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“RIYAA’ IN ‘IBAADAH”

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ : وَالَّذِينَ يُنْفِقُونَ أَمْوَالَهُمْ رِثَاءَ النَّاسِ وَلَا يُؤْمِنُونَ
بِاللَّهِ وَلَا بِالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَمَنْ يَكُنِ الشَّيْطَانُ لَهُ وَ قَرِينًا فَسَاءَ قَرِينًا ¹
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا
مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى
اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.
قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ
إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ²

Dear blessed Muslims,

I humbly call upon all of us to altogether strive in increasing our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by performing all of His Commands and abstaining from all of His prohibitions. May we be bestowed with blissfulness and success in this world and the Hereafter.

On this blessed day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah* titled “RIYAA’ IN ‘IBAADAH.”

Blessed Friday audience,

¹ an-Nisaa’ 4:38.

² Aal ‘Imraan 3:102



Islam is protective upon its adherents so that they would always remain upon the path of Truth. The Muslims are taught to always preserve their *akhlaaq* (character) by getting rid of *madhmoomah* (blameworthy) traits within themselves, and replace them with the traits of *mahmoodah* (praiseworthy). Among the traits of *madhmoomah* that are *wajib* (obligatory) to be avoided is *riyaa'* (showing off).

Linguistically, *riyaa'* originates from the word *ru'yah*, which means to manifest or make visible a good deed towards fellow human being. From a technical or *Shar'i* standpoint, it means to perform *'ibaadah* (acts of worship) with the *niyyah* (intention) to be praised by others and without the intention for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* Alone. This trait is truly futile for it entails a pretentious nature that is always scouring for the opportunity to be praised. It also serves as the weapon for *shaytaan* to defeat those that are always indulging in *'ibaadah* to the point of having all of their deeds invalidated and not reaching Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 264 of soorah al-Baqarah:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَبْطُلُوا صَدَقَاتِكُمْ بِالْمَنِّ وَالْأَذَى كَالَّذِي
يُنْفِقُ مَالَهُ رِثَاءَ النَّاسِ وَلَا يُؤْمِنُ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ

“O you who have believed, do not invalidate your charities with reminders or injury as does one who spends his wealth [only] to be seen by the people and does not believe in Allah and the Last Day.”

This trait can appear whether we are in the state of full cognizance or not. At times we would forget, become negligent, and heedless that some of our *'ibaadah* are performed to be seen by the masses. This is to gain the attention

and praise from others such as uploading any content, specifically the *'ibaadah* that we perform, onto social media platforms and others. We would then sit and wait, only to be in joy and pride when others would provide their feedback in praising us that we forget our true objectives in performing those *'ibaadah*.

Unfortunately, we are more hopeful in attaining rewards from humans in this world that we forget for all of the deeds and *'ibaadah* performed, it is only Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* who is worthy to judge and reward. Take heed, an *'ibaadah* is done in adhering to the command of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and not due to the command of His creations. The deeds that we perform will only be deemed worthy and rewarded by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* if they were done with *ikhlaas* (sincerity) for His sake. The attribute of *riyaa'* is a very dangerous ailment for it can threaten the purity of *'aqeedah* and destroy *ikhlaas* within the heart.

Mahmood bin Lubayd *radiyAllaahu 'anh* narrated that Rasulullah ﷺ said:

إِنَّ أَخُوفَ مَا أَخَافُ عَلَيْكُمُ الشِّرْكَ الْأَصْغَرَ قَالُوا: وَمَا الشِّرْكَ الْأَصْغَرَ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: الرِّيَاءُ، يَقُولُ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ لَهُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ: إِذَا جُزِيَ النَّاسُ بِأَعْمَالِهِمْ: اذْهَبُوا إِلَى الَّذِينَ كُنْتُمْ تُرَاوُونَ فِي الدُّنْيَا فَاَنْظُرُوا هَلْ تَجِدُونَ عِنْدَهُمْ جَزَاءً

“What I fear for you the most is the minor shirk, that is ar-riyaa’. Allah will say on the Day of Judgement when He is rewarding the people for their actions: “Go to those for whom you did riyaa’ for in the world then see if you find the reward with them.””

(Ahmad)

Dear blessed audience,

The ruling for *riyaa*’ is that it is *haraam* (unlawful) and it is condemned by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala*, based on verses 4-6 of soorah al-Ma’oon:

فَوَيْلٌ لِلْمُصَلِّينَ ﴿٤﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ عَنْ صَلَاتِهِمْ سَاهُونَ ﴿٥﴾ الَّذِينَ هُمْ

يُرَاءُونَ ﴿٦﴾

“So woe to those who pray. [But] who are heedless of their prayer - Those who make show [of their deeds].”

