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***“FACING THE CHALLENGE OF DEVIANT
TEACHINGS AND SUPERSTITION IN
MODERN TIMES”***

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"FACING THE CHALLENGE OF DEVIANT TEACHINGS AND SUPERSTITION IN MODERN TIMES"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: اتَّخَذُوا أَحْبَارَهُمْ وَرُهْبَنَهُمْ أَرْبَابًا مِّن دُونِ اللَّهِ
وَالْمَسِيحَ ابْنَ مَرْيَمَ وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا إِلَهًا وَحِدًا لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ
سُبْحَنَهُ عَمَّا يُشْرِكُونَ.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، أَوْصِيكُمْ 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 implore all of us to altogether strive in increasing our
taqwa of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by performing all of His

¹ at-Tawbah 9:31.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.



Commands and abandoning all of the matters He forbade. May we be bestowed with happiness and salvation in this world and the Hereafter. Esteemed audience is reminded to not converse and use the cellular phone while the *khutbah* is being delivered.

On this glorious day, I will expound on a *khutbah* titled "**FACING THE CHALLENGE OF DEVIANT TEACHINGS AND SUPERSTITION IN MODERN TIMES.**" May we all derive lessons and strive our utmost in safeguarding the 'aqeedah of the *ummah* from being distorted.

Dear blessed Friday audience,

According to the Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM), beginning from the year 1950 until 2023, a total of 154 Islamic teachings throughout Malaysia have been declared as astray. This is a figure that is very alarming. In Selangor alone, 45 deviant teachings and *khurafaat* (superstition) have been declared as deviating from authentic Islamic teachings. Some of them are still active and operate secretly in several districts such as Gombak, Kuala Selangor, and Sabak Bernam.

These facts clearly indicate that the threat of corruption within 'aqeedah still exist and has yet to cease. For that reason, continuous monitoring by religious authorities is truly vital. However, the responsibility of preserving the sanctity of 'aqeedah does not fall upon their shoulders alone. Each and every single one of us must remain vigilant, concerned, and brave in reporting any suspicious activities or ceremonies.

The emergence of various types of misguided teachings and ideologies is not a new phenomenon in the history of mankind. It has been occurring over time, alternately comes and goes, appearing in various forms and names.

However, the reality remains the same, deviating from pure unadulterated Islamic teachings.

Among the main doctrines that are often used by these deviant sects are claiming to be god or god's representative, claiming to be Prophet, whereby some even admitted being Imaam al-Mahdi. These phenomena have been occurring since the time of previous *ummah* who took their priests and monks as deities other than Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, as He mentions in verse 31 of Soorah at-Tawbah:

"They have taken their scholars and monks as lords besides Allah, and [also] the Messiah, the son of Mary. And they were not commanded except to worship one God; there is no deity except Him. Exalted is He above whatever they associate with Him."

Respected Friday congregation,

Islamic history has proven that the distortion of '*aqeedah*' had appeared during the time of Rasulullah ﷺ and his Companions *radiyAllaahu 'anhum*. Three figures that claimed to be Prophets during the time of Rasulullah ﷺ and the Companions *radiyAllaahu 'anhum* were al-Aswad al-Ansi, Musaylimah al-Kadhdhaab, and Tulayha ibn Khuwaylid.

During the reign of Abu Bakr as-Siddeeq *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, seven individuals emerged along others, all claiming to be *rasool* (messengers) namely 'Uyaynah bin Hisn, Qurrah bin Salamah al-Qushayri, al-Fujaa'ah bin 'Abd al-Yaleel, Maalik bin Nuwayrah, Sajaah binti Mundhir, al-Ash'ath bin Qays and al-Hatim bin Zayd.



So, it is not surprising if in our time now, heretical ideologies and teachings reappear in many forms, especially in an era of ignorance and worldly influence that is increasingly rampant.

Therefore, when there appears to be action, speech, or ceremony that is dubious, do not become quickly influenced. Refer to religious authorities, specifically the Selangor Mufti Department, and at the same time peruse through the *fataawa* that have been gazetted, lest we become spreaders of confusion without even realizing it.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 7 of Soorah an-Anbiyaa':

فَسْأَلُوا أَهْلَ الذِّكْرِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

"So ask the people of the message if you do not know."

Blessed audience,

Take heed, this religion does not belong to certain individuals or groups, but it purely belongs to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, which was revealed with complete guidance. In a narration of 'Umar al-Khattaab *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ firmly asserted on the importance for the Muslims to live in *jamaa'ah* (community) and avoid division. He ﷺ said:



عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْجَمَاعَةِ وَإِيَّاكُمْ وَالْفُرْقَةَ فَإِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ مَعَ
الْوَاحِدِ وَهُوَ مِنَ الْإِثْنَيْنِ أَبْعَدُ، مَنْ أَرَادَ بُحْبُوحَةَ الْجَنَّةِ
فَلْيُلْزِمِ الْجَمَاعَةَ

“Adhere to the Jamaa’ah, beware of separation, for indeed ash-Shaytaan is with one, and he is further away from two. Whoever wants the best place in Paradise, then let him stick to the Jamaa’ah”

(at-Tirmidhi)

Therefore, dearest brothers, living in *jamaa’ah* is a necessity. When the *ummah* unite upon ‘*aqeedah* that is agreed upon, it will be very difficult for deviant teachings to gain foothold. But when there are those that chooses to tread their own path, rejecting the guidance of the scholars and staying in *jamaa’ah*, that’s where the door to division and deviation opens.

