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***“UNITY THE KEY TO LASTING
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"UNITY THE KEY TO LASTING INDEPENDENCE"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ : يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تُحِلُّوا شَعْرَ اللَّهِ وَلَا الشَّهْرَ الْحَرَامَ وَلَا الْهَدْيَ وَلَا الْقَلَئِدَ وَلَا ءَامِينَ الْبَيْتِ الْحَرَامِ يَبْتَغُونَ فَضْلًا مِّن رَّبِّهِمْ وَرِضْوَانًا وَإِذَا حَلَلْتُمْ فَاصْطَادُوا وَلَا يَجْرِمَنَّكُمْ شَنَاٰنُ قَوْمٍ أَن صَدُّوكُمْ عَنِ الْمَسْجِدِ الْحَرَامِ أَن تَعْتَدُوا وَتَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْبِرِّ وَالتَّقْوَىٰ وَلَا تَعَاوَنُوا عَلَى الْإِثْمِ وَالْعُدْوَانِ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ إِنَّ اللَّهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ.¹

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ 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 وَأَنتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.²

Muslimin yang dirahmati Allah SWT sekalian,

¹ al-Ma'idah 5:2.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.

I sincerely 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 avoiding all the things He forbade. May we be bestowed with blissfulness and success in this world and the Hereafter. Fellow audience is reminded to not utilize the mobile phone while the sermon is being delivered.

On this noble day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah* titled **"UNITY IS THE KEY TO LASTING INDEPENDENCE."**

Dear blessed Friday audience,

On the 31st of August 2025, our nation will celebrate the 68th anniversary of our National Day, where the previous generations had fought to death in liberating our homeland from the shackles of colonialism that had gripped for four centuries. As post-Merdeka (post-Independence) generations, let us always remember that the *ni'mah* (favor) of independence is *waajib* (obligatory) to be defended for the sake of our survival and the future of our children and grandchildren. Verily, freedom and prosperity of the nation will only remain when its citizens strive to preserve the unity and harmony among themselves.

Blessed Friday audience,

Our independence has remained firm due to the solid unity that is preserved by the Malaysians themselves. It behooves us to be reminded of the Madeenah Charter that was founded by Rasulullah ﷺ because this charter served as the main foundation for national unity in the established state of Madeenah that not only united the Muslims, but also the non-Muslims, where they all had different *qabeelah* (tribes) with different cultures. This means that the residents of Madeenah had agreed to live together as one

community and mutually aid one another on the common ground that they are all residents of Madeenah al-Munawwarah, based on conditions that have been stipulated by Rasulullah ﷺ.

According to the late Dr. Muhammad Sa'eed Ramadaan al-Booti, the charter drafted by Rasulullah ﷺ is in essence *wahy* (revelation) that is from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. Aside from that, it is an indicator that the core of unity in a society is a charter that has the values of fairness and respect for the rights of each member of society.

The values enshrined within the Madeenah Charter that served as guidance for the building of a nation including Malaysia can be found within the Federal Constitution and *Rukun Negara* (National Principles). In this regard, every Malaysian citizen must always internalize the values found within both, so that the citizen's unity will always remain solid, hence the independence preserved.

Dear beloved Friday audience,

Obedience to the Federal Constitution and *Rukun Negara* is enjoined by the *shara'* itself as 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."

Similarly, in the *hadeeth* of ibn 'Umar *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma* where Rasulullah ﷺ said:

عَلَى الْمَرْءِ الْمُسْلِمِ السَّمْعُ وَالطَّاعَةُ فِيمَا أَحَبَّ وَكَرِهَ إِلَّا أَنْ
يُؤْمَرَ بِمَعْصِيَةٍ، فَإِنْ أُمِرَ بِمَعْصِيَةٍ فَلَا سَمْعَ وَلَا طَاعَةَ

"It is obligatory upon a Muslim to listen (to the ruler) and obey whether he likes it or not, except when he is ordered to do a sinful thing; if he is ordered to do a sinful act, then there is no obligation to listen or to obey."

(Muslim)

Both the Qur'anic verse and *hadeeth* indicated the obligation to abide by the command of the Muslim leader for as long as it does not contradict the command of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and His Messenger.

Dear esteemed Muslims,

We must understand that within the framework of unity upon the Federal Constitution and *Rukun Negara*, every Malaysian citizen of varying background remains free to practice his or her own religion and culture. This is among the main foundations of our country's harmony. This matter coincides with the values outlined in the Madeenah Charter that was initiated by Rasulullah ﷺ, where the Jews and polytheists were guaranteed the freedom to remain upon their beliefs, for as long as they abide by the charter.

Aside from the limitations stipulated within the law, the foundation of unity was also mentioned directly and clearly in al-Qur'an through the second verse of Soorah al-Maa'idah:

“And cooperate in righteousness and piety, but do not cooperate in sin and aggression. And fear Allah.”

Deriving lessons from this verse, do not even once allow freedom to be misused for scheming in disobedience and criminal acts. Instead, it must be directed to efforts in remaining united upon matters that are good. The freedom possessed must be driven by *imaan* (faith) and *akhlaaq* (character), not to oppress others upon the basis of emotions, sentiments, or even perceptions.

Dearest noble Muslims,

In another verse, Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala* reminds us in verse 13 of Soorah al-Hujuraat:

“O mankind, verily We have created you from male and female and made you peoples and tribes that you may know one another. Indeed, the most noble of you in the sight of Allah is the most righteous of you. Indeed, Allah is Knowing and Acquainted.”

