaar*) enemies of Islam.

2- The Muslim ummah must enhance their knowledge pertaining to jihaad and the true Islamic way of life, especially those related to

jihaad. It is these two matters that have seemingly vanished from extremist groups, causing them to incite enmity amongst Muslims. Therefore, the Muslim ummah must remain

vigilant upon such trait and approach by delving into sciences relating to al-Qur'an, hadeeth, and fiqh of jihaad.

- 3- The Muslim *ummah* must strengthen their *imaan* and uphold Islam with authentic knowledge.
- 4- The first step for the Muslim *ummah* is to aid by providing assistance both

financially and making du 'aa for the war victims.

5- We must never become easily influenced by the propaganda of *jihaad* that is extreme.

"O you who have believed, when you go forth [to fight] in the cause of Allah, investigate; and do not say to one who gives you [a greeting of] peace "You are not a believer," aspiring for

the goods of worldly life; for with Allah are many acquisitions. You [yourselves] were like that before; then Allah conferred His favor upon you, so investigate.

Indeed Allah is ever, with what you do, Acquainted."

(an-Nisaa' 4:94)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَ تَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيْمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَ الْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَ الْأُمْوَ اتْ فَاسْتَغْفِرُ وْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ

O Allah, you are the Lord that is All Mighty, we are grateful to You for having bestowed upon us rahmah and ni'mah, that we are able to continue the effort in empowering the Muslim *ummah* especially in Selangor, as an advanced state, prosperous, and providing welfare.

Hence, we sincerely beseech you, O Allah, strengthen our imaan, accept our deeds, strengthen our unity, increase our rizq, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, cultivate our soul with good mannerisms,

return us to the path that you are pleased with, protect us from disasters and your severe trials, so that our nation will become more peaceful and filled with blessings.

O Allah, we sincerely beseech you, strengthen our beliefs according to the creed of Ahlus Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah, and protect us from deeds and 'ageedah that are astray such as the extreme Shee'is, Qadiyani, and other ideologies.

O Allah, open up our hearts in fulfilling the five daily prayers, performing zakaat, and other obligations. Bless those that have fulfilled their zakaat and loving the fugaraa' and masaakin, and those that have

made waqf and gave up their wealth for the Tabung Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor (Islamic Development Trust Fund of Selangor) with continuous reward until the Day of Judgment.



DI SEDIAKAN OLEH : BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH, JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH:
UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR