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

by performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May our lives in this world and the Hereafter remain in the pleasure of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

On this blissful day, let us perform *muhaasabah* (evaluation) of ourselves through a *khutbah* titled



Verily, fitnah is an act to slander or degrade a person or other party that is very damaging, and causes the society to fall apart. The dissemination of fitnah, false accusations, or rumors in

the advanced and modern age today are not only through speech or writing, but it can be easily committed through mass media technology that are commonly used today. Technological

advancement has provided us with a lot of but convenience, unfortunately many would actually abuse them, triggering phenomenon that inflicts harm upon various

quarters. Not only through words and expressions that fitnah is hurled to debase the dignity of others, even the fingers bestowed by Allah that are

utter the utilized to shahaadah (testimony of faith) during tahiyyaat in salaah are also used to propagate fitnah and sinful materials.

In the name of freedom of expression, the tongue and fingers are often abused for personal gain and those scheming. Though freedom of expression is embraced by many countries

around the globe, why must one opt for slandering in bringing down others to the point of causing difficulties upon various quarters. Then it is only befitting for the filthy soul that

loves to spread fitnah to be severely rebuked by Rasulullah , as narrated in the hadeeth of Hudhayfah radiyAllaahu 'anh:

## لا يَدْخُلُ الْجَنَّةُ نَمَّامٌ

## "The tale-bearer shall not enter Paradise."

(Muslim)

Today, we are taking and accepting from sources that are unknown whether they are legit or not. We are disseminating without information knowing whether it is accurate or not.

Moreover, we like to convey stories without verifying whether it is authentic or not. Sometimes, we would receive information which we are not even sure whether it is true or not,

and yet we would proceed to share it with others. If a particular matter is cooked up or fabricated, and yet we had shared it through the media platform that reaches out to thousands

of users where the entire world would know about it, then will we able to seek apology from the person being slandered? How would it be if it was to happen to us? Where is the imaan (faith) and

yaqeen (certainty) in Allah that we are engrossed in sowing fitnah, disturbing and causing difficulties in the lives of others.

Today, fitnah is not just hurled between

individuals, but it is also committed by various groups within the society in various forms. For example, we often hear about a group of leaders in an organization that would willingly curse and

bring down other groups by spreading various fitnah, in order to achieve the ambitions and interests of their group. There are also those from among the members of political parties that would

create fitnah and incite the people with various allegations and false accusations against each other with the intention of becoming the people's hero. Surau and masjid administrators are also

not spared from the devil's deceptions, through provocation and tale-bearing to bring down certain factions in gaining control of the administration. Moreover, fitnah is also not spared

from our colleagues whom are willing to hurl fitnah and defame their own companions, in order to gain position and rank.

In Islam, the end does not justify the means. Fitnah is born out of one's heart that is arrogant, conceited, filthy, troubled, and not fortified with firm imaan. Indeed, shaytaan would

not remain idle just so that mankind will always remain in conflict and arguing with each other. This is as Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala has mentioned in verse 91 of soorah al-Maa'idah:

"Satan only wants to cause between you animosity and hatred."

It must be reminded that slandering and sowing fitnah will lead to disunity, as well as serving as the for source misunderstanding and the disagreement within society. Similarly, the

animosity between leaders whom utilizes the of fitnah weapon mongering will cause the state and nation to plunge into the valley of destruction. From the danger of hurling fitnah

and tale-bearing, it can eliminate the people's trust in the leaders, whom are supposed to be good exemplary in harmonizing one another. Furthermore, this culture of fitnah mongering must be

avoided for its speech and writing can give rise to misconceptions and that misperceptions leads to hatred, quarrel, character assassination, and causing humiliation to a person, only to

trigger bigger problems. In reality, the slanderer is not worried about one's failure but instead truly fears the success of others.

We all realize that our religious teachings mention about the evil of fitnah, and that the ruling of causing fitnah is haraam clearly (impermissible) and forbidden. Remember

upon the severe warning by the Prophet mentioned in the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, where he said:

"(When) the time would draw close to the Last Hour, knowledge would be snatched away, turmoil would be rampant, miserliness would be put (in the hearts of the people)

and there would be much al-harj." They (the Companions) asked: "What is al-harj?" Thereupon he said: "It is bloodshed."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Indeed, the evil habit of accusing others and hurling fitnah will lead to the destruction of one another, and it will not bring about any benefit. It causes disharmony within the life of our

society today. It severs the silaaturrahm (ties of brotherhood) among mankind. It breeds the desire for revenge within mankind and the society's life becomes chaotic, where many will

greatly suffer. All of these caused by are madhmoomah (dispraised) traits.

Therefore, as Muslims, we must always remain cautious upon everything

that we utter or write and disseminate, for it will have great effect upon others. Even more important that is everything will be accounted for by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala

in the Hereafter.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 65 of soorah Ya-Seen:

"That Day, We will seal over their mouths, and their hands will speak to Us, and their feet will testify about what they used to earn."

To conclude the khutbah today, let us altogether internalize upon the following matters:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that spreading fitnah is a major sin and committing it will cause one to plunge into Hellfire.

2. The Muslim ummah must realize that fitnah and tale-bearing can cause disunity within the society and ultimately destroys an organization or even a nation.

3. The Muslim ummah must realize that remaining silent is a better option, where we only utter what is necessary, and only disseminate matters that are beneficial.

4. The Muslim ummah must always safeguard the tongue, properly and wisely, so as to become among those granted protection by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala in this world and the Hereafter.

5. The Muslim ummah must remain vigilant upon receiving news that are unverified of its authenticity, so as to not become ensnared and entangled in causing fitnah.

"O you who have believed, if there comes to you a disobedient one with information, investigate, lest you harm a people out of ignorance and become, over what you have done, regretful." (Soorah al-Hujuraat 49:6)

## THE SECOND KHUTBAH

Let us altogether strive to have the tagwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by increasing our obedience towards Him and avoiding acts of disobedience and abominable deeds.

O Allah, grant us guidance in performing the five obligatory prayers in congregation, fulfilling zakaat through Selangor Zakaat Board (LZS), making endowment (waqf)

through Perbadanan Wakaf Selangor (Selangor Endowment Corporation) and giving away our wealth (infaaq) through Tabung Infak Jariah Umat Islam Selangor (TIJARI, Selangor Continuous Charity for Muslims Fund),

## and to the orphans through Darul Ehsan Islamic Foundation (YIDE).

