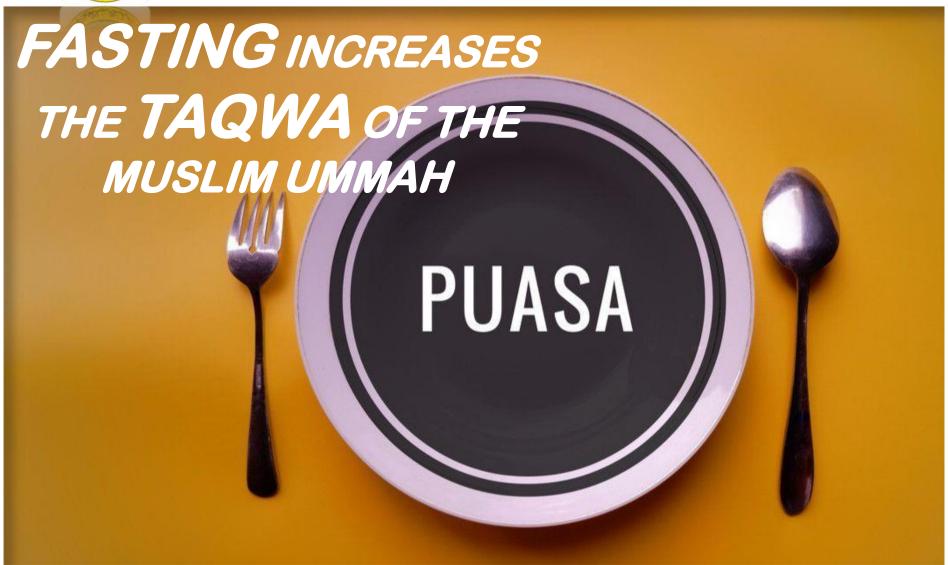


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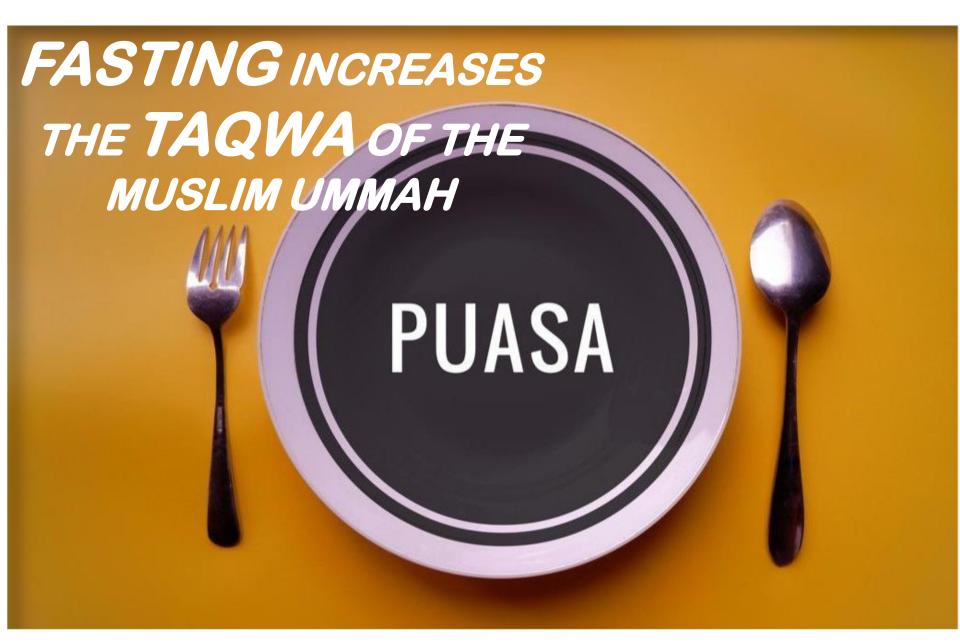




Let us altogether strive to increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala performing all of His Commands and leaving

out all of His prohibitions so that we will be among those attaining blissfulness in this world and the Hereafter.

Today's *khutbah* is titled...



Verily, the concept of fasting is not merely refraining from eating and drinking, as well as actions that would invalidate but it it. necessitates guarding the senses such as the

eyes, ears, and tongue, as well as bodily limbs from committing deeds that can lead to sinning and disobedience. Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh reported: Rasulullah said:

"Verily, fasting is not only abstaining from eating and drinking. Rather, fasting is abstaining from vanity and obscenity. If someone abuses you or acts foolish against you, then say: 'Indeed, I am fasting.'" (ibn Hibbaan)

Befitting with this holy month, there should not be any Muslims that purposely do not fast without any legitimate reason, for aside from sinning, that fasting that was missed out cannot

be made up even if one fasts his entire life. In the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah said:

"Whoever breaks the fast during Ramadaan without an allowance or illness, then if he fasted for all time, his fasting would not make up for it."

(at-Tirmidhi)

Therefore, let us internalize our fasting with full diligence so that the aid from Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala will come, where fasting acts a shield, in addition to other virtues that are innumerable.

