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"EASE AND HARDSHIP ARE TRIALS"

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"EASE AND HARDSHIP ARE TRIALS"

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَتْهُم مُّصِيبَةُ قَالُوۤاْ إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّاۤ إِلَيْهِ رَجِعُونَ ۚ ۚ أُوْلَٰبِكَ عَلَيْهِمْ صَلَوَتُ مِّن رَّبِهِمْ وَرَحْمَةُ ۖ وَأُوْلَٰبِكَ هُمُ ٱلْمُهْتَدُونَ ۞ ا

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. 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: يَاأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَّقُواْ ٱللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُم مُّسْلِمُونَ ۞ 2

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 all attain success in this world and the Hereafter.

Let us internalize upon the *khutbah* today titled *EASE AND HARDSHIP ARE TRIALS.*"

Dear ennobled audience,

¹ al-Bagarah 2:156-157.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.



Each and every one of us have gone through trials and excruciating moments, difficulties while wading through life's challenges, as well as griefs that are difficult to forget. Not only that, we surely have gone through moments of blissfulness, the blessings of happiness after having attained what was sought, as well as the sweetness of life after being bestowed with a plethora of pleasures. All of these instances are actually trials that were sent from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* upon His slaves to test the strength of their *imaan* (faith) in their hearts.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 35 of soorah al-Anbiyaa':

"Every soul will taste death. And We test you with evil and with good as trial; and to Us you will be returned."

This verse tells us that trials from Allah not only come in the form of difficulty or sorrow. We will also be tested through various *ni'mah* (favors), blissfulness, and ease, to see whether we will become slaves of Allah that are grateful or ungrateful (*kufr*) upon the favors bestowed. Have we ever been in a situation where we were constantly tested with difficulties and various problems, that at times it made us feel as if this world is unjust, just because our lives is not as rosy as others?

Such thought and feeling should never occur within our soul, for it is as if we are blaming Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* for all of the things happening to us. On the contrary, as His believing slaves having *taqwa*, we should deem that every hardship endured is a tribulation from Allah to teach us the meaning of *sabr* (patience), and the meaning of striving as



well as not giving up on what we want. Let us believe in the promises of Allah upon the patient ones, that the blessings of *sabr* is truly beautiful and only He is Most Knowing of the *hikmah* (wisdom) behind every trial that befall His slaves. Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verses 156-157 of soorah al-Baqarah that was recited earlier in the *muqaddimah* (introduction) of this *khutbah*, which means:

"Who, when disaster strikes them, say, "Indeed we belong to Allah, and indeed to Him we will return." Those are the ones upon whom are blessings from their Lord and mercy. And it is those who are the [rightly] guided."

Therefore, how do we ensure that we will not be among those that have ill thoughts about Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*? The answer is that we must always remain *sabr* and thankful (*shukr*) with every affliction, preserving our *salawaat* (prayers), and safeguarding our hearts from feelings that are unbecoming as servants.

Allah mentions in verse 45 of soorah al-Baqarah:

"And seek help through patience and prayer, and indeed, it is difficult except for the humbly submissive [to Allah]."

Hence, let us not even once deem these tribulations as a form of torture, punishment, or even reward that are lasting. While, Prophet Muhammad and all the other *anbiyaa*' (prophets) were also tested with various trials that were much more severe, so what is there to complain about in comparison with the trials afflicting us as ordinary human beings. So, after this, if we are tested with pleasure or difficulty, it behooves us to continue to remain *sabr*, protect our relationship with Allah and safeguard our hearts and soul from committing deeds that can corrupt our *imaan*.



Dear blessed Muslims,

The relevance and correlation of the title of the *khutbah* this time is the global issue that is happening within our country in particular and the world in general, namely the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has yet to subside with the latest reports abuzz. As Muslims, whatever happens on the face of earth even if a leaf from a tree falls to the ground, our firm belief is that:

- 1. It happens with the permission and will of Allah.
- 2. It happens by the power of Allah.
- 3. It occurs within the knowledge of Allah.

Among the foundational belief for the Muslims in this matter is to have sabr, lament, beseech, and continue to have full reliance in Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. Let us ponder upon the story recorded by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala whom tested Prophet Ayyoob 'Alayhissalaam with a mysterious disease that shackled him. Prophet Ayyoob 'Alayhissalaam's attitude was to not complain and rebel by disputing the tribulation decreed upon him. He continued to remain patient, though lblees attempted to infuse doubts and corrupt his imaan with the grave test afflicted upon him.

In a predicament of being stricken with calamity such as the Covid-19 pandemic, it is *waajib* (obligatory) upon the Muslim *ummah* to have positive thoughts in accepting the *qadr* (decree) of Allah. This is because Allah is Almighty upon all matters. According to His Decree, every patience and hardship endured will continue to remain for the duration that He had willed, hence the situation will then return to normal.

