

رالندالرحص الرحي I would like to remind myself and fellow respected audience. Let us strive in having the taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by fulfilling all of His

Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions, for taqwa will be our main provision in meeting Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in the Hereafter.



The journey of hajj (pilgrimage) is no ordinary journey. It is a voyage that fulfills the invitation from Allah in visiting Baytullaah. For this reason, the

statement that is oft repeated by the *hujjaaj* (pilgrims) is:

لَبَّيْكَ اللَّهُمَّ لَبَيْكَ، لَبَيْكَ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَكَ النَّهُمَّ لَبَيْكَ، لَبَيْكَ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَكَ وَالْمُلْكَ، لَبَيْكَ، إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ، وَالنِّعْمَةَ، لَكَ وَالْمُلْكَ، لِنَّ الْحَمْدَ، وَالنِّعْمَةَ، لَكَ وَالْمُلْكَ، لِكَ الْكَ وَالْمُلْكَ، لَكَ الْكَ لَكَ الْكَ لَكَ الْكَ لَكَ الْكَ لَكَ الْكَ الْكَالِكُ الْلَكَ الْكَالِكُ اللّهُ الْلَهُ الْكَالْكُ اللّهُ الْكُلُكُ الْكَالْكُ اللّهُ الْلَكُ الْكَالِكُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ الْمُلْلُكُ اللّهُ اللّهُ اللّهُ الْكُولُولُ اللّهُ اللّه

"Here I am, O Allah, here I am. Here I am, You have no partner, here I am. Verily all praise and blessings are Yours, and all sovereignty, You have no partner."

To complete this great 'ibaadah (worship), we must make preparation for all the necessities required, among them:

First: The preparation of knowledge. A person that

is bound for hajj must always learn and revise the ways and techniques in perfecting this 'ibaadah, as well as matters that pertains to it such as the arkaan (pillars) of hajj, matters

that are waajib (obligatory), the shuroot (conditions) of hajj, and the prohibitions while in the state of ihram. Similarly, in having the comprehension of performing the

jama'(combining) and qasar (shortening) of prayers while traveling. Do not just go while in the state of jaahil (ignorance) by assuming that it would be an easy task. Do not have the mindset of just

copying and imitating others in performing this 'ibaadah, for it involves various ways that would differ one from others. Though staying in the same area, the hujjaaj would be performing

different types of hajj, be it Ifraad, Tamattu', or Qiraan. Therefore, it behooves every individual to fully comprehend the intricacies of the hajj journey that will be undertaken with the

knowledge learned through the courses and practice sessions attended.

Second: The preparation of wealth for the expenditures in the Holy

Land, enough to cover the round-trip journey, as well as sufficient provision for daily expenditure of one's family members and dependents while away performing hajj in

the blessed land.

Third: Proper care of one's health and physical preparation. Aside from wealth, the 'ibaadah of hajj involves great physical activities such

as tawaaf, sa'iee, and stoning at the jamrah. Therefore, proper health care is truly vital. It would be beneficial if prior to departing for hajj, one undergoes through practical training with

long arduous walk so that the physical body would not be startled by the physical activities during hajj.

Fourth: Preparation of the heart and soul. This is the main preparation, for the long journey of hajj is purely 'ibaadah unto Allah by having pure ikhlaas (sincerity) in one's niyyah (intention),

with the taqwa of Allah as provision. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 197 of soorah al-Baqarah:

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

The hajj pilgrims must make tawbah (repentance) from all of the sins that have been committed. This is because aside from fulfilling the requirements of the pillars of imaan

(faith), the objective of performing hajj is to attain forgiveness from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. It would be good for those performing hajj to seek forgiveness from friends and colleagues

before leaving for the blessed land of Makkah. Upon return, may the hujjaaj become cleansed from all misdeeds against Allah and between fellow human beings.

