



THE OBLIGATION OF PURSUING LAWFUL PROFESSION

حرالنه الرحص الرحي Today I implore upon fellow audience, let us strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by diligently performing

all of His Commands and earnestly avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all be spared from the wrath and punishment of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

Let us internalize upon today's *khutbah* titled :



THE OBLIGATION OF PURSUING LAWFUL PROFESSION

Islam truly encourages its adherents to work and strive in earning livelihood in fulfilling the needs and responsibilities of this worldly life.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse
105 of soorah at-Tawbah:

"And say, "Do [as you will], for Allah will see your deeds, and [so, will] His Messenger and

the believers. And you will be returned to the Knower of the unseen and the witnessed, and He will inform you of what you used to do. """

Striving in seeking sustenance (rizq) is an act that is liked by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. It is as mentioned in the hadeeth of 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar radiyAllaahu 'anhuma where

Rasulullah عليه وسلم said:

"Verily, Allah loves that when anyone of you does a job he should perfect it." (at-Tabraani) Whatever occupation pursued by mankind on this earth will surely not escape the judgment of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. Mankind will be questioned rigorously regarding all of the work

that they had done in this world. This is explained in the hadeeth of ibn Mas'ood radiyAllaahu 'anh where Rasulullah صلى الله Said:

"The feet of the son of Adam shall not move from before his Lord on the Day of Judgment, until he is asked about five things: about his life and what he did with it,

about his youth and what he wore it out in, about his wealth and how he earned it and spent it upon, and what he did with what he knew?"

(at-Tirmidhi)

The Sharee 'ah has categorized the types of occupation into two, namely halaal (lawful) and haraam (unlawful). According to Prof. Dr. Yoosuf al-Qaradawi, lawful matters are those

that are allowed and permitted by the Shara'to be pursued. On the other hand, unlawful matters are those that are prohibited by the Shara' for it will be recompensed with torment in the

Hereafter, and at times even during this worldly life.

A profession, whether halaal or haraam, for as long as it is performed with diligence, it will

surely yield handsome result. Moreover, it is undeniable that with today's unstable economic situation, mankind is willing to do whatever it takes to earn money and wealth.

However, as believers, it is waajib (obligatory) for us to constantly remain cognizant regarding rewards and sins, as well as the negative effect of being reckless in pursuing a job. Let us not only think about worldly gain, while in reality the profit garnered will not bring any barakah (blessings), but instead it will bring about disaster in the Hereafter.

In the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah عليه وسلم said:

"A time will come when one will not care how one gains one's money, legally or illegally." (al-Bukhaari)

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala will not spare His servants from the punishment in the Hereafter if the wealth they possess while in this world were attained from unlawful sources.

Therefore, as believers we are forbidden from getting involved in work that involves alcohol, ribaa'(usury), prostitution, and its like, which all contradicts

the Sharee ah. These types of job, even as lucrative as it may be, will not earn the blessings of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. Narrated Anas bin Maalik radiyAllaahu 'anh:

"The Messenger of Allah صلى الله) cursed ten involved in wine: The one who presses it, the one who has it pressed, its drinker, its carrier, and the one it is carried to,

its server, its seller, the consumption of its price, the one who purchases it and the one it was purchased for."

(at-Tirmidhi)

Take heed, for the food and drink consumed originating from unlawful sources will only inflict grave harm upon its doer in the Hereafter. In the

hadeeth of Jaabir bin 'Abdullah radiyAllaahu 'anhuma, Rasulullah صلى الله said:

"That flesh will not enter Paradise which

has grown from haraam, and all that flesh which has grown from haraam, the fire (of hell) is more worthy of it."

(al-Haakim)

This clearly indicates that attaining sustenance from sources that are unclear of its lawfulness and consuming unlawful sustenance yields detrimental effect upon the body,

'ibaadah (worship), and du'aa (supplication) made. Moreover, it will cause one to be severely punished in the Hereafter due to heedlessness in his source of earnings.

Today, we find some Muslims that are coerced to work in premises that are somewhat involved in the management or providing services that are haraam. For example, being employed in

building maintenance is lawful, but among the goods that fall within one's supervision are liquor and intoxicants. Similarly with the profession of a cook, which is noble and halaal,

but resorting to cooking techniques that disregard cleanliness and utilizing ingredients having toxic substances that only harm its consumers. These acts would render one's source of income

as being unlawful for being deceitful and not being trustworthy (amaanah). Hence, are we not fearful of the horrifying wrath and punishment of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala?