In the *hadeeth* of ibn 'Abbaas *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma*, Rasulullah **said**:



وَاعْلَمْ أَنَّ فِي الصَّبْرِ عَلَى مَا تَكْرَهُ خَيْرًا كَثِيرًا، وَأَنَّ النَّصْرَ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ الْفَرَجَ مَعَ الْكُرْبِ، وَأَنَّ مَعَ الْعُسْرِ يُسْرًا

"Know that there is much good in being patient with what you hate, victory will come with patience, affliction will come with relief, and hardship will come with ease."

(Ahmad)

Among the wisdom for a trial to afflict human being is that it is a form of cleansing by Allah, in manifesting the true attitude of the believers or vice versa. That is why the attitude of true believers is that they will always seek the *hikmah* behind each trial and occurrence so that they will return to Allah. They only increase in *sabr* and *imaan* in Allah, the Most Powerful.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 31 of soorah Muhammad:

"And We will surely test you until We make evident those who strive among you [for the cause of Allah] and the patient, and We will test your affairs."

Let us think well of Allah, perhaps Allah wants to elevate us in darajah (rank) through these tests. Allah intends to expiate all of our sins, and Allah wants to confer good deeds upon us. Therefore, smile and rejoice as chosen individuals to be tested by Him. It is not the severity of



the tribulation that will render us weak, but it is our very "loose" relationship with Allah that is causing us to seem deficient in overcoming it.

Blessed Muslims,

To end the *khutbah* this time, I sincerely remind esteemed audience to take the following guidance:

- 1. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that ease and hardship are trials that will be accounted for in the Hereafter.
- 2. The Muslim *ummah* must be well-equipped with *sabr* when gravely tested with pleasure and difficulty.
- 3. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that the believers will be tested, whether through the trial of ease or difficulty.

"Do the people think that they will be left to say, "We believe" and they will not be tried?"

(Soorah al-'Ankaboot 29:2)

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

أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَآئِرِ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَآئِرِ الْلهَ الْمُسْلِمَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ



THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُلِلَّهِ الَّذِيْ جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيْكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اَللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللهِ، إتَّقُواْ الله، أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ اللهِ 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.



While dealing with this pandemic, let us not take the easiest way out by harming and injuring ourselves. We must be selfless, patient, and strong mentally and physically, built upon solid *imaan*.

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

إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ وَمَلَّيِكَتَهُ و يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى ٱلنَّبِيِّ يَأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ صَلُّواْ عَلَى عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُواْ تَسْلِيمًا ۞

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلاَنَا مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنْ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَابَتِهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِ أَجْمَعِيْنَ.

اَللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِیْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِیْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْیَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِیْعٌ قَرِیْبٌ مُجِیْبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَیَا قَاضِیَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اَللَّهُمَّ أَعِزَّ الْإِسْلاَمَ وَالْمُسْلِمِیْنَ، وَأَهْلِكِ الْكَفَرَةَ وَالْمُبْتَدِعَةَ وَالْمُشْرِكِیْنَ وَدَمِّرْ اَعْدَاءَكَ اَعْدَاءَ الدِّیْنِ. وَانْصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِیْنَ.

اَللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الأَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الأَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بِعَيْنِ بِأَسْمَآئِكَ الْحُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بِعَيْنِ عِنْايَتِكَ الْحُطْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بِعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وِقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلاَلَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعَظَّمِ، سُلْطَان سُلاغُور، سُلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس شاه المُعَظَّم، 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، لِوَلِيِّ عَهْدِ سلاغُور، تعْكو أَمِير شَاه ابْنِ السُّلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس شاه الحاج، فِيْ أَمْنٍ وَصَلاَحٍ وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنِّكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَاالْجَلالِ وَالإِكْرَامِ. اَللَّهُمَّ أَطِلْ عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحَيْنِ لِلْمُوَظَّفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلاَدِ، وَبلِغْ مَقَاصِدَهُمَا مُصْلِحَيْنِ لِلْمُوظَّفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلاَدِ، وَبلِغْ 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, 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 (*waqt*) 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).



اَللَّهُمَّ يَا دَافِعَ الْبَلَاءِ، اِدْفَعْ عَنَّا هَذَا الْوَبَاءَ وَالْبَلَاءَ وَالْبَرَضَ وَاللَّهُمَّ يَا وَاللَّهُمَّ يَا لَطِيْفُ إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ وَاللَّمِّدَائِدَ وَالْمِحَنَ، بِلُطْفِكَ يَا لَطِيْفُ إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيْرٌ وَبِالْإِجَابَةِ جَدِيْرٌ.

رَبَّنَا هَبُ لَنَا مِنُ أُزُورِجِنَا وَذُرِيَّتِنَا قُرَّةً أَعْيُنِ وَٱجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا. رَبَّنَآ ءَاتِنَا فِي ٱلدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي ٱلْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ ٱلنَّارِ ۞. عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِٱلْعَدُلِ وَٱلْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَآيٍ ذِي ٱلْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ ٱلْفَحْشَاءِ وَٱلْمُنكرِ وَٱلْبَغِيُ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ وَيَنْهَى عَنِ ٱلْفَحْشَآءِ وَٱلْمُنكرِ وَٱلْبَغِيُ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ



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