

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

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I humbly call upon all of us to 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 happiness and success in this world and the Hereafter.

On this blessed day, I will expound on a khutbah.



The requirement in fulfilling zakaah is an obligation upon every Muslim individual once its conditions are met. As a manifestation of endless shukr (gratitude) for all of the bounties

by Allah bestowed Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala upon all of us, it becomes waajib (obligatory) for all Muslims that have been blessed with wealth to fulfill their zakaah.

In the narration of Abu Umaamah al-Baahiliy radiyAllaahu anh, Rasulullah عليه وسلم said:

"And pay the zakaah on your wealth, and obey those who are in charge of you, you will enter the Paradise of your Lord."

(at-Tirmidhi and Ahmad)

In ensuring the that management for the 'ibaadah (worship) of zakaah is done well and organized, Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala has bestowed the mandate for the

management of zakaat collection and disbursement upon Ulil 'Amr (those given authority) or the ruler of that locality.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 103 of soorah at-Tawbah that was recited during the early part of the khutbah:

"Take, [O, Muhammad], from their wealth a charity by which you purify them and cause them increase, and invoke [Allah's blessings] upon them. Indeed, your invocations are reassurance for them. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing."

Al-Imaam ibn Katheer mentioned in the tafseer (explanation of the meaning) of this verse that Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala had His commanded Messenger to collect

zakaat from the wealth of the Companions at that time, after having met its conditions, intending to purify them from bad akhlaaq (character) and expiate their sins.

The command to collect zakaat, in the beginning, sole was the responsibility of Rasulullah as the leader or ruler. However, that task was inherited alternately by the caliphs

or the leaders of the Muslim ummah. That task could also be deputized through the appointment or certification of individuals or organizations that are eligible to implement and carry it out.

In performing the task of collecting zakaah from its payers, the Selangor Islamic Religious Council (MAIS) has conditions that must be met, among them is that the collectors must be from

among the 'aamil (collector) that have been appointed or certified by MAIS. If the Islamic Religious Council of a particular state has appointed or granted certification upon any

individuals organizations as the 'aamil or zakaat agent, then such appointment is valid according to the Shara', but it is only applicable within the state borders or the

jurisdiction of the state Islamic Religious Council that made the appointment. Section 37, Sharee 'ah Criminal (Selangor) Offenses 1995 Enactment stipulated that:

"Any person who collects zakaat or al-fitr or causes to be collected zakaat or al-fitr without having been appointed as 'aamil or otherwise authorized by the Majlis shall be guilty of an offense and

shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding thousand ringgit or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both."

The legal provisions regarding the prohibition to collect zakaat or al-fitr without the appointment by the Selangor Islamic Religious Council actually intends to preserve the maslahah (interest) of the

public or communities within this state, so that no one can easily take advantage in lying to the masses through the collection of zakaat or alfitr for their own personal gain or the interest of

others, which in the end causes the general public to lose their trust in Islamic institutions.

Obedience to *Ulil 'Amr* or the ruler in matters that are good is a stipulation in

Islam and it encompasses all affairs including zakaat collection. In the state of Selangor, the Selangor Islamic Religious Council is the entity that has been granted the responsibility

of administering Islamic affairs including the appointment and certification of zakaat 'aamil.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 59 of soorah an-Nisaa':

"O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you."

Even though obedience to Ulil 'Amr is clearly from the Shara', we still find cases where there are agents appointed by certain State Islamic Religious Council collecting zakaat within

the state of Selangor, which is outside of the designated area. The promise of a handsome rebate between 50 up to 80 percent is from among the reasons causing that particular agent to

greedy become collecting zakaat that they would venture into other states, though violating the Sharee'ah Criminal Offenses Act of their state.

If we were to refer to the facts regarding the case, there were two individuals who were appointed agents by a certain state's Islamic Religious Council, according to Section 37

Criminal Sharee 'ah Offenses (Selangor) 1995 and Enactment Section 52 (1) (b) at the Lower Sharee'ah Court of Sepang in 2016. While, in 2018, charges were made for the same

offense against an individual who was not appointed as 'aamil by any entity. As for the latest, there is a court allegation made under Section 37 Sharee'ah Criminal (Selangor) Offenses Enactment 1995 at the

Lower Sharee'ah Court of Petaling Jaya against a former 'aamil, where the accused pleaded guilty and was punished and fined on 24th October, 2024.

Zakaat funds in Selangor is very crucial in assisting the asnaf recipients), (zakaat especially with the large population within this state. The majority of Muslim Malays fall within

urban the category of poor, while partly in the rural areas. Up until September 2024, there are 71,000 poor and needy asnaf families registered with the Selangor Zakaat Board (LZS). To care for all

the asnaf categories, the total fund needed RM1.36 amounts to billion. If zakaat collection in Selangor is "siphoned" to other places by irresponsible parties, then definitely

asnafs who were receive supposed to zakaat aid will be subjected to oppression and their rights also denied.

If we look at it from the aspect of Shar'i rulings, collecting zakaah beyond the state border is an offense and zakaah paid to agents who have violated and crossed the boundaries of State

Religious Islamic Council, is deemed as invalid. The fatwa regarding the "Ruling on Those Not Appointed or Unauthorized to Accept Zakaat Collection or Its Distribution" has

received approval from His Royal Majesty the Sultan of Selangor on 28th October 2024, and it is in the process of being officially gazetted. It states that:

"Zakaat payment made to individuals or other bodies that were not granted with valid authority is rendered as invalid and its payer has yet to be relieved from the obligation to fulfill zakaat."

Let us imagine the predicament of zakaat given these to irresponsible entities, what was deemed as valid and having fulfilled the obligation, but instead remain invalid

its and obligation unfulfilled. Monies have been paid but its obligation is not fulfilled, and deemed as still not having paid zakaah. Well, what are the implications of not fulfilling zakaat?

The fate of those not their spending wealth in fulfilling zakaah is severe punishment in the Hereafter.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 35 of soorah at-Tawbah:

"The Day when it will be heated in the fire of Hell and seared therewith will be their foreheads,

their flanks, and their backs, [it will be said], "This is what you hoarded for yourselves, so taste what you used to hoard.""

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

1. Collecting zakaat is the responsibility of the ruler and it can only be fulfilled through 'aamil appointed or certified by the religious authority, and for the state of Selangor it would be MAIS.

2. The Muslims must fulfill zakaat to collectors appointed by MAIS to ensure that the deed remains valid and one's obligation as a Muslim is fulfilled.

3. As responsible Muslims, we must become the eyes and ears for the religious authorities, in aiding to ensure that no one takes advantage in violating the regulations and sovereignty of the state.

"And those within whose wealth is a known right. For the petitioner and the deprived."

(Soorah al-Ma'aarij 70:24-25)

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

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 the Muslims and Masjid al-Agsa 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 masaajid and suraus in

the state of Selangor as Your peaceful homes, uniting everyone, and serve as the heart of the ummah's strength.

