





Let us altogether strive to increase our imaan (faith) and taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by diligently performing all of

His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all be placed among His slaves that attain success in this world and the Hereafter.

The khutbah that is to be delivered today is titled



Masjid and surau are sacred and holy places in the religion of Islam. It is a place for us to perform 'ibaadah (worship), praying the fard (obligatory) prayers in congregation, and

also other supererogatory (sunnah) 'ibaadah such as naafilah prayers, reciting al-Qur'an, making dhikr, and attending Islamic talks and lessons. Moreover, the actual

role of the masjid is much broader as the community center, and for the unity and development of the ummah itself.

Most of the masaajid and suraus in the state of Selangor were built with aesthetic beauty, conducive surrounding, and some are even equipped with the latest technology. Similarly,

the attendees are presented with a variety of lectures and courses to enhance their religious knowledge.

However, the question begs, how many of us are actually willing to go to the masjid, as compared to our willingness to travel and embark on a long journey for vacation? How many are willing to

climb up the masjid's stairs, as compared to the number of those that would hike up the hills and tall mountains?

Indeed, the longest, arduous, and greatest

journey for the Muslim male is the trip to the masjid. This is because our distance to the masjid is not measured by the number of footsteps but measured by the heart. However far the masjid

or surau is, it will be reachable if the heart is attached to it. However, if the heart is further away from the masjid, however close the distance is, one feels heavy and difficult to take the step and

climb up its stairs, even though we have been commanded to enliven the houses of Allah as the manifestation of our imaan. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in surah at-Tawbah,

as recited earlier in the khutbah, which means:

"The mosques of Allah are only to be maintained by those who believe in Allah and

the Last Day and establish prayer and give zakaah and do not fear except Allah, for it is expected that those will be of the [rightly] guided."

Going to the masjid to perform the 'ibaadah of fard prayer in congregation at its earliest time is a responsibility upon a Muslim.

This has been explained in many narrations of the Prophet that commanded performing the fard prayer in jamaa 'ah (congregation) at the masjid. Moreover, those whose hearts are

always attached to the masjid will be bestowed with the protection of the 'Arsh (Throne) of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in the Hereafter. In one hadeeth narrated by Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah said:

"A man whose heart is attached to the masjid." (al-Bukhaari)

In another *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, he said:

"He who purified himself in his house, and then he walked to

one of the houses of Allah for the sake of performing a fard (obligatory act) out of the faraa'id (obligatory acts) of Allah, both his steps

(would be significant) as one of them would obliterate his sin and the second one would raise his status."

(Muslim)

Verily there are many virtues in performing 'ibaadah in the masjid and surau as compared to performing them at home. Our hearts will feel more tranquil while at the masjid, and our souls will

feel more focused to indulge in 'ibaadah. At the masjid, we feel more motivated to perform the sunnah 'ibaadah as compared to at home. For example, performing the qabliyah and ba'diyah

sunnah prayers, reciting al-Qur'an, and making dhikr in exalting Allah The Almighty. Not to mention that we can perform the 'ibaadah of i'tikaf, which is an 'ibaadah that can only be done inside

the masjid.

How significant it is to perform the fard prayer in jamaa 'ah in the masjid that Rasulullah gave stern warning to those that did not fulfill this

responsibility as it was mentioned in the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, where the Prophet said:

"No doubt, I intended to order somebody to pronounce the igaamah of the (compulsory congregational)

prayer and then I would go to the houses of those who do not attend the prayer and burn their houses over them."

(al-Bukhaari)

Therefore, let us altogether instill great determination and effort to strive in bringing ourselves to the masjid, climbing up those stairs so that we will altogether enjoy the calmness and

virtues while at the masjid.

Let us begin with one fard prayer, praying in jamaa 'ah at the masjid. Then it is added with two fard prayers, three, so on

and ultimately five times a day. Let us strive to perform salaah behind the imaam, before we will be prayed upon in front of the imaam. Let us not wait till our old days for us to climb up those

masjid stairs for no one can guarantee that we will surely reach old age with good health and energy.

To end the khutbah today, let us altogether internalize upon several suggestions from this khutbah as lessons and guidance in this life. Among them:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that all of the commands from Allah and the religion must be performed with diligence and sincerity.

2. It is waajib (obligatory) for the Muslim ummah to have certainty that praying in jamaa 'ah at the masjid is among the commandment from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

3. The Muslim ummah must hasten and race in earning the rewards and extinguishing the sins by attending the masjid for congregational prayer.

"And hasten to forgiveness from your Lord and a garden as wide as the heavens and earth, prepared for the righteous."

(Aal-'Imraan 3:133)

## 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 Ahmadiyyah or Qadiyaani and teachings declared as astray such as Shee'ah and Islam Jamaa'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).

