



## “MAINTAINING PIETY THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVE SEASON”

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: ﴿يَبْنِي ءَادَمَ خُذُوا زِينَتَكُمْ عِنْدَ كُلِّ مَسْجِدٍ وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ﴾<sup>1</sup>  
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

**Dear blessed Muslims,**

Let us altogether strive in strengthening our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by abiding all of His Decrees and Commandments, as well as avoiding all of His prohibitions and forbidden matters. With that, may we all attain the abundance of love and mercy from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Today, I would like to expound on a topic that is related to the human attitude and mentality regarding food management, through the title **“MAINTAINING PIETY THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVE SEASON.”**

**Dear blessed audience,**

Food and drink are among the important necessities and essentials in the human lives. The significance of food and drink can be seen when Imaam al-Ghazzaali mentioned in his book *Ihya' 'Uloom ad-Deen* the saying of *as-salaaf as-saalih* (the pious predecessors):

إِنَّ الْأَكْلَ مِنَ الدِّينِ

“Verily, eating is from the religion.”

This statement gives the meaning that food and drink should be made as means in attaining strength to uphold the religion through righteous deeds, seeking authentic knowledge, seeking *halaal* (lawful) sustenance, and beneficial activities. This understanding truly coincides with the words of Allah *Ta'aala* in verse 51 of Soorah al-Mu'minoon, which linked performing righteous deeds with eating.

<sup>1</sup> al-A'raaf 7:31.



كُلُوا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَأَعْمَلُوا صَالِحًا

**"[Allah said], "O messengers, eat from the good foods and work righteousness..."**

**Dear blessed audience,**

Now, after the passing of the 1<sup>st</sup> of Shawwaal, the Muslim *ummah* all over the nation will hold an open house and feasts in strengthening the *ukhuwwah* (brotherhood) amongst the locals. *Alhamdulillah*, it is from among the favors of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and also a sign that this country is still peaceful and prosperous. The feasts held through the open house, masjid's open day, 'Eid al-Fitr banquet at hotels, *suraus*, schools, and community halls are appearing all over just like 'rampant mushroom growth after the rainfall.' However, behind all the excitement of hosting a banquet, it must be managed wisely in order not to become a contributor to food wastage.

In this regard, Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* has reminded us in verse 31 of soorah al-A'raaf:

وَكُلُوا وَأَشْرَبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

**"...and eat and drink, but be not excessive. Indeed, He likes not those who commit excess."**

The characteristic of *al-israaf* or excessiveness actually means to do something beyond the reasonable limit. In the context of food and drink, it is deemed excessive when one takes a quantity of food that is beyond his physical needs or that one continues to eat even after he is already full. This can incur various negative effects upon the physical and mental condition, the economy, and environmental well-being. Moreover, one becomes prone to sickness, laziness, becoming less productive, causing food wastage, and even environmental pollution.

**Dear beloved Muslims,**

According to the study conducted by *Perbadanan Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal dan Pembersihan Awam* (Solid Waste Corporation) in 2017, it was reported that Malaysians waste no less than 3 million kilograms of food that are still edible, on a daily basis. And this amount would double in Ramadaan and Shawwaal with food being wasted in those two months reaching 9 million kilograms daily! This means that approximately 540 million kilograms of food that was unfinished or untouched within that two months period actually ends up at the dumpsite.

This report should lead to remorsefulness and the realization that food wastage in this country is at a very alarming level. Even worse, it is reported to have occurred even more severe in months that are deeply intertwined with the Muslim *ummah*, namely Ramadaan and Shawwaal. We must perform *muhaasabah* (self-evaluation) for these figures are actual indicators on how the Muslims in this nation have yet to successfully



translate the virtues of Ramadaan within the self as required by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Let us ponder again the Islamic objectives behind the legislation of the *'ibaadah* (worship) of fasting. Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 183 of soorah al-Baqarah:

يَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ  
لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

**"O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous."**

Based on this verse, the *'ibaadah* of fasting was actually decreed with the objective of increasing mankind's *taqwa*. This is because the training in restraining one's own self and desire from all matters that can nullify the fast will increase the quality of one's *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Ubayy ibn Ka'b *radiyAllaahu 'anh* was once asked by 'Umar bin al-Khattaab *radiyAllaahu 'anh* regarding the reality of *taqwa*. Ubayy then asked 'Umar, "Have you walked through a thorny path?" 'Umar replied, "Yes, indeed." Ubayy then asked him, "What did you do?" 'Umar replied, "I tucked up (my garment) and did my best (to avoid thorns)." Thereupon Ubayy said, "That is *taqwa*."