Narrated Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*: Rasulullah عليه وسلم said:

"Whoever performs hajj to this House (Ka'bah) and does not approach

his wife for sexual relations nor commits sins (while performing hajj), he will come out as sinless as a newly born child."

(al-Bukhaari)

The noble guests of Allah must familiarize themselves with supererogatory (sunnah) 'ibaadah such as qiyaam al-layl and frequent recitation of al-Qur'an, aside from obligatory

'ibaadah that definitely must be fulfilled. Their presence in Masjid al-Haram and Masjid an-Nabawi must be filled with various 'ibaadah since righteous deeds performed there are

generously multiplied by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

The noble guests of Allah must elevate their threshold for patience, for the journey of hajj will be

met with various challenges and tribulations, whether physical or mental. The gathering of pilgrims involving millions of people will definitely present a variety of

circumstances, which requires the patience of those present.

For those that have yet to perform and have not received their turn for hajj, it is always good to

make early preparation. This includes saving up sufficient funds for hajj. Since hajj is an 'ibaadah that requires overall ability, then every Muslim should earnestly strive to attain those capabilities.

In fulfilling the fifth pillar of Islam, he or she must register with hajj management authorities and supplicate to Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala to be granted the opportunity to perform hajj.

'Ali *radiyAllaahu 'anh* narrated that Rasulullah عليه وسلم said:

"Whoever has the provisions and the means to convey him to Allah's House and

he does not perform hajj, then it does not matter if he dies as a Jew or a Christian. That is because Allah said in His Book: 'And hajj to the House is a duty that

mankind owes to Allah, for whomever is able to bear the journey."

(at-Tirmidhi)

To end this week's khutbah, let us altogether ponder upon the following matters:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that the 'ibaadah of hajj is a pillar of Islam that is waajib to be performed, in fulfilling the Islamic creed that Muslims ascribe to.

2. The Muslim ummah must have the determination and pure intention to perform the 'ibaadah of hajj so that at least one's death will be in a state of determination or having perfected the pillars of Islam.

3. The Muslim ummah must attain complete knowledge upon all 'ibaadah performed so that those 'ibaadah are done in accordance with the Sharee 'ah of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. 4. The Muslim ummah must internalize upon the very philosophy of hajj, which is the annual gathering of the Muslim ummah, as a symbol and platform for the

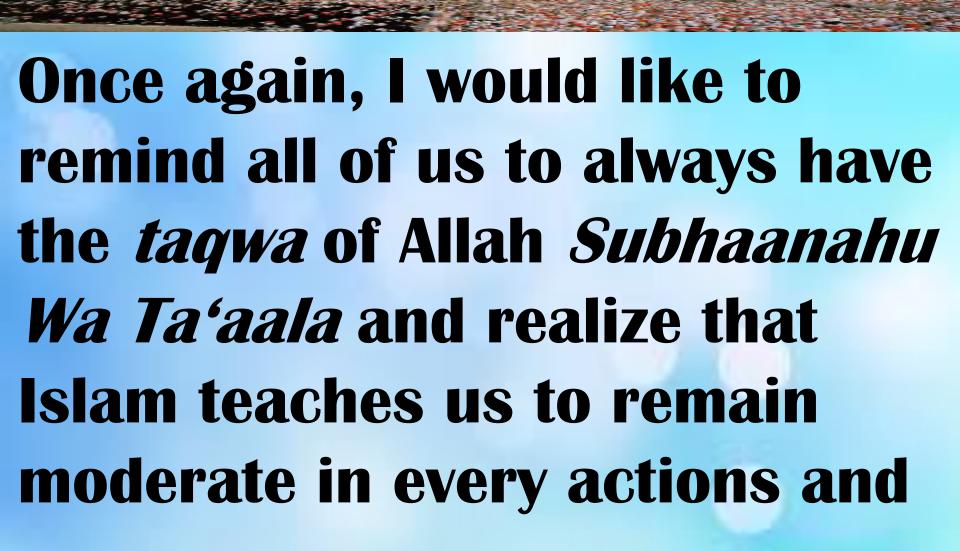
unity and consolidation of the ummah that is based upon the unity of 'aqeedah and 'ibaadah unto Allah, The Almighty.

