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"HOLD FIRM TO THE SCHOLARS"

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"HOLD FIRM TO THE SCHOLARS"

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِل: إِنَّمَا يَخْشَى اللَّهَ مِنْ عِبَادِهِ الْعُلَمُّؤُّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى ءَالِهِ وَأَصْحَابِه أَجْمَعِيْنَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَآ أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اِتَّقُواْ اللَّهَ! أُوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى:

يَّأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَّقُواْ ٱللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُم مُّسُلمُونَ.2

Dear blessed Muslims,

Let us altogether strive to increase our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. With firm *imaan* (faith), may we attain the pleasure of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, hence becoming His successful slaves in this world and the Hereafter.

On this noble day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah* titled "HOLD FIRM TO THE SCHOLARS."

Respected audience,

The Islamic teachings brought by Rasulullah is based upon divine revelation from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. After Rasulullah's death, the noble work of da'wah (calling to Islam) was continued by the Companions, the taabi'een (successors of the Companions), the taabi' at-taabi'een

¹ Faatir 35:28.

² Aal-'Imraan 3:102.



(successors of the *taabi'een*), and then the scholars after them. They explored the entire world to ensure that the *ni'mah* (bounty) of *imaan* and Islam are enjoyed by all mankind.

However, now the general public including a handful of Muslims are brazen in disputing the role of the 'ulamaa' (scholars). Moreover, they even stooped low to insult and belittle the dignity of the scholars. They even rejected the scholarly interpretation by erudite classical scholars. For them, it is sufficient with the intellect ('aql) alone, and that it is an individual's right to interpret al-Qur'an himself.

Not stopping there, they stated that the role of scholars does not exist in Islam. Furthermore, proponents of the anti-hadeeth sect had stated that the very concept of 'ulamaa' was taken from Hinduism and Christianity.

Dear noble audience,

Who is actually deemed as an 'ulamaa'? What are the characteristics for the one considered as 'ulamaa'? According to Kamus Dewan (reputed Malay dictionary), 'ulamaa' means a person who is ahli (an expert) in Islamic sciences. The expertise of a particular scholar is acknowledged by other scholars of equivalent status or higher level in knowledge.

Rasulullah على also had explained on who is to be deemed as 'ulamaa'. As mentioned in the hadeeth of Abu ad-Dardaa' radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah على stated:

إِنَّ الْعُلَمَاءَ وَرَثَةُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ، إِنَّ الْأَنْبِيَاءَ لَمْ يُوَرِّثُوا دِينَارًا وَلَا دِرْهَمًا، إِنَّمَا وَرَّثُوا الْعِلْمَ، فَمَنْ أَخَذَ بِهِ فَقَدْ أَخَذَ بِحَظٍّ وَافِر

"Indeed the scholars are the heirs of the Prophets, and the Prophets do not leave behind Dinar or Dirham. The only legacy of the



scholars is knowledge, so whoever takes from it, then he has indeed taken a great share."

(at-Tirmidhi)

Based on this *hadeeth*, it clearly indicates that the word *'ulamaa'* was explicitly mentioned by the Prophet عليه . This proves the existence of scholars and they do have roles in Islam, not cooked up and duplicated from other religions.

Indeed, one who is deemed as an 'ulamaa' is a person who has mastered various sciences within Islam such as tawheed, tafseer, hadeeth, fiqh, tasawwuf, and others. For example, the four imaams of the madhaahib (schools of thought), namely al-Imaam Abu Haneefah, al-Imaam Maalik, al-Imaam Ahmad bin Hanbal, and al-Imaam ash-Shaafi'i, including al-Imaam Abu Hasan al-Ash'ari and al-Imaam al-Ghazzaali whom were prominent scholars.

They were true scholars who feared Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 28 of soorah Faatir that was recited in the beginning of the *khutbah*:

"...Only those fear Allah, from among His servants, who have knowledge..."

An 'ulamaa' is measured based on his knowledge and his level of taqwa. His knowledge is based on the primary sources in Islam, which are al-Qur'an, as-Sunnah, ijmaa' (consensus), and qiyaas (deductive analogy). A learned scholar will not speak purely based on his desire, intellect, and emotions.



Dearest audience,

In Islam, the 'ulamaa' has a lofty status for the responsibility that they shoulder is enormous. Their very task was inherited from the prophets. They are burdened with the duty of explaining what is good and bad, what is truth and falsehood. Everything conveyed must be based on the teachings of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah.

Islam teaches its adherents to respect and observe proper *adab* (etiquette) when interacting with the scholars. The 'ulamaa' are respected and revered not because of their holiness and infallibility (ma'soom), but due to their level of knowledge. Among the *adab* that must be observed are:

- 1. Accepting their advice and criticism in matters of obedience.
- 2. Accompanying the scholars so as to increase one's knowledge and attaining *barakah* (blessings).
- 3. Avoid the attitude of being argumentative, disputing, or opposing the *'ulamaa'*.
- 4. Avoid from uttering words that are offensive.
- 5. To speak well and rebuke with wisdom.

