

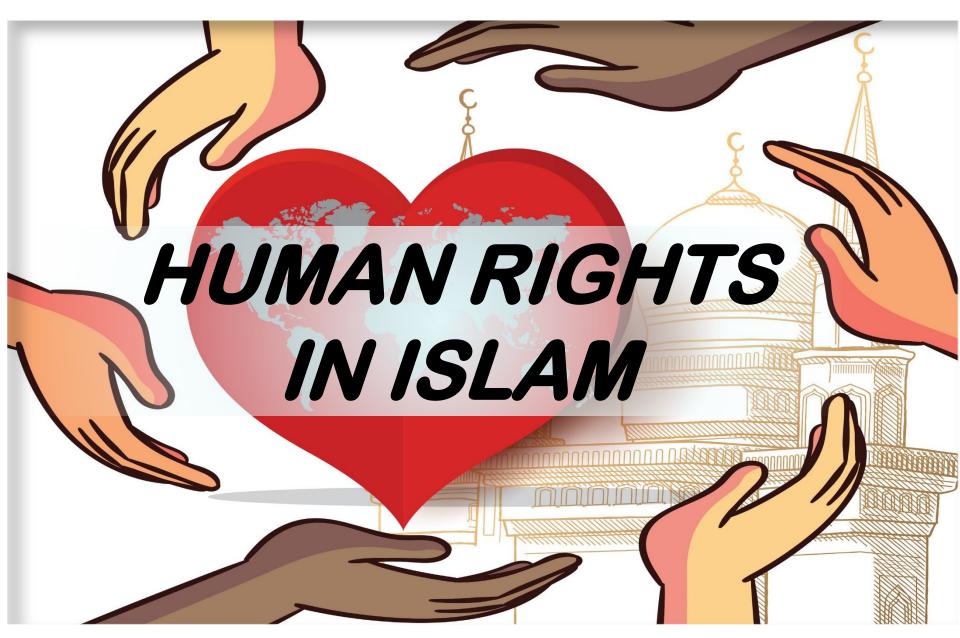
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I solemnly remind myself and fellow beloved congregation that let us altogether strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala

by obeying all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all become among the best slaves of Allah, attaining success in this world and the Hereafter.

The *khutbah* today is titled



The topic of human rights is still hotly debated in this country. Many quarters have expounded on this topic in various medium including on the television and the newspaper, and even in

the social media. There are those within the society that had turned this very topic into a polemic that can result in clashes within the nation. The struggle for human rights and freedom have

became a hot issue due to the misunderstanding in the very concept of human rights in Islam.

We often hear slogans for the struggle for freedom

exclaimed all over the world including in our country. What more when it is spearheaded by organizations that are often confused with their own religious and self identity. According to

history, the human rights struggle movement is a movement established upon liberalism and humanism ideologies.

While in Islam, human rights have long existed before this so-called movement, however it never became an issue within the society. Human rights that were being upheld in Islam is based

upon the values and guidance of al-Qur'an. According to Islam, human rights and freedom is a manifestation of mankind's liberation from various forms of bond

and devotion to other than Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. Allah has created the human beings and placed them on a lofty position compared to other creations, based on the

principle of human dignity (*al-karaamah al-insaaniyyah*).

This coincides with what Allah *Ta'aala* explained in al-Qur'an in verse 70 of

soorah al-Israa' that was recited in the early part of the *khutbah*, what means:

"And We have certainly honored the children of

Adam and carried them on the land and sea and provided for them of the good things and preferred them over much of what We have created, with [definite] preference."

Rasulullah was sent to liberate mankind from slavery to servitude unto Allah that had created them. This very concept of freedom expounded in al-Qur'an nonetheless uplifts the value of true

humanity. This is different than the measure of human rights from the West, where everything is based upon humanity values and not upon religious measures. We still remember the

dialogue that took place between Rabi' bin 'Amir at-Tameemi and the Persian King Rustum, where Rabi' was sent by Sa'd bin Abi Waqqaas as an emissary to Persia. Rustum had asked:

"What brought you here?" Rabi' answered aloud: "Allah has sent us to bring mankind out of worship of mankind to the worship of Allah alone."

