

To Be Delivered On: 09 July 2021CE / 28 Dhul Qa'dah 1442H



JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

FRIDAY SERMON

Title:

***“THE OBLIGATION OF PRESERVING
LIFE”***

Published By:

Unit Khutbah

Bahagian Pengurusan Masjid

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR



“THE OBLIGATION OF PRESERVING LIFE”

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: وَلَا تَقْتُلُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ بِكُمْ رَحِيمًا ۝¹
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ! أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ
فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ ۖ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ
مُسْلِمُونَ ۝²

Dear blessed Muslims,

I sincerely advice myself and fellow audience, let us altogether strive to empower our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* with true *taqwa* by performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all attain happiness in this world and the Hereafter.

Today I will be discussing upon a *khutbah* titled “**THE OBLIGATION OF PRESERVING LIFE.**”

¹ an-Nisaa' 4:29.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.



Blessed audience,

Suicide is an act of crime and it is an act that causes death to oneself. It can be committed in various ways, whether by hanging oneself, consuming poison or jumping off a high place. Committing suicide is an act that is vehemently prohibited in Islam and it is among the major sins. This coincides with the prohibition mentioned in al-Qur'an and *hadeeth* of the Prophet ﷺ. It is in line with the principles of *Maqaasid ash-Sharee'ah* (Higher Objectives of the Islamic Law) advocated by Islam, with the priority in preserving life, religion, intellect, lineage, and property. The prohibition of committing suicide was firmly stated by Allah in the verse recited earlier in the *khutbah*, which is verse 29 of soorah an-Nisaa', which means:

“And do not kill yourselves [or one another]. Indeed, Allah is to you ever Merciful.”

Based on this verse, life belongs to Allah. It is He Alone that gives life and causes death, where human beings do not have the rights to determine his or her own life and death by causing death upon his or her own self.

Dearest Muslims,

Of late, we are seeing news reports in the newspapers and social media regarding the increase of suicide cases. Since the Movement Control Order (MCO) was implemented, we have been shocked with numerous suicide incidents. Data furnished by the Royal Malaysian Police (PDRM) revealed that suicide cases for the year 2019 is at 609. While in 2020, a total of 631 cases were recorded, and for the period of January until May 2021, a total of 468 suicide cases were reported. On average, two cases were reported daily since 2019 until May 2021.



Recently, many suicide incidents have occurred as a result of stress, whether mentally or physically. The severe magnitude of emotional stress and problems encountered can cause some to opt for shortcuts and unthinkable actions such as committing suicide or self-harm. No matter how difficult the trial from Allah may be, we must accept them with full patience. However, it is undeniable that the Covid-19 pandemic is a form of trial from Allah *Ta'aala*. Its infection and transmission that spreads rapidly have caused many of us to panic. There have been deaths among our loved ones, those retrenched from work are struggling to support the family to the point of being crushed by the hardships of life, triggering stress and losing the soundness of their *imaan* (faith). Hence, it induces the desire to commit suicide due to feeling despair from the mercy (*rahmah*) of Allah. When something that is the opposite of our intended result occurs, that is when stress takes place. What is remarkable is that we choose to dwell in a crisis and blame *qadr* (predestination) for everything that has happened, hence encouraging the desire to commit suicide for feeling despair in the mercy of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Dear beloved audience,

The prevailing scenario today is very worrying for there is an increase in the number of cases every year. As Muslims, we must think of ways of curbing these incidents from taking place so that it will not become a cancer within the society. In this matter, we must fear the threat of punishment for committing suicide that was firmly stated by Rasulullah ﷺ in the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiallaahu 'anh*:

مَنْ قَتَلَ نَفْسَهُ بِحَدِيدَةٍ فَحَدِيدَتُهُ فِي يَدِهِ يَتَوَجَّأُ بِهَا فِي بَطْنِهِ
فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدًا مُخَلَّدًا فِيهَا أَبَدًا، وَمَنْ شَرِبَ سُمًّا فَقَتَلَ



نَفْسَهُ فَمَو يَتَحَسَاهُ فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدًا مُخَلِّدًا فِيهَا أَبَدًا. وَمَنْ
تَرَدَّى مِنْ جَبَلٍ فَقَتَلَ نَفْسَهُ فَمَو يَتَرَدَّى فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ خَالِدًا
مُخَلِّدًا فِيهَا أَبَدًا

“He who killed himself with steel (weapon) would be the eternal denizen of the Fire of Hell and he would have that weapon in his hand and would be thrusting that in his stomach for ever and ever, he who drank poison and killed himself would sip that in the Fire of Hell where he is doomed for ever and ever; and he who killed himself by falling from (the top of) a mountain would constantly fall in the Fire of Hell and would live there for ever and ever.”

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Based on this Prophetic narration, suicide is an accursed act that is forbidden by Allah. Its doer will be severely punished by Allah in the Hereafter and no one will escape from His punishments.

Beloved audience,

The Muslim individuals must strengthen their *imaan* so that suicide does not become a solution for life's quagmires when feeling despondent. There are few suggestions that I would like to put forth in avoiding this blameworthy act. First, we must have *sabr* (patience) with the tribulation afflicted and remain *istiqamah* (steadfast) in performing our *salaah* (prayers). This is in line with what Allah mentions in verse 153 of soorah al-Baqarah:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اسْتَعِينُوا بِالصَّبْرِ وَالصَّلَاةِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ مَعَ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٣﴾



“O you who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer. Indeed, Allah is with the patient.”

Second, we must always engage in *dhikr* (remembrance of Allah) especially in the wake of trials, for *dhikr* will bring about tranquility within the hearts and eliminate anxiety. Moreover, it can prevent one from committing unbeneficial deeds in attaining serenity and blissfulness.

