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Let us have the taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by performing all of His Commands and leaving out all of

His prohibitions. May we be resurrected among those having utmost taqwa in the Hereafter.

Let us altogether internalize upon the khutbah today titled



31st of August, 1957 is the date that our nation gained her **This** independence. joyfulness must be decorated with the gratitude of all citizens for it is truly valuable.

Let us be grateful upon this independence for without it, we will remain as a nation that is humiliated in its own land. Such gratefulness is from among the matters that must be present

when celebrating independence.

When searching for the meaning of independence, it is not merely about comprehending the agony of colonization. A nation

that is colonized would yearn for freedom that it is willing to fight and go to battle down to the last drop of blood. They would sacrifice anything for the sake of achieving independence. Such is

the magnitude in the meaning of fighting for freedom. The question that we must ask ourselves is, what is the meaning independence today? In Islam, independence

means purity or sacredness. The religion of Islam itself has prosperity, granted peace, and security. The fact is, all of these meanings lead to the definition of

independence that we comprehend today.

For the Muslim, the ni'mah (bounty) of freedom within independence must be truly appreciated. This freedom not only provides

the opportunity to determine our own lifestyle, but more importantly is that we are able to free our mind and body from all forms of shirk against Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala

and jaahiliy (ignorant) traits that have been instilled by the colonialists. Therefore, the free Muslim is one who is liberated from moral decay and the wrath of

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. In the hadeeth of Fadaalah bin 'Ubayd radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah stated during final the pilgrimage:

"Have I not informed you? The believer is the one who is trusted with the lives and wealth of people. The Muslim is the one from whose tongue and hand people are safe. The one striving

in jihaad in the way of Allah is the one who wages jihaad against himself in obedience to Allah. The emigrant is one who emigrates away from sins and evil deeds."

(Ahmad and ibn Hibbaan)

Unity is the very core that forms the independence. We are all citizens of this which nation, comprised of diversed different and backgrounds. This nation is akin to a beautiful

painting that is made up of colorful hues that are intermixed, becoming the envy of others. The unity that is generated from these wonderful colors have turned us into a picture that is not only

beautiful but very valuable for all of us. We have been united within a unified framework that is likened to an artwork that complements one another, though having different colors and

shades. The painting that is framed with unity is finally hung on the world map as a sovereign nation due to its unity. This is the uniqueness of the true meaning of independence in this

country that we love. Damages upon the unityframed painting will only cause the independence to crack and crash into pieces, further causing it to succumb into the realm of colonization.

All of these must be thoroughly pondered and imagined. For if we do not avoid from damaging this unity's framework, then gone is the meaningfulness of an independent nation and it

will only harm all of us. Division only paralyzes the meaning of independence. For without unity, it will be extremely difficult for us to attain independence as a priceless ni'mah.

Lately, we find that our unity is becoming fragile. It is unbecoming for Muslims that are truly faithful to resort to division as weapon in achieving their worldly objectives. It is uncalled

for that some within the Muslim ummah would continuously cause anxiety and confusion among the masses with falsified news and stories. All differences of opinion must be resolved

patriotically and through Islamic principles by placing the interest of the country with utmost importance. Not by pouring poison and virus of disunity within this diversed society. Do not

allow the rakyat to become victims and collateral for it would be a very irresponsible act. Differences should not be the disunity factor if the teachings of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah are taken

lessons, by as the understanding hikmah (wisdom) differences. Allah mentions in verse 13 of al-Hujuraat, Soorah which means:

"O mankind, indeed We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble

of you in the sight of the most Allah is righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted."

Do not even once allow colonization to appear, only causing history to repeat itself. We are all responsible in defending this independence. This country is an amaanah (trust) upon all of us.

Do not put it in jeopardy just because we are drooling over worldly treasures, only to be entrapped with khiyaanah (betrayal) upon this liberated land. Everything must begin with the

individual, family, and community in rejecting any form of traitorship upon the nation. Bribery and abuse of power are the main perpetrators in an independent nation. History has proven that

the Muslims were potent and glorious because there was no betrayal in rendering trusts, no power abuse, and no bribery practiced. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala

mentions in verse 27 of Soorah al-Anfaal:

"O you who have believed, do not betray Allah and the Messenger or betray your trusts while you know [the consequence]."

Let us remain grateful upon the favor independence. This independence is surely a tremendous reward bestowed by Allah upon us. Hence, be thankful for all the things that we have

been blessed with. Let us not even once forget that all of these are favors from The Almighty. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 7 of Soorah Ibraaheem:

"And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favor]; but if you deny, indeed, My punishment is severe."

Let us fill our independence with something meaningful. Let us invigorate the independence program with full gratitude and penitence. Educate the younger generation so

that they will not be detached from the sacrifices of our previous heroes, lest they forget to create a true and glorious independence for the present. Let us avoid the meaning of

independence that is often misunderstood where it is always associated with the freedom to do whatever one wishes, submitting to the lustful desire.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions verse 41 of Soorah al-Hajj:

"[And they are] those who, if We give them authority in the land, establish prayer and give zakaah and enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong. And to Allah belongs the outcome of [all] matters."

To end the sermon today, let altogether internalize and derive lessons to be taken as guidance, namely:

1. The Muslim ummah must realize that the ni'mah of independence is a reward from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala that must be defended and appreciated with

amr ma'roof and nahy munkar (enjoining good and forbidding evil).

2. The Muslim *ummah* must firmly unite so as to prevent the enemy from becoming victorious.

3. Muslims that betray the amaanah independence can cause the colonial era from the past to repeat itself.

4. The younger generation must be educated to comprehend the true meaning of independence, in accordance with the Sharee'ah, so that they will not be colonized by

the culture immorality that incurs various calamities and the wrath of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

"Say, "O Allah, Owner of Sovereignty, You give sovereignty to whom You will and You take sovereignty away from whom You will. You honor whom You

will and You humble whom You will. In Your hand is [all] good. Indeed, You are over all things competent.""

(Aal 'Imraan 3:26)

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).

Make us among Your slaves that fulfills the amaanah. Strengthen our imaan so that we avoid treachery, protect us from becoming among those that neglect their responsibilities, and protect

our state and nation from destruction due to bribery. Render the duty to lead our country upon Your slaves whom are trustworthy and honest, as well as firm and courageous in upholding

the truth and executing justice according to the Sharee'ah. O Allah, make the masaajid and suraus in the state of Selangor as Your peaceful homes,