The Muslim ummah must seize this golden opportunity to indulge in 'ibaadah (worship) throughout the month of Ramadaan, so as to reach the level of taqwa by performing;

## First: The *Taraweeh*Supererogatory Prayer

The sunnah prayer of taraweeh is legislated only in the month of Ramadaan. It not only offers tremendous reward

but also grants barakah (blessings) including forgiveness of sins. In the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah said:

"Whoever prays during the night in Ramadaan out of sincere faith and seeking its reward from Allah, will have all of his previous sins forgiven."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

The word in this قامَ refers to hadeeth standing, meaning performing salaah (prayer), which also include other forms of 'ibaadah such as engaging in

dhikr (remembrance of Allah), recitation of al-Qur'an, i'tikaf (seclusion) in the masjid, and others. While, the phrase "previous sins will be forgiven" refers to minor sins only, for the major

only be sins can through forgiven tawbah (repentance) and resoluteness in not repeating them again.

This indicates that fasting and the taraweeh prayer are two essential deeds during the month of Ramadaan. What a tremendous loss if we are not prepared to spare some time for 20 raka'ah

of taraweeh prayer as performed in Masjid al-Haraam in Makkah and Masjid an-Nabawi in Madeenah. The taraweeh prayer can only be performed in Ramadaan, it is not to be done in

other months. The of Companions Rasulullah and the saaliheen (righteous) of the past would be in tears when they parted with the month of

Ramadaan, fearing that they may not be able to experience Ramadaan of the following year, due to the health and age factor.

## Two: Spending One's Wealth

Ramadaan is a very special period for those that give infaaq (charity) from their wealth. Infaaq that is waajib (obligatory)

would be zakaat al-fitr, while the sunnah (recommended) ones are giving charity and waqf (endowment). the Regarding obligation of giving

zakaat al-fitr, it is as mentioned in the hadeeth of ibn 'Abbaas radiyAllaahu 'anhuma, whom stated:

"The Messenger of Allah ( enjoined zakaat al-fitr as a purification for the fasting person from idle talk and obscenities, and to feed the poor."

(Abu Dawood and ibn Maajah)

Giving charity by providing iftaar to those breaking their fast is promised with great While, rewards. stinginess and miserliness are among

the traits that will destroy inner our Allah selves. Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 9 of Soorah al-Hashr:

"...And whoever is protected from the stinginess of his soul - it is those who will be the successful."

## Third: Recitation of al-Qur'an

Al-Qur'an was sent down in the month of Ramadaan and its recitation is 'ibaadah. Al-Qur'an provides fundamental laws for the Muslims. Its recitation is 'ibaadah, to ponder and learn about its teachings are also 'ibaadah, and adhering to its teachings is waajib. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala will grant

shafaa'ah (intercession) which is goodness, rahmah (mercy), and forgiveness upon those that recites al-Qur'an. In the hadeeth of Abu Umaamah al-Baahili radiyAllaahu 'anh, Rasulullah said:

"Recite the Qur'an, for it will come as an intercessor for its reciters on the Day of Resurrection."

(Muslim)

Moreover, if we are able to recite it rigorously Ramadaan during whether in the masjid or with the family at home, not only will we attain the shafaa'ah but we will be able to educate our family

members in becoming closer with al-Qur'an.

## Fourth: Increasing Our Supplication

Whichever righteous deeds that we indulge in, let us not

at all forget to make du'aa (supplication). This is because supplications in the month of Ramadaan will be accepted by Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala, especially at the time of breaking the fast.

In the *hadeeth* of 'Abdullah bin 'Amr *radiyAllaahu* 'anhuma, Rasulullah **said**:

"When the fasting person breaks his fast, his supplication is not turned back."

(ibn Maajah)

According to 'A'ishah radiyAllaahu 'anha, Rasulullah had taught her to supplicate;

ٱللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفْقٌ ثُحِبُ ٱلْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

"O Allah, You are Most Forgiving, and You love forgiveness; so forgive me."

(Ahmad, ibn Maajah and at-Tirmidhi)

Ramadaan fasting has many hikmah (wisdom), among them is to overcome the nafs (desire) and defeat the shahwah (lustful desire) whether on eating and drinking or other matters.

Fasting also purifies the heart from the filth of sins and prepares one to become a person of taqwa. Similarly, fasting trains one to become patient, fulfilling his or her promise, and have

compassion upon others. For the hungry person will consciously remain cognizant of the hunger endured by others. May we be bestowed with compassion and remain ever ready to assist those

that are truly in need. Fasting also softens the heart, and the soft heart will taste the pleasure of beseeching and remembering Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala.

Hence, let us deeply internalize upon our fasting with great diligence so that the help of Allah will come, where fasting serves as a shield, and other virtues that are countless. It is greatly

recommended that we strive to increase our knowledge and become well-informed of the issues common regarding the 'ibaadah of fasting, so that our fasting will be accepted

by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

To end the sermon today, let us reflect upon the following suggestions:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that fasting in the month of Ramadaan is an that is ordainment waajib upon every Muslim.

2. The Muslim ummah must be well-versed regarding the rulings pertaining to issues in fasting, so that their fasting adheres to the Shara'.

3. The Muslim ummah must remain istiqaamah (steadfast) while 'ibaadah performing throughout Ramadaan, with fasting during the day and supererogatory

'ibaadah during the night, so as to attain the barakah of this blessed month.

"And when My servants ask you, [O Muhammad], concerning Me - indeed I am near. I respond to the invocation of the supplicant when he

calls upon Me. So let them respond to Me [by obedience] and believe in Me that they may be [rightly] guided."

(al-Baqarah 2:186)

## 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,



