

MAJOR TRAITS OF THE LEADER THAT I YEARN FOR

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ni'mah (bounty) of Islam and Imaan (faith) that we have been enjoying all these while, by striving to increase our knowledge and good deeds, as well

as our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala by performing all of His **Commands and leaving** out all of His prohibitions. May we always build our taqwa through 'ibaadah (worship) unto Allah and

strictly adhere to the sunnah of His Messenger. May it all make us from among those having utmost taqwa and attaining salvation in this world and the Hereafter.

Let us altogether ponder upon the khutbah today titled

MAJOR TRAITS OF THE LEADER THAT I YEARN FOR

ay it bring forth benefits in our lives

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The successful leader is one who has taqwa, capable of manifesting himself as a leader that is to be emulated, able in leading himself towards good and the truth, moreover competent in

leading the family, society, and nation.

Among the main principles of leadership based on the of al-Qur'an verse mentioned in the mugaddimah (introduction)

is the need for the leader amaanah to be (trustworthy) and 'adl (just) to his subjects and members of society. Being a just and trustworthy leader is not only rhetorics but it is

his proven through actions and deeds. This very trait must be possessed by the leader and engrained as basic principle of his leadership so that he remains trusted and

respected. On the contrary, if this basic principle is ignored, then the trust, gone is confidence, and honor upon that particular leader.

It is these basic principles that will give birth to a working culture, which good is Good governance. governance means how institution can an properly manage trust

and remain free from misconduct and corruption.

The important role of a leader has been clarified in the hadeeth of 'Abdullah bin 'Umar radiyAllaahu 'anh, where Rasulullah 🗯 said:

"All of are you and are guardians responsible for your wards. The ruler is a guardian and is responsible for his subjects; the man is a guardian and is

responsible for his family; the woman is a guardian and is responsible for her husband's house and his offspring."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Rasulullah ﷺ is a leader that fulfils the universal human nature through noble and utmost characteristics and persona such as siddeeq (truthful), amaanah (trustworthy),

(conveys tableegh without concealing), and fatanah (intelligent, not ignorant). According to the seerah (prophetic biography), before he became a Rasool, the leaders from the Quraysh

had given him the title 'al-Ameen' for his high integrity and accountability in providing excellent service the to community. The title of

'al-Ameen' had awakened and sparked a sense of confidence and continued trust among the majority of the Quraysh upon Rasululah

Even though the tribulations endured by the Messenger were truly intense such as getting offered by the senior leaders of Quraysh with a position of full authority, beautiful women, and

abundant wealth so that Rasulullah will not continue with his da'wah work in calling mankind to Islam, and yet Rasulullah **# rejected** all of the offers due to the firmness of the integrity

anddignityofhisleadership that islofty andunwavering.

The justice of Rasulullah can be seen when Faatimah had requested for him to provide her a

servant from the spoils of war to aid her with her domestic chores, but instead he 🗱 suggested his beloved daughter to make tasbeeh 33 times, tahmeed 33 times, and takbeer 34 times.

Actually, this story has informed us that even though Rasulullah 25 is officially the Head of State, yet he would give priority to Ahl as-Suffah whom lived in destitution, instead of prioritizing

himself and his family members. All of the female servants were sold off by Rasulullah 24 and its proceeds were used to aid Ahl as-Suffah whom lived in poverty all these while, lounging by

the porch and yard of the masjid. Even though Rasulullah was the leader of the nation, yet he **gave** priority to the maslahah (general benefit) of the masses rather than the maslahah

of his own family members. He 🗯 was not selective in giving priority to cronies or those around him, but instead the interest of the citizens was given utmost priority.

The leader that we yearn for is one who has the characteristics of the Messenger, namely trustworthy, just, sincere, transparent, intelligent, and having high integrity in the sight of

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. It is from here that such leader is deemed as a leader that is well-respected and to be reckoned with. Being a leader is not merely to attain authority.

Authority is takleef or amaanah that is held accountable by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala. Trustworthiness in leadership is not only related to Allah alone, but its hikmah (wisdom) will

spill over to the entire mankind. A leader that is just, having integrity, and has close relationship with Allah will always evaluate and hold himself accountable so that his level of integrity will

always shine upon those around him.

Being just to oneself and others is greatly enjoined in Islam. The leader is the icon to his followers, whom place trust and

great faith in him. Injustice in leadership, always lying to the followers, well articulated in influencing others, having no shame in transgressing against Allah, all of these are

traits of a leader deemed as among those having committed evil and Allah oppression. Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala had forbade these type of leaders and they are unfit to lead.

AllahSubhaanahuWaTa'aalamentions in verse 27of Soorah al-Anfaal:

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

Therefore, we call upon the leader and future leader that it is waajib (obligatory) to possess fundamental these principles. If these principles are tained with various questions

regarding one's bad akhlaaq (character), then it will erode the confidence of the rakyat (people) and serve as a source of fitnah for the public at large. For the Muslim leader, it is not

merely being granted with authority, and it is unbefitting to ask for authority. Behind such power is tremendous amaanah that must be fulfilled and it will be

heldaccountableinfrontofAllahSubhaanahuWaTa'aala.

The conclusions from this sermon are:

1. The Muslims must carefully choose leaders having leadership characteristics of Rasulullah **# who was** truthful and did not lie,

trustworthy and did not betray others, conveys concealing without anything, and intelligent not ignorant.

2. The Muslim ummah must select leaders that would toil and strive in overcoming the difficulties faced by their subjects, having great concern and affection for the believers.

3. The Muslim ummah must elect leaders that would prioritize on the maslahah of the people, instead of the maslahah and interest of their own or their family members'.

4. The Muslims must make ijtihaad (independent reasoning) utilizing all of their efforts and capabilities with due considerations

according to Islamic principles when voting to select leaders that can protect the interest of the Muslim ummah and Islam.

"And when it is said to them, "Do not cause corruption on the earth," they say, "We are but reformers."

Unquestionably, it is they who are the corrupters, but they perceive [it] not." (al-Baqarah 2:11-12)



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.

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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 throughDarulEhsanIslamicFoundation (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

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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,

unitingeveryone,andserveastheheartofummah'sstrength.

INDERASING DEEDAWANOLEH

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