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"ZAKAAT IS AN OBLIGATION"

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"ZAKAAT IS AN OBLIGATION"

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِل : إِنَّمَا وَلِيُّكُمُ ٱللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ وَٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱلَّذِينَ يُقِيمُونَ ٱلصَّلَوٰةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ ٱلزَّكُوٰةَ وَهُمۡ رَكِعُونَ ⁽¹⁾ أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى ءَالِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِيْنَ. اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَيَآ أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اِتَّقُواْ اللَّهَ! أُوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَقُونَ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يْأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَّقُواْ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يْنَايَّهُمَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَقُواْ ٱللَّهُ تَعَالَى:

Dear blessed Muslims,

Let us altogether strive to increase our *taqwa* of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we attain the pleasure of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in this world and the Hereafter.

Today I will be discussing upon a *khutbah* titled "ZAKAAT IS AN OBLIGATION."

Dear beloved audience,

In 2020, Covid-19 has become the most difficult tribulation for all of us. According to various researches, hundreds of thousands of people have lost their jobs, while thousands of businesses have been greatly affected,

¹ al-Maa'idah 5:55.

² Aal-'Imraan 3:102.



causing tremendous increase in unexpected poverty. The Selangor Zakaat Board (*Lembaga Zakat Selangor* or LZS) is forecasting a 20% increase in poverty this year. All of these necessitate that we ask ourselves, what are the roles that we should mutually undertake? The government had strived their level best to minimize the effect of this pandemic, and similarly with the role of LZS and other welfare institutions, always striving to ensure the devastating impact does not cause the Muslims to plunge into severe damaging quagmire. Hence, what about our very roles? Dearest congregation, in the year 18 *Hijri*, while plagued with the year of drought (الرُّمَادَة عَامٌ) in Madeenah, 'Umar al-Khattaab *radiyAllaahu 'anh* had asked the governors in various provinces, such as Yemen and Syria, to collectively lighten the burden of the people of Madeenah. This shows that Islam obligates us to practice the mutual aiding of one another, what more when there are those amongst us that are genuinely in dire need.

In the *hadeeth* of 'Abdullah bin 'Umar *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma*, Rasulullah مليوسلام had said:

الْمُسْلِمُ أَخُو الْمُسْلِمِ لا يَظْلِمُهُ وَلا يُسْلِمُهُ وَمَنْ كَانَ فِي حَاجَةِ أَخِيهِ كَانَ اللَّهُ فِي حَاجَتِهِ وَمَنْ فَرَّجَ عَنْ مُسْلِمٍ كُرْبَةً فَرَّجَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ كُرْبَةً مِنْ كُرُبَاتِ يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ وَمَنْ سَتَرَ مُسْلِمًا سَتَرَهُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

"A Muslim is the brother of a fellow Muslim. He should neither commit oppression upon him nor ruin him, and he who meets the need of a brother, Allah would meet his needs, and he who relieved a Muslim from hardship Allah would relieve him from the hardships to which he would be put on the Day of Resurrection, and he who did not expose

(the follies of a Muslim) Allah would conceal his follies on the Day of Resurrection."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

This is what we must do with full cognizance, which is extending our hands in reducing the burden of others. In Islam, *zakaat* is the most appropriate channel in fulfilling the need of fellow Muslims. This is because *zakaat* ensures that only those that are genuinely afflicted by calamities will be aided. In this regard, LZS resorts to proactive measures in identifying the poor, so as to aid them immediately.

Dear blessed Muslims,

Since the pandemic began, LZS has channeled *zakaat* aid amounting over RM232 million to affected Muslims, specifically to more than 60,000 families in Selangor, whom are from among the poor, needy, and *mu'allaf* (Muslim reverts). In reality, this is a very big commitment and prolonged in nature. However, coinciding with the duration of the pandemic that is neverending, LZS acknowledges that the need for *zakaat* assistance has risen; while the available zakaat funds are totally limited. It is worried that it will come to a point where the *zakaat* funds will no longer be able to meet these needs. At the same time, this pandemic phenomenon has greatly affected various sectors of the economy. Selangor, as the most advanced state, has been directly affected in a very severe manner. Thousands of employees were laid off, and many businesses have collapsed. In effect, zakaat collection is simultaneously impacted, and the most worrying thing is that these affected individuals can have their statuses immediately changed to become among the masaakeen (needy). Just imagine, at a time when the zakaat collection is at the risk of plunging, yet the amount of poverty increases. Definitely this scenario is very worring to all of us.