Verily, a good and lawful profession will earn good rewards from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. This is none other than to propel the Muslim ummah in selecting work that is halaal and pleasing to

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. Among those rewards are:

1. We will attain a life that is good and blessed by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, as He mentions

in verse 97 of soorah an-Nahl, which was also recited earlier:

"Whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer - We will

surely cause him to live a good life, and We will surely give them their reward [in the Hereafter] according to the best of what they used to do."

2. We will also be granted with noble stature in the Sight of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala when we meet Him in the Hereafter, as Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 75 of

soorah Ta-Ha:

"But whoever comes to Him as a believer having done righteous deeds for those will be the highest degrees [in position]."

3. The tremendous reward prepared by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala for His slaves that performs righteous deeds is to enter Paradise and uncountable provision. This is as mentioned by

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in verse 40 of soorah Ghaafir:

"Whoever does an evil deed will not be recompensed except by the like thereof; but

whoever does righteousness, whether male or female, while he is a believer - those will enter Paradise, being given provision therein without account."

Thus, some of the rewards prepared by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala for the Muslims when they pursue work that is good and avoid ones that are prohibited by the *Sharee 'ah* in this world.

Lessons from the khutbah today that can be derived as our guidelines are as follows:

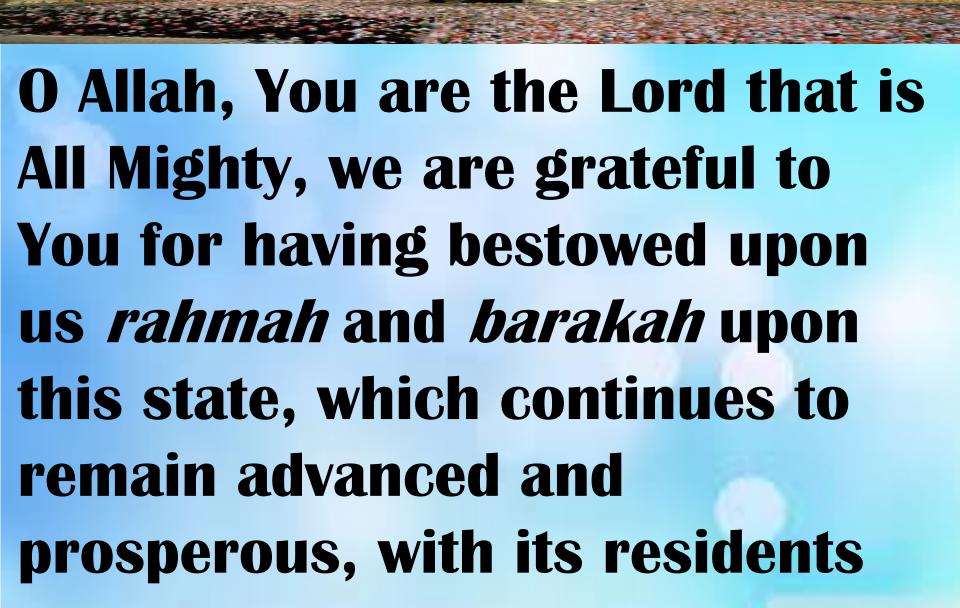
1. It is waajib upon the Muslim ummah to have certainty that opting for profession that is halaal is a duty commanded by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

2. It is waajib upon the Muslim ummah to strive in abandoning all unlawful work and sources of income. 3. It is waajib upon the Muslim ummah to seek rizq through halaal means and have the intention as 'ibaadah unto Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

"O mankind, eat from whatever is on earth [that is] lawful and good and do not follow the footsteps of Satan. Indeed, he is to you a clear enemy." (al-Bagarah 2:168)