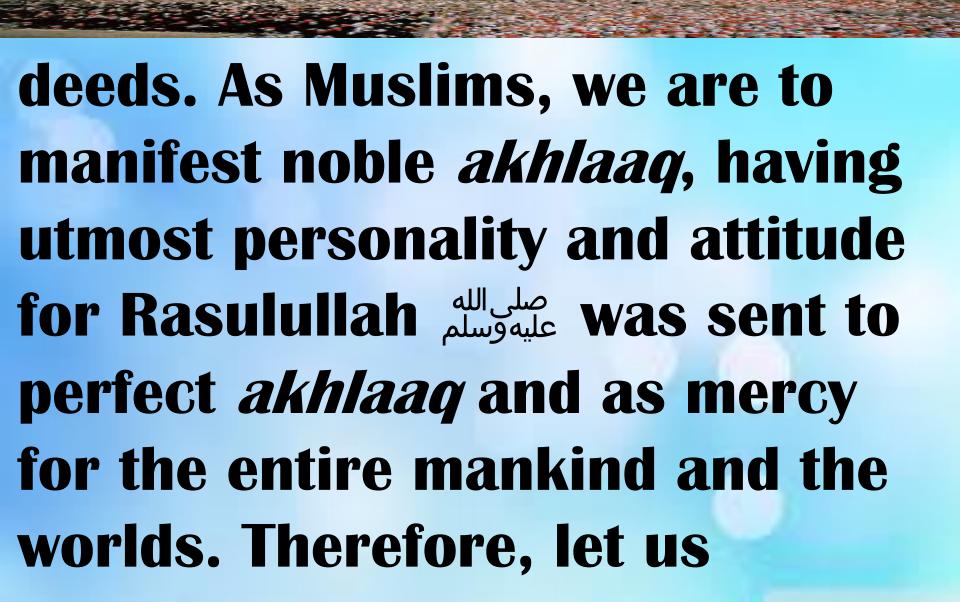
"And proclaim to the people the hajj [pilgrimage]; they will come to you on foot and on every lean camel; they will come from every distant pass."

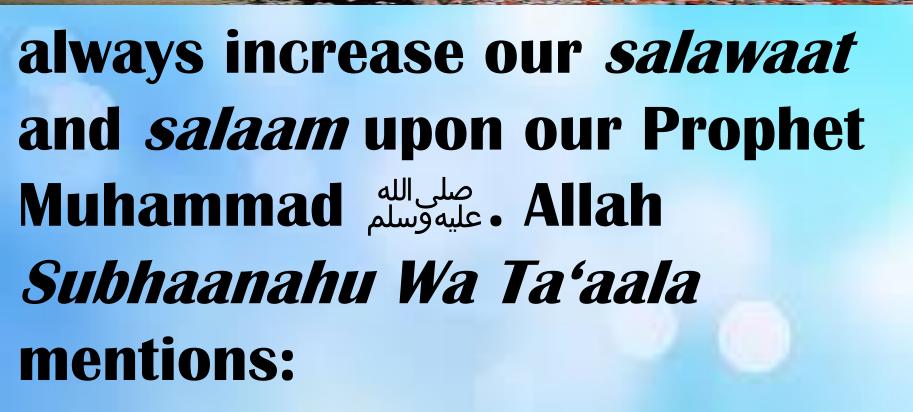
(al-Hajj 22:27)



