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FRIDAY SERMON

Title:

"TACKLING THE CRIME OF BULLYING WITHIN SOCIETY"

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"TACKLING THE CRIME OF BULLYING WITHIN SOCIETY"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ : وَٱلَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ ٱلْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَٱلْمُؤْمِنَتِ بِغَيْرِ مَا ٱحْتَسَبُواْ فَقَدِ ٱحْتَمَلُواْ بُهْتَنَا وَإِثْمَا مُّبِينَا '

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وسَلِّم عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِيْنَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَآ أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ اِتَّقُواْ اللَّهَ، أُوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يَأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ ٱتَّقُواْ ٱللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُم مُّسْلِمُونَ 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 fulfilling all of His Commands and abandoning all matters forbidden by Him. May we all be granted happiness and success in this world and the Hereafter. Fellow congregants

¹ Al-Ahzab: 58.

² Ali-'Imran: 102.



are reminded not to fiddle with the cellular phone while the *khutbah* is being delivered.

On this noble day, I will expound on a *khutbah* titled "TACKLING THE CRIME OF BULLYING WITHIN SOCIETY."

Dear blessed Friday audience,

In the Arabic language, bullying is known as *at-Tanammur* (الإِضْطِهَاد), *al-Idtihaad* (الإِضْطِهَا), and *al-Eedhaa*' (الإِيْذَاء), which brings the meaning aggressive behavior, oppression, or hurtful actions whether physically, emotionally or mentally. In the contemporary context, the term *at-Tanammur* is frequently used to depict the act of bullying in various situations. It is not only confined to the act of hurting, but a form of *zhulm* (oppression) that can harm the dignity and well-being of the individual being bullied.

Rasulullah ملي الله had firmly forbade the Muslim *ummah* from harming fellow human beings, whether through words or actions.

In the *hadeeth* of 'Abdullah ibn 'Amr *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma*, Rasulullah عليوسلم عليوسلم

"الْمُسْلِمُ مَنْ سَلِمَ الْمُسْلِمُونَ مِنْ لِسَانِهِ وَيَدِهِ"

"The Muslim is he from whose tongue and hand the Muslims are safe."

(al-Bukhaari)

During the time of *Jaahiliyyah* (Age of Ignorance), the concept of bullying is not as the same as we understood it today, but it existed in the form of



oppression upon the weak, injustice according to social status, violence between tribes, as well as torment and mistreatment of daughters. Similarly, there was power abuse and normalization of the powerful and influential against the weak without compassion.

However, Islam came as the shining light that eliminated these injustices. Islam vehemently stated that mankind is all equal in the sight of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* without discriminating against one's lineage, rank, or stature, save those having utmost *taqwa*.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 13 of Soorah al-Hujuraat:

"...Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you..."

Verily, Islam is a religion that brings justice, upholds the dignity of the oppressed, protects the women, children, slaves, the poor, and the needy, as narrated in the *hadeeth* of Anas *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, where Rasulullah *stated*:

"Help your brother whether he is an oppressor or an oppressed." A man said, "O Allah's Messenger (ﷺ)! I will help him if he is oppressed, but if he is an oppressor, how shall I help him?" The Prophet (ﷺ) said, "By preventing him from oppressing (others), for that is how to help him."

(al-Bukhaari)

Beloved Friday audience,

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Bullying can potentially occur at any location or various situation, be it at the workplace, schools or institutes of higher learning, on the road, in the neighborhood, or even in cyberspace. It can be committed knowingly and intentionally by individuals or groups in the form of emotional harassment, intimidation, or humiliation, whether physically or online, due to the effect of *fitnah*, envy, vengeance, and the failure to control emotions and anger.

In the context of school environment, bullying is one of the most serious disciplinary issues. According to several reports, physical bullying is the most frequent form of bullying that occurs among primary and secondary school students in several states in Malaysia. Aside from that, there are reports indicating that the male students are more inclined to be involved in acts of bullying as compared to female students.

The truth is that bullying is not just an oppressive or harmful act, but in more tragic cases, it can take away innocent lives. Deaths resulting from bullying are stark evidence upon the terrible effect of such heinous act. For example, one case of bullying was recorded in May 2017 involving students at a public university in Malaysia, where they had bullied a friend to his demise, after being accused of stealing a laptop. Unfortunately, these incidents often took place because the victims did not receive aid at the right time and that no one has the courage to take action in halting them before it is too late.

Respected Friday congregation,

To curb the crime of bullying specifically in schools, the teachers and counselors appointed must be equipped with specialized training to identify



early signs of bullying victims and providing effective psychological support. Parents must also be actively involved in discussing and resolving bullying cases so that necessary actions can be taken from early on before it becomes more serious.

As a strategic measure, school administrators must take a proactive approach in identifying the causes of bullying by organizing awareness campaigns and guidance, as well as enforcing strict disciplinary actions upon bullies. Bullying must be fully curbed by instilling a culture that is founded upon the principles of mutual respect, tolerance, and accepting diversity among students and teaching staff.

To create a conducive atmosphere in schools, it is then advised for the school administration to re-examine the existing policies and practices, and also review the status of bullying cases that occurred at respective schools. Policy priorities must be determined in initiating effective changes. The Anti-Bullying Committee is worth establishing to increase the awareness on the evil of bullying.