This verse clearly reminds us that diversity in ethnicity, race, and lineage is by the will of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala*. Its purpose is not to create a gap, enmity, or boasting of one’s origin, but instead to get to know one another, having mutual respect, and living in a harmonious environment. The truth is that the measure of nobility in the sight of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala* is not due to appearance, stature, or lineage, but instead due to *taqwa* that radiates through the sincerity of the heart, righteous deeds, and the beauty of *akhlaaq*.

With that, it is clearly apparent that Islam teaches its adherents to uphold *taqwa* as the basis of unity. This is the scale that eliminates narrow-minded racism, prejudice, and sectarian fanaticism. If society firmly clings upon these

foundations, surely the independence enjoyed will lead to prosperity, not division.

Respected Muslims,

Unity within a multi-ethnic society will be preserved if every members of society is capable of interacting with full *hikmah* and not touch upon each others' sensitivities. From the Islamic perspective, sensitivity being mentioned here refers to matters that are *thaabit* (certain) or *qat'i* (definitive) in the religion, which is to debate on religious principles, *'ibaadah* (worship), and basic principles of *shara'* (Islamic law) that cannot be violated.

The basis for this prohibition had been stated by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in verse 108 of Soorah al-An'aam:

"And do not insult those they invoke other than Allah, lest they insult Allah in enmity without knowledge."

According to the narration of Imaam ibn Jareer at-Tabari, on the authority of ibn 'Abbaas *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma*, this verse was revealed as admonition to some of the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ who had insulted the idols of the polytheists. Those insults then led to the polytheists' reaction by insulting Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, without realizing the reality of *tawheed* brought by Rasulullah ﷺ. Moreover, the polytheists had done so with the assumption that Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* is merely an idol just like the one that they worship.

Hence, the wrongdoing committed by a party should not be retaliated with another wrongdoing. Instead, it should be managed with full wisdom and

understanding. What more when it involves *da'wah* (calling to Islam) to the non-Muslims.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 125 of Soorah an-Nahl:

"Invite to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction, and argue with them in a way that is best."

Blessed congregation,

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

1. The Muslim *ummah* must realize that the actual pillar for the independence and prosperity of the country rests upon the foundation of unity that is solid within a multi-ethnic and multicultural society.

2. The Muslim *ummah* must remain penitent that the commonality among the citizens is the essence that solidifies unity, while the existing differences provides the space for mutual respect of one another.

3. The Muslim *ummah* must assume the role as the peacemaker that unites the society, not as the instigator that causes disputes.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَلَوْ شَاءَ رَبُّكَ لَجَعَلَ النَّاسَ أُمَّةً وَاحِدَةً وَلَا يَزَالُونَ مُخْتَلِفِينَ.

"And if your Lord had willed, He could have made mankind one community; but they will not cease to differ."

(Soorah Hood 11:118)

بَارَكَ 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 أَنْزَلَ الشَّرِيعَةَ هُدًى لِلنَّاسِ وَرَحْمَةً،
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ
وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. أَمَّا
بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ أَوْصِيَكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ
فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ
وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.³

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

³ al-Ahzaab 33:56.

اَللّٰهُمَّ اَعِزَّ الْاِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِيْنَ، وَاَذِلَّ الشِّرْكَ وَالْمُشْرِكِيْنَ،
وَدَمِّرْ اَعْدَاءَ الدِّيْنِ، وَاَجْعَلْ هٰذَا الْبَلَدَ اَمِنًا مُّطْمَئِنًّا وَسَائِرَ
بِلَادِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ.

اَللّٰهُمَّ وَفِّقْ اَئِمَّةَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَوُلَاةَ اُمُوْرِهِمْ وَجَمِيْعَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ
لِمَا فِيْهِ صَلاَحُ الْبِلَادِ وَالْعِبَادِ.

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ اِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْاَمِيْنِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ
بِاسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنٰى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمٰى، اَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعِيْنَ
عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةَ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصِّمْدَانِيَّةَ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا
الْمُعَظَّمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطُوْر، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ ابْنِ الْمَرْحُوْمِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحُ الدِّيْنِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيْزِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لِيُوَلِّيَّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُوْر، تَعْكُوْ اَمِيْر شَاهِ ابْنِ
السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِيْ اَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ

عُمْرُهُمَا مُصْلِحَيْنِ لِلْمُوظَّفِينَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ
مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لَطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.

O Allah! Strengthen the 'aqeedah of the Muslims upon the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*, which is upon the path of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and his Companions *radiyAllaahu 'anhum*. Spare us from all forms of abuse, misguidance, shirk and superstition, and protect us from *fitan* that can harm the union and unity of the Muslim *ummah*.

O Allah! Bestow peace and prosperity upon our state and nation. Protect us from all forms of fitnah and calamities such as murder, bullying, and oppressing others. Bestow upon us leaders that have utmost integrity, firmness, and courage in upholding the Truth according to Your *Sharee'ah*.

O Allah! We beseech Your protection from the evil of the enemies and traitors. Protect us from the temptations of *shaytaan* and his armies. Guide us to always remain *istiqamah* in fulfilling all of Your Commands and abandoning all of Your prohibitions.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا.⁴
رَبَّنَا ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.⁵
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَايِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ.⁶

⁴ al-Furqaan 25:74.

⁵ al-Baqarah 2:201.

⁶ an-Nahl 16:90.

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