According to Dr Wahbah az-Zuhaili, al-karaamah al-insaaniyyah or the principle of honoring the human prestige and dignity is the source of human rights. When there is appreciation for

al-karaamah alinsaaniyyah, it means that there is manifestation of humanity that distinguishes it from the animals. What is the use if the dignified traits and attitude of

human beings are not preserved and even violated, purely for the sake of human rights. What is the point if this worldly life is not based on the teachings of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah,

which in the end inflicts harm in our lives in this world and the Hereafter. When life is separated from religion, then be prepared for destruction. Rasulullah had reminded us to always

refer to Islamic teachings as guidance. This is as mentioned in the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh whom said: I heard that Rasulullah said:

"What I have forbidden for you, avoid. What I have ordered you [to do], do as much of it as you can. For verily, it was only the excessive questioning and their

disagreeing with their Prophets that destroyed [the nations] who were before you."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Therefore, Allah Ta'aala elevates the rank of human beings as noble creations and granted the duty of devoting themselves fully unto Allah and assuming the role of vicegerents on

earth. Islam heavily emphasize on the matter of duties and responsibilities as opposed to the matter of rights. Islam views mankind from the aspect of its fitrah (natural

disposition) in performing 'ibaadah (worship) and doing good, while Western thoughts incline to focus on individual rights and interests. The purpose of life for full servitude is very clear

as Allah mentions in verse 56 of soorah adh-Dhaariyaat:

"And I did not create the jinn and mankind except to worship Me."

Nowadays, our challenge is to confront thoughts that are increasingly alarming. Ideologies and freedom within the scope of human rights are increasingly challenging. Islam does not at all

reject the rights and responsibilities pertaining to human rights, but never should it lead to harms in life. The context of freedom espoused by certain quarters can never be

accepted at all, if it contradicts the Magaasid ash-Sharee'ah (The Higher Objectives Of The Islamic Law). What is the benefit of having the freedom to commit fornication (zinaa),

the freedom to indulge in acts of disobedience under the pretext of human rights that clearly contradicts the religion.

Similarly, with those that utilize their intellect purely to satiate their lustful desire, such as the movement for religious freedom, open campaign in recognizing apostasy (murtad) by the Muslims

as 'a right of freedom', in addition to allowing Islamic teachings to be interpreted at will by those whom are not scholarly trained, purely under the name of human rights. It would be very

unfortunate if these thoughts actually become the core mindset within the society. It is high time for us altogether to curb such thinking for the greater benefit (maslahah) of the ummah.

The struggle for human rights must be thoroughly understood and it must never lead to problems. The Muslims in this nation should not be instilled with elements and doctrines that are

perverted, which in the end causes prolonged problems. Relevant institutions within this country such as the **Human Rights** Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) should

take greater initiatives in explaining accurately to the masses with regard to this matter, as well as to Islamic institutions such as relevant Islamic agencies. If this understanding can be

inculcated within the society, then the awareness and comprehension regarding human rights will cause the society to be wellinformed and not causing continuous conflicts.

This shows that Islam has brought the truth and that it is compatible with all aspects of life.

To end the khutbah this time, let us altogether take beneficial lessons and important teachings as guidance it this life. Among them:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that Islam has placed the highest human rights that is based upon tawheed (Oneness of Allah) and full certainty in Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

2. The Muslim ummah must remain penitent that freedom is not absolute and it is bounded by the decree of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

3. The Muslim ummah must internalize upon the concept of freedom and human rights according to the Islamic perspectives, and not deviate from the actual humanitarian values.

"And do not be like the ones who became divided and differed after the clear proofs had come to them. And those will have a great punishment."

(Aal-'Imraan 3:105)

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

Let us unite upon the basis of authentic Islamic 'ageedah 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)

שׁ אוֹץ אוֹץ אוֹץ, 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 necessitate every masjid attendees 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

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.

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.