Dear blessed Muslims,

It must be realized that knowledge originates from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. It will be conveyed to His sincere slaves. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala will take back the knowledge that was lent to His slaves through the death of the scholars. In the end, mankind will take as their reference the ignorant ones, leading them to misguidance. Rasulullah had mentioned such matter that will be taking place, as in the narration of 'Abdullah bin 'Amr radiyAllaahu 'anhuma, where he said:



إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا يَقْبِضُ الْعِلْمَ انْتِزَاعًا يَنْتَزِعُهُ مِنَ الْعِبَادِ، وَلَكِنْ يَقْبِضُ الْعِلْمَ بِقَبْضِ الْعُلَمَاءِ، حَتَّى إِذَا لَمْ يُبْقِ عَالِمًا اتَّخَذَ لَقْبِضُ الْعِلْمَ بِقَبْضِ الْعُلَمَاءِ، حَتَّى إِذَا لَمْ يُبْقِ عَالِمًا اتَّخَذَ النَّاسُ رُءُوسًا جُهَّالًا، فَسُئِلُوا فَأَفْتَوْا بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ فَضَلُّوا وَأَضَلُّوا

"Verily, Allah does not take away the knowledge by taking it away from the people, but takes it away by the death of the religious learned men till when none of them remains, people will take as their leaders ignorant persons who when consulted will give their verdict without knowledge. So they will go astray and will lead the people astray."

(al-Bukhaari)

Blessed Muslims,

To end the *khutbah* today, I would like to remind all of us to derive lessons from the following matters:

- 1. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that accompanying and honoring the scholars will increase their *imaan* in Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.
- 2. The Muslim *ummah* must seek knowledge through a teacher, by studying with distinguished scholars.
- 3. It is *waajib* (obligatory) upon the Muslim *ummah* to observe proper *adab* when interacting with the scholars.



أَعُوذُ بِاللّهِ مِنَ الشّيطَانِ الرّجِيمِ

وَمَن يُشَاقِقِ ٱلرَّسُولَ مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا تَبَيَّنَ لَهُ ٱلْهُدَىٰ وَيَتَّبِعُ غَيْرَ سَبِيلِ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ نُولِّهِ مَا تَوَلَّىٰ وَنُصْلِهِ حَهَنَّمَ وَسَآءَتُ مَصِيرًا

"And whoever opposes the Messenger after guidance has become clear to him and follows other than the way of the believers - We will give him what he has taken and drive him into Hell, and evil it is as a destination."

(an-Nisaa' 4:115)

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ، وَنَفَعَنِيْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهُ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِيْ وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاَوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَآئِرِ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَآئِرِ اللهَ الْمُسْلِمَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيْمُ.

THE SECOND *KHUTBAH*



اَلْحَمْدُلِلَّهِ الَّذِيْ جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَّا إِلَهَ إِلاَّ اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيْكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ. أَمَّا وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللهِ، إتَّقُوا الله، أوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَقُونَ.

وَقَالَ اللهُ تَعَالَى: إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ وَمَلَيِكَتَهُ ويُصَلُّونَ عَلَى ٱلنَّبِيِّ يَّأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ صَلُّواْ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُواْ تَسْلِيمًا ۞

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 على 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 *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 وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيْعٌ قَرِيْبٌ مُجِيْبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اَللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَآئِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بِعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وِقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلاَلَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعَظِّم، سُلْطَان سلاغُور، سُلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس شاه الحاج، ابن المرحوم سُلْطَان صَلاَحُ الدِّين عبد العزيز شاه الحاج. اَللَّهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلامَةَ مِنْكَ، لِوَلِيّ عَهْدِ سلاغُور، تَعْكُو أَمِير شَاه، إَبْن السُّلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس شاه الحاج، فِي أَمْنِ وَصَلاَح وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنِّكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَاالْجَلالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. اَللَّهُمَّ أَطِلْ عُمْرَهُمَا، مُصْلِحَيْن لِلْمُوَظِّفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلاَدِ، مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَربِقِ 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.

اَللَّهُمَّ يَا دَافِعَ الْبَلَاءِ، اِدْفَعْ عَنَّا هَذَا الْوَبَاءَ وَالْبَلَاءِ وَالْلَرْضَ وَاللَّهُمَّ يَا وَالْبَلَاءِ وَالْلَرْضَ وَاللَّهُمَّ يَا لَطِيْفُ إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيْرٌ وَالْمِجَابَةِ جَدِيْرٌ.

رَبَّنَا هَبُ لَنَا مِنَ أَزُوَ جِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعُيْنِ وَٱجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَّامًا. رَبَّنَآ ءَاتِنَا فِي ٱلدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةَ وَفِي ٱلْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةَ وَقِنَا عَذَابَ ٱلنَّارِ ۞.

عِبَادَ اللّهِ، إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِٱلْعَدُلِ وَٱلْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَآيِ ذِي ٱلْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ ٱلْفَحْشَآءِ وَٱلْمُنكرِ وَٱلْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ ٱلْفَحْشَآءِ وَٱلْمُنكرِ وَٱلْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ اللهُ ا

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