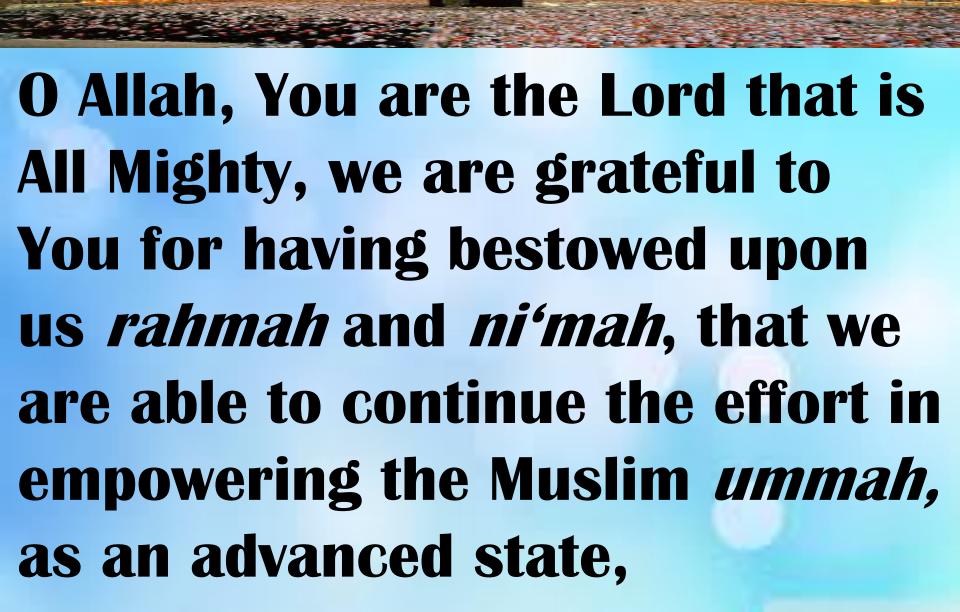
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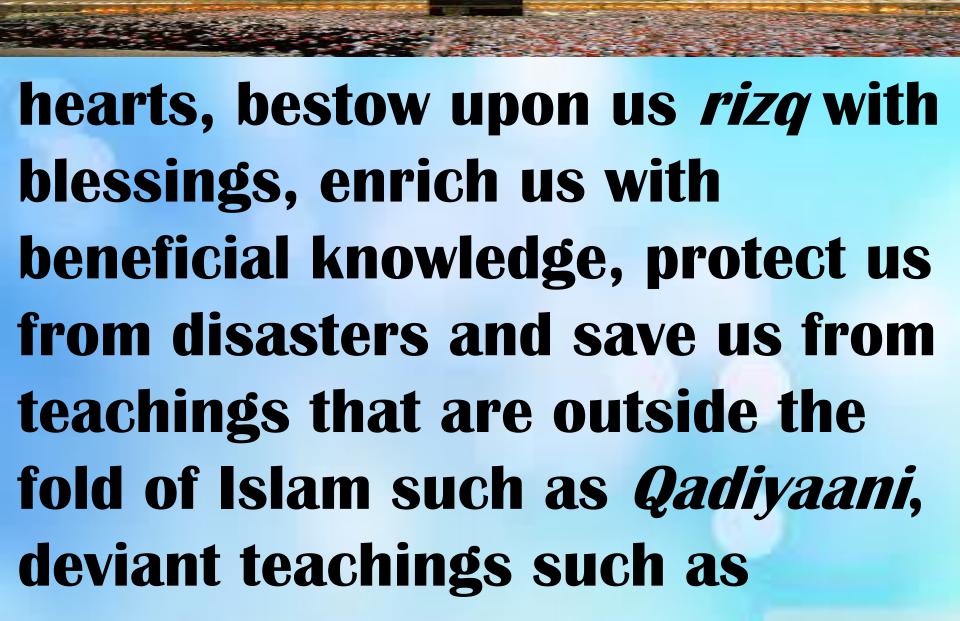
"Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him | peace." (al-Ahzaab 33:56)