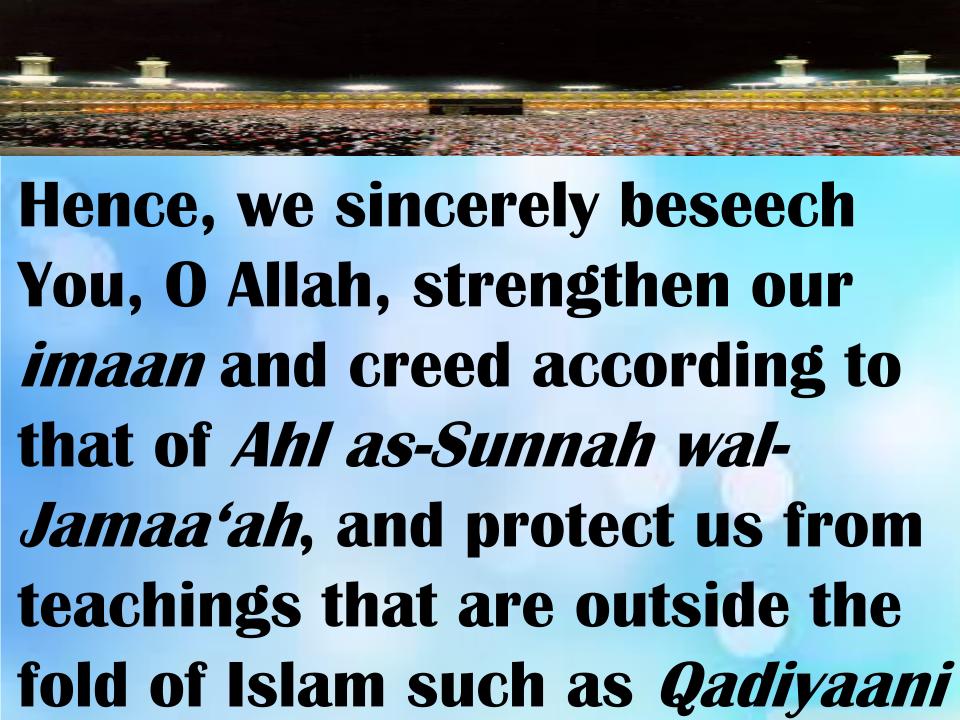
THE SECOND KHUTBAH

"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)

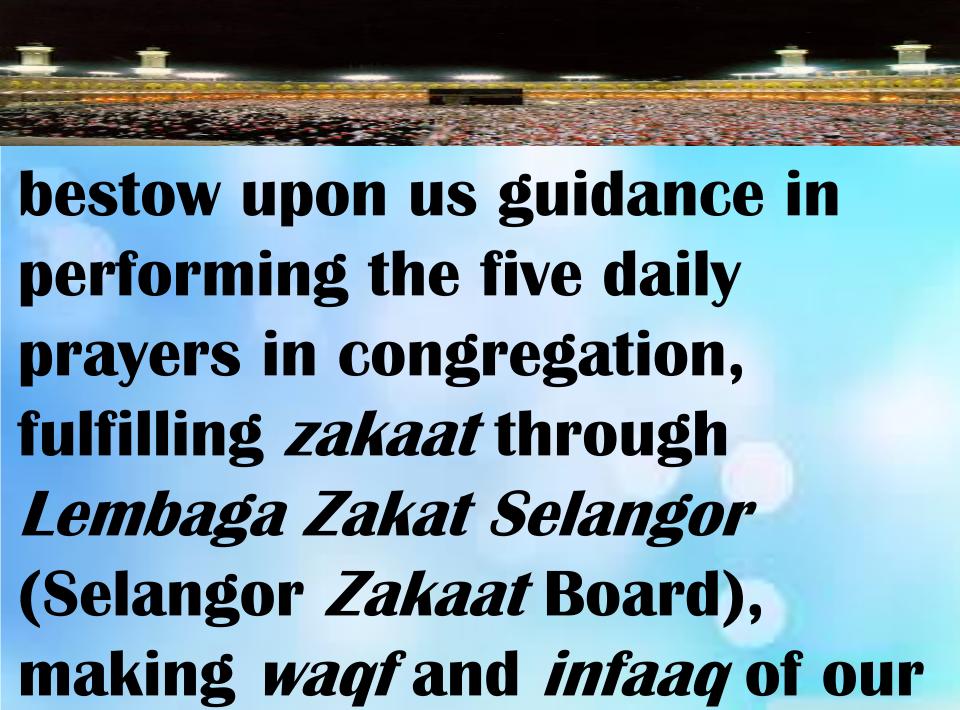




united under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.



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,







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