Therefore, let us come together to mutually aid in dealing with this phenomenon. Let us fulfill our *zakaat* with the Selangor *Zakaat* Board and have certainty that every single cent of *zakaat* given will serve as witness on the Day of Judgment. In the *hadeeth* of Abu Maalik *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah مليوسله said:

وَالصَّلاَةُ نُورٌ وَالصَّدَقَةُ بُرْهَانٌ وَالصَّبْرُ ضِيَاءٌ وَالْقُرْآنُ حُجَّة لَكَ

"And the salaah (prayer) is a light, and charity is a proof, and patience is illumination, and the Qur'an is a proof either for you or against you."

(Muslim)

Respected audience,

Indeed, in a predicament that greatly tests one's faith, let us plant deep within our hearts that the *zakaat* fulfilled is a seed of goodness that yields tremendous reward, as firmly stated by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in verse 277 of soorah al-Baqarah:

إِنَّ ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ وَعَمِلُواْ ٱلصَّلِحَنِ وَأَقَامُواْ ٱلصَّلَوْةَ وَءَاتَوُاْ ٱلزَّكَوْةَ لَهُمْ أَجْرُهُمْ عِندَ رَبِّهِمْ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ ٢

"Indeed, those who believe and do righteous deeds and establish prayer and give zakaah will have their reward with their Lord, and there will be no fear concerning them, nor will they grieve."

In this verse, Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala had stated that those who have fulfilled their zakaat obligation will be guaranteed by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in three matters, namely attaining rewards from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala, having no fear concerning their worldly life, and



also having no grief over it. May our *zakaat* serve as the reason for the assistance of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* to be bestowed upon us, increasing our *rizq* (sustenance), sparing us from calamities, and facilitation in all of our affairs in this world and the Hereafter. The Selangor *Zakaat* Board is always ready to shoulder the *amaanah* (trust) upon your *zakaat*. Let us establish our *zakaat* through online payment for it is more secure and convenient.

Beloved audience,

According to the data furnished by LZS, up until 2019, the total number of Muslims having fulfilled *zakaat* through LZS is still low. From a total population of 3.9 million Muslims in Selangor, only 311,000 have actually fulfilled their *zakaat*. If we are to take a modest figure, say approximately 1.6 million Muslims in Selangor that are qualified and eligible in giving *zakaat*, it remains that the 311,000 figure is still very modest.

Even so, we are truly grateful to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, for Selangor still recorded the highest collection in Malaysia, with RM855 million collected. Moreover, Selangor is also the state with the highest *zakaat* distribution, which is comprised of almost 60,000 families of the poor, needy, and *mu'allaf*, as well as hundreds of thousands of other *asnaf* (eligible zakaat recipients). In fact, as a whole, all eight categories of *asnaf* were disbursed with an amount of RM868.2 million in Selangor. This is this the proof of LZS' commitment in ensuring that *zakaat* is collected and distributed effectively.

Dear noble audience,

The conclusions that we can derive from the *khutbah* this time are:

1. It is *waajib* (obligatory) for the Muslim *ummah* to have certainty that every obligations and commands from Allah that are fulfilled in this world will be rewarded by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in the Hereafter.

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2. It is *waajib* for the Muslim *ummah* to fulfil its *zakaat* obligation when all of its requirements are met.

3. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that the fulfilment of *zakaat* will result in the aid from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* to be granted in their lives.