Third, let us treat our sadness with *du'aa* (supplication). The Prophet ﷺ had taught several well-known invocations to the Companions in removing grief and sadness. Among the *du'aa* that was practiced by the Prophet ﷺ is mentioned in the *hadeeth* narrated by Anas bin Maalik *radiyAllaahu 'anh*:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الْهَمِّ وَالْحَزَنِ، وَالْعَجْزِ وَالْكَسَلِ،
وَالْجُبْنِ وَالْبُخْلِ، وَضَلَعِ الدَّيْنِ، وَغَلْبَةِ الرِّجَالِ.

“O Allah! I seek refuge with You from worry and grief, from incapacity and laziness, from cowardice and miserliness, from being heavily in debt and from being overpowered by (other) men.”

(al-Bukhaari)

However, if something unexpected and unforeseen took place, then have *sabr*. It is not necessarily a bad thing at all. Furthermore, every test and tribulation of life must be endured with *sabr*. Allah mentions in verse 155 of soorah al-Baqarah:

وَلَنَبْلُوَنَّكُمْ بِشَيْءٍ مِّنَ الْخَوْفِ وَالْجُوعِ وَنَقْصٍ مِّنَ الْأَمْوَالِ وَالْأَنْفُسِ
وَالثَّمَرَاتِ ۗ وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ ﴿١٥٥﴾



“And We will surely test you with something of fear and hunger and a loss of wealth and lives and fruits, but give good tidings to the patient.”

Fourth: We must mention the problems faced to our family members, relatives, and trustworthy individuals so as to attain the much needed advice and guidance. Therefore, all quarters must be involved in providing the necessary support to the society that is currently living under strenuous stress, so much so that some are willing to do the unthinkable and take their own lives. Leaders within the society, community, NGOs, and individuals must come up with ideas and suggestions in aiding and supporting affected communities. Together we stand shoulder to shoulder, upholding aspirations and efforts driven by the government in assisting those affected.

Dearest audience,

To end the *khutbah*, let us altogether derive lessons and reflections as guide and guidance for all of us. Among them:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must solidify its Islamic *'aqeedah* by having full certainty that the trials sent down from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* are indications of affection from Allah upon His servants.
2. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that this worldly life is a test that will be fully accounted for in the Hereafter.
3. The Muslim *ummah* must realize that suicide is an act that is vehemently prohibited in Islam and that it is a major sin.
4. The Muslim *ummah* must strive to take positive measures in solving life problems especially during this Restricted Movement Control Order (PKPD) period by referring to competent and authoritative parties.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ



قُلْ يَاعِبَادِيَ الَّذِينَ أَسْرَفُوا عَلَىٰ أَنفُسِهِمْ لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِن رَّحْمَةِ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ
يَغْفِرُ الذُّنُوبَ جَمِيعًا إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ ﴿٥٣﴾

“Say, “O My servants who have transgressed against themselves [by sinning], do not despair of the mercy of Allah. Indeed, Allah forgives all sins. Indeed, it is He who is the Forgiving, the Merciful.””

(Soorah az-Zumar 39:53)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا
فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ
هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ



THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ.
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى
آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ
الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Dear blessed audience,

Once more, I would like to remind all of us to always have the *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by guarding ourselves and our families from abominable deeds and disobedience against Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. At the same time, we will continue to pray so that our country will always remain blessed and protected from all forms of threat, as well as contagions from the Covid-19 pandemic. For that, let us graciously accept the government's recommendation by registering ourselves through the *MySejahtera* application in order to obtain vaccine shots that have been authorized by the Ministry of Health Malaysia.

May we become among the slaves of Allah that are patient while enduring all diseases afflicted, disciplined in adhering to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and the new normal practices in overcoming the Covid-19 pandemic, for the sake of our own safety and the community.



Let us altogether increase our *salawaat* upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as Allah has commanded:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ
وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٥٦﴾

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنْ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَابَتِهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ
مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ مُجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ
الْحَاجَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزِّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَهْلِكَ الْكُفْرَةَ
وَالْمُبْتَدِعَةَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَكَ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ. وَانصُرْنَا
عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَائِكَ
الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ،
وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعْظَمِ، سُلْطَانَ
سَلَاطُونَ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ ادریس شاه الحاج ابن المرحوم
سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عبد العزيز شاه الحاج. اللَّهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعُونَ
وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيِّ عَهْدِ



سلاطون، تغكو أمير شاه ابن السلطان شرف الدين ادريس
شاه الحاج، في أمن وصلاح وعافية بمنك وكرمك يا ذا الجلال
والإكرام. اللهم أطل عمرهما مصلحين للموظفين والرعية
والبلاد، وبلغ مقاصدهما لطريق الهدى والرشاد.

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, make us among Your slaves whom are always exalting Your Word and Religion. Keep us away from groups and those that like to criticize, curse, and insult Your Religion.

O Allah, grant us guidance in performing the five obligatory prayers in congregation, fulfilling *zakaat* through Selangor *Zakaat* Board (LZS), and give away our wealth and endowment (*waqf*) through *Perbadanan Wakaf Selangor* (Selangor Endowment Corporation) and *Tabung Infak Jariah Umat Islam Selangor* (TIJARI, Selangor Continuous Charity for Muslims Fund), and to the orphans through Darul Ehsan Islamic Foundation (YIDE).

اللهم يا دافع البلاء، اذفع عنا هذا الوباء والبلاء والمرض
والشدائد والمحن، بلطفك يا لطيف إنك على كل شيء قدير
وبالإجابة جدير.



رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا.
رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ ﴿٢٠١﴾.
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٩٠﴾
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُواهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ،
وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا
تَصْنَعُونَ.