

On this Friday that is full of rahmah (mercy) and barakah (blessings), l remind myself and fellow congregation to altogether strive in increasing our imaan and

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taqwa of Allah by always performing all of His **Commands and avoiding** all of His prohibitions. May we becoming among **His slaves that attain** blissfulness and prosperity in this world

and the Hereafter.

In conjunction with the year-end school holiday that had just recently began, let us altogether internalize upon today's khutbah titled

Let us altogether ponder upon the *khutbah* today titled

"MAKING THE MOST OUT OF THE SCHOOL HOLIDAY."

SEKOLAH

Before proceeding with the khutbah, I would like to remind respected audience upon the reminder of Rasulullah in giving full attention to the khutbah being delivered. Do not speak

and pursue matters that are in vain, which includes using the mobile phone while the khateeb is delivering the khutbah.

The school vacation has returned once more. This is the moment that our schooling children have been waiting for, because they will be no longer shackled by schoolbooks, **co-curricular** activities

or even extra classes. In short, anything related to school will no longer come to their attention. In fact, many actually feel that it is the time for them to rest, have fun, and indulge in their favorite

activities, due to the time restrictions that they had endured during regular school session. Hence, we must ensure that our children are not

heedless and waste those precious free time. In the hadeeth of ibn 'Abbaas radiyAllaahu 'anhuma, the Prophet and: said:

"There are two blessings which many people lose: Health and free time for doing good." (al-Bukhaari)

Remember, that time is precious like gold. This phrase is commonly mentioned to illustrate how time is greatly valuable. This is because the most precious matter after having attained

attained *imaan* (belief) and Islam is time.

Through al-Qur'an, Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala had repeatedly sworn by time, as a reminder upon the importance of

time for us. Just like those verses recited earlier, from verses 1-3 of soorah al-'Asr. Aside from that, Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala would always describe the importance of time by

By)وَالْضُّحَى By) the morning brightness), And [by] the)وَاللَّيْلِ إِذَا سَجَى night when it covers with وَالصَّبْح إِذَا تَنَفَّسَ, (darkness) (And the day, when it brightens).

This shows that time is a ni'mah (favor) from Allah that is very valuable. Imaam Fakhr ad-Deen ar-Raazi mentioned in his tafseer of soorah al-'Asr:

"It is as though the Almighty swore that age and time is a blessing that is not flawed but the defective loser is the human being." (Tafseer al-Kabeer) The wise person is one that utilizes his time in the best possible manner. In this regard, the role of the parents is crucial in ensuring that the children will be able to partake in **beneficial** activities

throughout their school holiday. Normally, the children have their own plans in utilizing their free time. What is greatly hoped is that the parents would supervise their children so that they will

not succumb to non**beneficial** activities involving the corruption of the akhlaaq and morality, what more when it is related to the *'ageedah* of a Muslim. This indicates that it is the

parents that will become the key determinant and architect of their children's future. **Narrated Abu Hurayrah** radiyAllaahu 'anh: the Prophet مَلْكَاللَهُ said:

"Every child is born with a true faith of Islam (fitrah) and his parents convert him to Judaism or Christianity or Magianism." (al-Bukhaari)

In reality, there are multitudes of activities that can be pursued throughout the school vacation. Just to share some views with fellow audience, especially

those with children that are still schooling, among the activities that can be done throughout the school holiday are:

1. Enliven the masjid with the participation of the children through activities such as the congregational prayer, Islamic lessons, memorization of al-Qur'an, fard al-'ayn

courses, *Smart Salaah*, *dawraat* (intensives) dan many others.

2. Picnic and sightseeing. In other words, sightseeing and picnic to any destination. Through this activity, it can provide the opportunity for those to experience the outside world, hence, to see the beauty of the creations of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 11 of soorah al-An'am:

"Say, "Travel through the land; then observe how was the end of the deniers.""

3. School holiday camps. These programs typically offers various activities that are based on the motivation for building and development of one's personality, spirituality, akhlaaq, 'ibaadah, and

its like. In addition to attaining knowledge, one also gains new experience and making new friends.

4. Visiting immediate and distant relatives, so as to

know each other better and strengthen family ties, as well as upholding the silaaturrahm (ties of kinship). In the hadeeth of Anas bin Maalik radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasululah مستمالته said:

"Whoever desires that his means of sustenance should be expanded for him and his age lengthened, should join the tie of relationship." (al-Bukhaari)

I also would like to remind fellow audience to not allow our children at all from wasting their school vacation with nonbeneficial matters. In reality, negative deeds will not help in enhancing

self-potential. Instead, it only brings harm to oneself. For example, watching the television unsupervised, playing videogames and smartphone without time limitation, and

hanging out with friends regardless whether during the day or night.

Sufficient monitoring and supervision by the parents are truly crucial in preventing the children from being inflicted with harm and getting involved with immorality. This was reminded by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in verse 6 of soorah at-Tahreem:

"O you who have believed, protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones, over which are [appointed] angels, harsh and severe; they do not disobey Allah in what He commands them but do what they are commanded."

Indeed, every believer having taqwa will truly value and appreciate every second granted upon them. Furthermore, the role of the parents in the effort of educating the children to truly value time is vital, for the sake of their excellence in this world and the Hereafter. For the children that are still schooling, treasure your youth with beneficial matters. One of the five reminders mentioned by

Rasulullah manely 'take advantage of your free time before you become busy' should be thoroughly pondered by all of us so that in the Hereafter we will not become among the losers.

To end the khutbah today, let us altogether contemplate upon several directive guidance and suggestions mentioned:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that time is very important in the lives of a Muslim, and it will be accounted for in the Hereafter.

2. It is waajib (obligatory) upon the Muslim ummah to educate its offspring to appreciate and maximize their school vacation by pursuing beneficial matters.

3. The Muslim ummah, whether the parents or communities, must always monitor and serve as the eyes and ears in ensuring that the children are not

involved with idle matters, especially those that can harm them.



"And those who believed and whose descendants followed them in faith - We will join with them their descendants, and We will not deprive them

of anything of their deeds. Every person, for what he earned, is retained."







Once again, I would like to remind all of us to always have the taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala and realize that Islam teaches us to remain moderate in every actions and



deeds. As Muslims, we are to manifest noble *akhlaaq*, having utmost personality and attitude for Rasulullah and was sent to perfect akhlaaq and as mercy for the entire mankind and the worlds. Therefore, let us



always increase our salawaat and salaam upon our Prophet Muhammad and Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala **mentions:**



"Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace." (al-Ahzaab 33:56)



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, as an advanced state,



prosperous and providing welfare, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.



Hence, we sincerely beseech You, O Allah, strengthen our imaan and creed according to that of Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah, accept our righteous deeds, cultivate our soul with good mannerisms, unite our



hearts, bestow upon us rizg with blessings, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, protect us from disasters and save us from teachings that are outside the fold of Islam such as Qadiyaani, deviant teachings such as



Shee'ah, and other teachings deemed as deviating from **Islamic teachings or** contradicting the creed of Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah. 0 Allah, open up our hearts in performing the five daily



prayers, fulfilling zakaat through the Selangor Zakaat Board, making waqf and infaaq of our wealth to Selangor Waqf **Corporation and Islamic Development Trust Fund of** Selangor.

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