

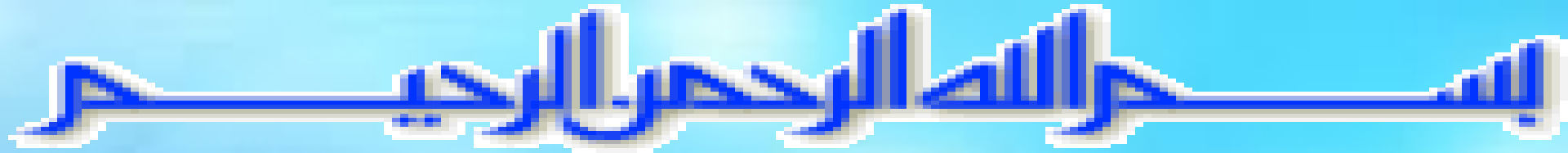


جهاز ائمة اسلام سلانور
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

...



***MAINTAINING PIETY
THROUGHOUT THE
FESTIVE SEASON***



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**

Today, I would like to invite fellow audience to ponder upon a *khutbah* titled



***MAINTAINING PIETY
THROUGHOUT THE
FESTIVE SEASON***

[#bahagianpengurusanmasjid](#)

Khutbah Multimedia

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):

“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.

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

Now, after the passing of the 1st of Shawwaaal, 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:

***“...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.

**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:

“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*.”

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:**

“...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.

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.

***“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)



**THE SECOND
KHUTBAH**



“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 *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).



جَابَاتَانِ اِغَامَا اِيسْلَامِ سِلَانْغُورِ

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