**Dear beloved audience,**

*Taqwa* (piety) is a process in developing a vigilant attitude when thinking, speaking, and performing something, hence opting for the *halaal* and avoiding the *haraam* (unlawful), and fulfilling the commands of Allah, as well as avoiding His prohibitions. This is what is required by Allah upon His servants when legislating the *'ibaadah* of fasting in Ramadaan, which we had recently endured.

Therefore, it behoove the Muslim *ummah* to perform *muhaasabah* and enhance its self-control by distinguishing between one's wants and needs when preparing, purchasing or consuming food. Having an indifferent attitude or the mentality that "it is better to have more food than inadequate" must be rethought for in reality, it becomes the cause for wastage and destruction.

While Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* has allowed us to eat and drink, He had also reminded us not to cause destruction. Allah mentions in verse 60 of soorah al-Baqarah:

كُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا مِن رِّزْقِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تَعْتُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ مُفْسِدِينَ

**"...Eat and drink from the provision of Allah, and do not commit abuse on the earth, spreading corruption."**



Hence, the Muslim *ummah* must continue to develop its awareness and change the habit of excessive eating to eating moderately. It is only befitting that Ramadaan that had just left us serve as inspiration in strengthening ourselves in training the desire and restraining oneself, so that we become individuals having *taqwa* throughout the year.

### Blessed Muslims,

To end this *khutbah*, there are several conclusions and lessons that can be contemplated upon:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that wastefulness is prohibited by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and it is *waajib* (obligatory) to be avoided.
2. The Muslim *ummah* must consume food as *waseelah* (means) in nourishing the self so as to perform good deeds, not as the cause for illness and laziness.
3. The Muslim *ummah* must remain penitent while enjoying the food consumed. This is because there are still Muslim brethren out there that are starving and in great need of food.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ  
وَأَمَّا مَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ وَنَهَى النَّفْسَ عَنِ الْهَوَىٰ ۗ فَإِنَّ الْجَنَّةَ هِيَ الْمَأْوَىٰ ﴿٤١﴾

**"But as for he who feared the position of his Lord and prevented the soul from [unlawful] inclination, Then indeed, Paradise will be [his] refuge."**

(an-Naazi'aat 79:40-41)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ  
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.  
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،  
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

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## THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

وَقَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى : إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.

**"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)

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنْ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَابَتِهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.  
اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ مُجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزِّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَهْلِكَ الْكُفْرَةَ وَالْمُبْتَدِعَةَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَكَ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ. وَأَنْصِرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعْظَمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطُونَ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ ادریس شاه الحاج ابن المرحوم سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عبد العزيز شاه الحاج. اللَّهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعُونَ وَالْهَدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُونَ، تَعَكَوْ أَمِيرِ شَاه



إِبْنِ السُّلْطَانِ شَرْفِ الدِّينِ ادریس شاه الحاج، فِي أَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنِّكَ  
وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحِيْنَ لِلْمُوْظَفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ  
وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ مَقاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيْقِ الْهُدٰى وَالرَّشَادِ.

O Allah, You are the Lord that is All Mighty, we are grateful to You for having bestowed *rahmah* and *barakah* upon this state, which continues to remain advanced and prosperous, with its residents united 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*, and protect us from teachings that are outside the fold of Islam such as *Qadiyaani* and deviant teachings such as *Shee'ah*. O Allah, *Ya Rahmaan, Ya Raheem*, unite our hearts, bestow upon us *rizq* with blessings, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, protect us from calamities. O Allah, bestow upon us guidance in performing the five daily prayers in congregation, fulfilling *zakaat* through *Lembaga Zakat Selangor* (Selangor *Zakaat* Board), making *waqf* and *infaaq* of our wealth to *Perbadanan Wakaf Negeri Selangor* (Selangor *Waqf* Corporation) and *Tabung Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor* (Islamic Development Trust Fund of Selangor).

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا. رَبَّنَا آتِنَا  
فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.  
عِبَادَ اللهِ، إِنَّ اللهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ  
وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٥١﴾  
فَاذْكُرُوا اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَىٰ نِعْمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ  
يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.

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