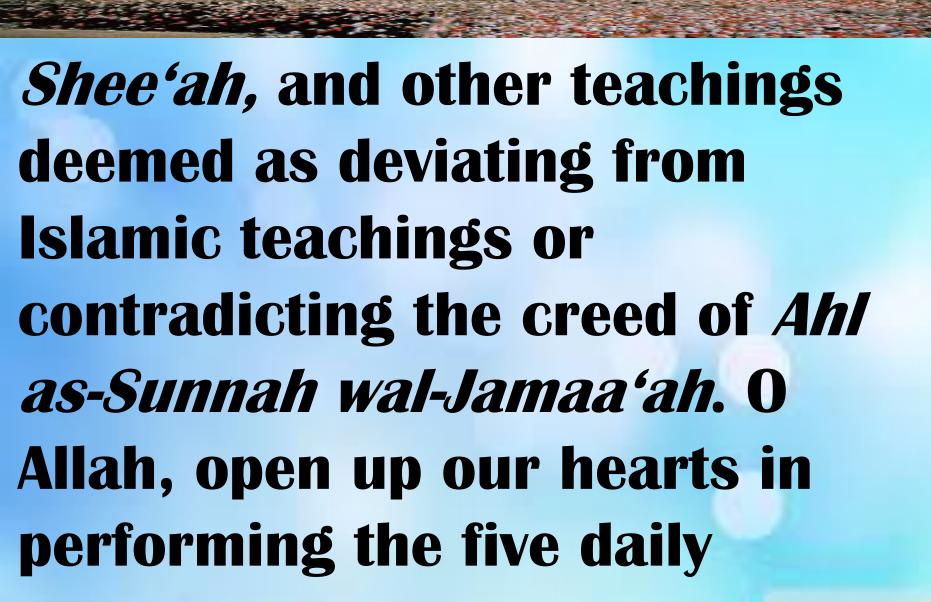


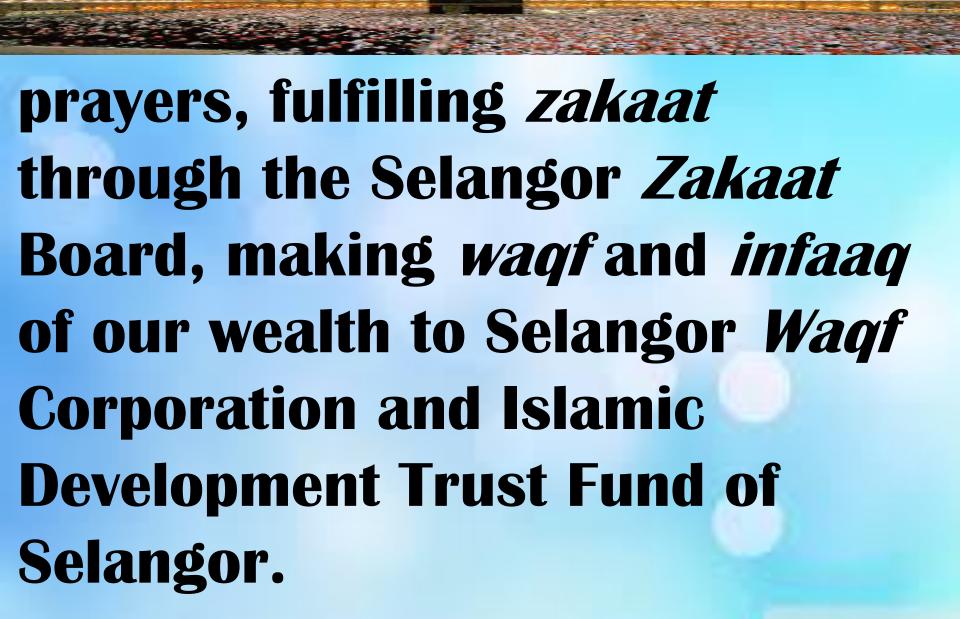


prosperous and providing welfare, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.











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