All quarters must be involved in the planning and implementation of such initiative, in tackling and managing bullying incidents that are becoming increasingly widespread.

Esteemed Friday audience,

To increase the positive relationship between the school, parents, and community, an effective strategy that has been mutually planned must be inculcated. This includes encouraging peer support and empowering the



teacher's role to be held up as a role model in school. In this process, the key leader in school, whether the principal or headmaster, plays a significant role in ensuring the success of bully prevention initiative.

At the same time, education and awareness must be intensified through campaigns that emphasize the negative effect of bullying, in addition to instilling the values of respect and empathy from early on. Strict rules and policies must be enforced by ensuring those laws stipulate appropriate disciplinary actions or punishments upon the bullies, aside from preparing a safe complaint channel for bullying victims.

Sound support from society and government also plays an important role in tackling this issue. Having online assistance or counseling for the victims and the encouragement for them to report the incident without being afraid is among measures that must be taken.

In all these aspects, the leader's involvement is truly necessary in exercising their active role in the prevention and handling of bullying crime. The problem of bullying within the community is not the responsibility of individuals alone, but it necessitates collective effort from all quarters. With firm support and high level of awareness, *inshaa Allah*, bullying can be reduced that in the end it allows for our society to live more peacefully, safely, and harmoniously.

Dear beloved Friday attendees,

To end the *khutbah* today, let us derive several lessons as guidance in our daily lives:

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1. The Muslim *ummah* must realize that Islam strictly prohibits any form of oppression, humiliation, or actions that harm others, be it physically, verbally, or even emotionally.

2. The Muslim *ummah* must always remember that oppressing others not only leads to evil in this world, but it will be held accountable in the Hereafter.

3. The Muslim *ummah* must be concerned upon the condition of their brethren surrounding them, for remaining silent upon oppression or allowing it to continue to persist means complicity in sinful acts.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ كُنتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِٱلْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ ٱلْمُنكَرِ وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِٱللَّهِ وَلَوْ ءَامَنَ أَهْلُ ٱلْكِتَبِ لَكَانَ خَيْرَا لَّهُمْ مِّنْهُمُ ٱلْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَأَكْثَرُهُمُ ٱلْفَسِقُون ٢

"You are the best nation produced [as an example] for mankind. You enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong and believe in Allah. If only the People of the Scripture had believed, it would have been better for them. Among them are believers, but most of them are defiantly disobedient."

(Soorah Aal 'Imraan 3:110)



بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِيْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّيْ وَمِنْكُمْ تِلاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيْحُ الْعَلِيْمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَآئِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِيْ جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيْكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا



عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوْلُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّيْنِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللهِ! اِتَّقُواْ اللَّهَ! أُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُوْنَ.

إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ وَمَلْبِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى ٱلنَّبِيَّ يَاأَيُّهَا ٱلَّذِينَ ءَامَنُواْ صَلُّواْ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُواْ تَسْلِيمًا ۞ اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِيْنَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيْعٌ قَرِيْبٌ مُجِيْبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ.

ٱللَّهُمَّ أَصْلِحْ أَئِمَّةَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَوُلَاةَ أُمُوْرِهِمْ وَجَمِيْعَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الأَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَآئِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بِعَيْنِ



الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وِقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلاَلَةً مَلِكِنَا الْمُعَظَّم، سُلْطَان سلاغُور، سُلْطَان شَرَفُ الدِّين ادريس الحاج ابن المرحوم سُلْطَان صَلاَحُ الدِّين عبد العزيز الْعَوْنَ وَالْهدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، ٱللَّهُمَّ أَدِم والص مِنْكَ، لِوَلِيّ عَهْدِ سلاغُور، تعْكو أَمِير وَالْسَّ شاه الدِّين ادريس شاه الحاج، فِيْ شرَفَ كَ يَا ذَا الْجَلال وَالإِكْرَام. <u>وَ</u>كرَم لِلْمُوَظِّفِيْنَ وَالرَّعيَّة llģ دَهُمَا لِطَرِيق الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.

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 who 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.



O Allah! Protect the Muslims and Masjid al-Aqsa in Palestine. Safeguard them from oppression and evil, and bestow upon them determination, courage, and victory.

O Allah! Strengthen the 'aqeedah of the Muslims in this state, 'aqeedah that is upon the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*, which is upon the path of Prophet Muhammad and his Companions *radiyAllaahu 'anhum*, and spare us from all of the *fitan* that can harm the union and unity of the Muslim *ummah*.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزُوَ جِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّة أَعْيُنِ وَٱجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا ٢ رَبَّنَا ءَاتِنَا فِي ٱلدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةَ وَفِي ٱلْأَخِرَةِ حَسَنَةَ وَقِنَا عَذَابَ ٱلنَّارِ ٢ عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ ٱللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِٱلْعَدُلِ وَٱلْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَايٍ ذِي ٱلْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى عَنِ ٱلْفَحْشَاءِ وَٱلْمُنكَرِ وَٱلْبَغِيْ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَرُونَ ٢

فَاذْكُرُواْ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوْهُ عَلَى نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوْهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.