4. The Muslim *ummah* in the state of Selangor must fulfill its *zakaat* obligation through the Selangor *Zakaat* Board for they have been clearly proven as committed in distributing *zakaat* collection to qualified *asnafs*.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ ٱلَّذِينَ يُنفِقُونَ أَمُوَلَهُم بِٱلَّيْلِ وَٱلنَّهَارِ سِرَّا وَعَلَانِيَةَ فَلَهُمُ أَجُرُهُمُ عِندَ رَبِّهِمْ وَلَا خَوْفٌ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلَا هُمْ يَحْزَنُونَ ٢

"Those who spend their wealth [in Allah's way] by night and by day, secretly and publicly - they will have their reward with their Lord. And no fear will there be concerning them, nor will they grieve."

(al-Baqarah 2:274)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ، وَنَفَعَنِيْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّيْ وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَآئِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ.



THE SECOND KHUTBAH ٱلْحَمْدُلِلَّهِ الَّذِيْ جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلاَّ اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيْكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللهِ، اِتَّقُواْ اللَّهَ، أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَقُوْنَ.

Respected audience,

Let us unite upon the basis of authentic Islamic *'aqeedah* that is certain and solidified. Let us unite upon any situations, firmly united facing any circumstances and enemy's threat, whether hidden or apparent. The unity of the Muslim *ummah* is the foundational strength towards the nurturing of *Khayra Ummah* (the best nation). Muslims are entitled to have differing views, what more in worldly matters, but the Muslim *ummah* must continue to unite in *fikrah* (thoughts) and understanding according to the guidelines of the *kalimah* (phrase) لا إله إلا الله عنه عنه المالي , affirmative principles within al-Qur'an and *al-Hadeeth*, as well as sound Islamic brotherhood principles.

In our effort to break the chain of Covid-19, it necessitates every Masjid attendee to remain disciplined and that it is *waajib* (obligatory) to abide by the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) that has been outlined by JAIS (Selangor Islamic Religious Department), specifically in performing the



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wudoo' (ablution) at home, bringing one's own prayer mat, wearing the face mask while at the Masjid and *Surau*, and practicing social distancing. Those that are unhealthy or unwell are prohibited from performing *salaah* in the Masjid and *Surau*.

ٱللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيْعٌ قَرِيْبٌ مُجِيْبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. آللَّهُمَّ إنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الأَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَآئِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بِعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وِقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلاَلَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعَظَّم، سُلْطَان سلاغُور، سُلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس شاه الحاج، ابن المرحوم سُلْطَان صَلاَحُ الدِّين عبد العزيز شاه الحاج. أَللَّهُمَّ أَدِم الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلامَةَ مِنْكَ، لِوَلِىّ عَهْدِ سلاغُور، تعْكو أُمِير شَاه، اِبْن السُّلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس شاه الحاج، فِي أَمْنِ وَصَلاَح وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنِّكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَاالْجَلالِ وَالإِكْرَامِ. ٱللَّهُمَّ أَطِلْ لِلْمُوَظِّفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلاَدِ، عُمْرَهُمَا، مُصْلِحَيْن مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.

O Allah, You are the Lord that is All Mighty, we are grateful to You for having bestowed upon us *rahmah* and blessings upon this state that



continues to prosper and progress, and that its residents remain united, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.

O Allah, protect us from calamities and pandemic such as Covid-19.

ٱللَّهُمَّ يَا دَافِعَ الْبَلَاءِ، اِدْفَعْ عَنَّا هَذَا الْوَبَاءَ وَالْبَلَاءِ وَالْمَرَضَ وَالشَّدَائِدَ وَالْمِحَنَ، بِلُطْفِكَ يَا لَطِيْفُ إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَىْءٍ قَدِيْرٌ وَبِالْإِجَابَةِ جَدِيْرٌ. اِبَنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزُوَرِجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنِ وَٱجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا. رَبَّنَا ءاتِنا فِي ٱلدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةَ وَفِي ٱلْأَخِرَةِ حَسَنَةَ وَقِنَا عَذَابَ التَّارِ ٢ وَيَنْهَى عَنِ ٱلْفَحْشَاءِ وَٱلْمُنكَرِ وَٱلْبِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَايٍ ذِى ٱلْقُرْبَى تَذَكَرُونَ ٢

فَاذْكُرُواْ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوْهُ عَلَى نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوْهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.