Based on these verses, those that perform *‘ibaadah* or righteous deeds for the purpose of *‘ibaadah* and *riyaa*’, then their *‘ibaadah* will not be rewarded by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala* because its reward has been concealed by *riyaa*’.

Esteemed Friday audience,

Getting rid of this vile trait necessitates *mujaahadah*, which is *jihad* within one’s own self. The first step is to throw out all of the evil and bad deeds that have become a habit within us. At the same time, we must force ourselves to engage in righteous deeds. Instill the determination to continue to remain *istiqaamah* (steadfast) in ridding off *riyaa*’ within ourselves. Perform *‘ibaadah* with a sincere heart, purely for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala* without associating anything with Him. There is no use for *‘ibaadah* performed just to attain praises from human beings for they are only beneficial in this mortal world. Remember, all of the *‘ibaadah* that we perform with *ikhlaas* purely

for Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* Alone are purely for the sake of attaining His Pleasure.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 146 of soorah an-Nisaa':

إِلَّا الَّذِينَ تَابُوا وَأَصْلَحُوا وَاعْتَصَمُوا بِاللَّهِ وَأَخْلَصُوا دِينَهُمْ لِلَّهِ فَأُولَئِكَ مَعَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَسَوْفَ يُؤْتِي اللَّهُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ أَجْرًا عَظِيمًا ﴿١٤٦﴾

“Except for those who repent, correct themselves, hold fast to Allah, and are sincere in their religion for Allah, for those will be with the believers. And Allah is going to give the believers a great reward.”

Dear blessed Muslims,

To end the *khutbah* today, let us derive several lessons from the sermon as guidelines in our lives, namely:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must perform all *'ibadah* with *ikhlaas* purely for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, not to gain attention and praises from humans.
2. The Muslim *ummah* must keep themselves away from *riyaa'* for it is an act that will destroy the *'aqeedah* and associates with Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in a hidden manner.
3. The Muslims must instill firm determination within in continuing to perform *jihad* and liberating themselves from all *madhmoomah* traits and decorating themselves with traits of *mahmoodah*.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ



قُلْ إِنَّمَا أَنَا بَشَرٌ مِّثْلُكُمْ يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ أَنَّمَا إِلَهُكُمُ اللَّهُ وَاحِدٌ فَمَن
كَانَ يَرْجُوا لِقَاءَ رَبِّهِ فَلْيَعْمَلْ عَمَلًا صَالِحًا وَلَا يُشْرِكْ بِعِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ
أَحَدًا ﴿١١٠﴾

“Say, “I am only a man like you, to whom has been revealed that your god is one God. So whoever would hope for the meeting with his Lord - let him do righteous work and not associate in the worship of his Lord anyone.””

(al-Kahf 18:110)

بَارِكْ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ
مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ
السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.

أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ



THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ.
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. أَمَّا
بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ! أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ
فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ
وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٥٦﴾

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ
مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ مُجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ
الْحَاجَاتِ.

اللَّهُمَّ اصْلِحْ أُمَّةَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَوُلَاةَ أُمُورِهِمْ وَجَمِيعَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ
اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ
بِأَسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعِينِ
عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةَ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةَ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا
الْمُعَظَّمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطُونِ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ ابْنِ الْمَرْحُومِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيزِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعُونَ وَالْهُدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُونِ، تَغْكُو أَمِيرِ شَاهِ ابْنِ
السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِي أَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَطْلُ

عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحَيْنِ لِلْمُوظَّفِينَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ
مَقاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.

O Allah! We seek refuge in You from severe trials, from being afflicted with calamities, from evil in destiny, and from the joy of the enemies upon the tribulations and misfortunes that befell us. O Allah! We beseech Your protection, from losing the favors that You have bestowed, from the loss of health that You have granted, protect our state from calamity and disaster. O Allah! You are our One and Only Savior, we humbly beg You to save Masjid al-Aqsa in Palestine.

O Allah! 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, embezzlement, and power abuse. 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 *masajid* and *suraus* in the state of Selangor as Your peaceful homes, uniting everyone, and serve as the heart of the *ummah's* strength.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا ﴿٧٤﴾
رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ ﴿٩٠﴾
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ
الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٩٠﴾



فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُواهُ عَلَى نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ،
وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا
تَصْنَعُونَ.