Esteemed Muslims,

Some deviant teachings will not appear openly. They would always hide under the name of religion and *da’wah* (calling to Islam). However, they possess characteristics that are easily spotted, which are to be conveyed in secret, privately, and only to certain groups.

Here lies the danger, dearest brothers. Any teachings that are only focusing on selected groups is not true Islamic teachings. Islam is not a secret and private religion. Islam is open and clear for all. Any teachings that

contradict the generality of Islam, without going through the proper channel of Islamic scholarship and guidance of the scholars, then it must be abandoned.

If we ponder, how in this modern age there are still those among us that believe and elevate certain individuals as Imaam Mahdi, Prophet 'Isa, or saints (*waliy*) that are infallible (*ma'soom*), deeming them to be protected from sinning. While it is only the Prophets and Rasool that are *ma'soom*.

This is where the seeds of corruption begin and it does not just suddenly happen. It develops through various channels, especially the social media that becomes the medium for the spread of perverted ideologies and *khurafaat*. In the vast virtual world, anything can be disseminated without filtering, and many are gullible enough to be influenced due to ignorance, deficient of religious knowledge and inclined to look for shortcuts to enter Paradise.

The root of all these corruptions is our very own attitude in taking knowledge in small doses, only by looking at short video clips or social media postings without learning properly with a credible teacher and referring to religious authorities. In the end, we find interpretations that would often contradict principles of '*aqeedah* regarding divinity, prophethood, and unseen matters.

Honorable Friday congregants,

Even though a plethora of reminders have been given, the reality is that there are still many heretical teachings and superstitions that continue to remain rampant within our society today. This indicates that efforts in curbing the corruption of '*aqeedah* must be further empowered continuously. We must always remain vigilant, evaluating every deviant teaching that had reached us



and take guidance from *fataawa* that have been gazetted by religious authorities.

Among elements of deviant teachings that have been declared astray is one claiming to have supernatural abilities and even forgive sins. Admitting having received *wahy* (revelation) and being able to communicate directly with Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. Claiming the era of prophethood is still ongoing and every ethnicity has its own Prophet. And even more worrying, those believing Prophet ﷺ as god, he neither begets nor begotten. These are all beliefs of *kufr* (disbelief) that can take one outside the fold of Islam.

Nowadays, these types of teaching exist in an undetectable manner. It seeps in subtly, instilling influence little by little until it finally ensnares the 'aqeedah of its followers without them realizing it. They are no longer apparent as they used to be, but operates through private classes, small groups, and secret discussions that are only accessible to "selected members."

Respected Muslims,

The state of Selangor greatly emphasizes on the preservation of 'aqeedah of the Muslim *ummah*. His Royal Highness the Sultan of Selangor has decreed in March 2025 for the monitoring of deviant teachings to be carried out continuously by religious agencies, in ensuring that teachings that have been eradicated are not revived.

His Majesty also asserted on the importance of early prevention within the Muslim *ummah*, so that any perverted ideologies will not have the opportunity to spread and damage the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*.



Any distortion within the matter of '*aqeedah* will definitely lead to confusion and disunity within society.

This decree depicts His Majesty's concern upon the purity of '*aqeedah* of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*, which serves as the foundation of the belief of the Muslims in this state. To curb the spread of heretical teachings and *khurafaat* that truly threatens the '*aqeedah* of the Muslims, the Selangor Islamic Religious Council (MAIS) along with Selangor Islamic Religious Department (JAIS) have solidified measures through *Sharee'ah* Criminal Offences (Selangor) Enactment 1995. This enactment is not only laws but a legal fortress to protect the sanctity of Islam and the well-being of '*aqeedah* of the society.

Hence, if we ourselves witness or hear regarding teachings that are peculiar, suspicious ceremonies, or any insults to Islam, do not remain silent. Lodge a report to religious authorities so that actions can be taken.

Do not allow any room of ignorance to become the entry point for deviant teachings and superstitions. For as long as that room exists, they will attempt to find a place to establish themselves among us.

Dear beloved audience,

To end the *khutbah* today, let us derive lessons that can be used as guidance in our lives, namely:

1. We must ensure that our '*aqeedah* is according to the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah*, which is in accordance with al-Qur'an and *as-Sunnah*, by referring to religious authorities so that we will not be swayed by deviant interpretations.



2. We must always remain vigilant upon suspicious teachings and report them to religious authorities, saving our generation from being affected by misguidance.
3. We must shut the door of ignorance within ourselves and our families by attending circles of knowledge, guiding our children upon authentic 'aqeedah, and embracing the masjid as the center of learning and unity of the *ummah*.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَمَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ
الْخَسِرِينَ.

“And whoever desires other than Islam as religion - never will it be accepted from him, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.”

(Soorah Aal 'Imraan 3:85)

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، هَدَى 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 أَوْصِيكُمْ 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.
اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزِّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَذِلَّ الشِّرْكَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ،
وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ، وَاجْعَلْ هَذَا الْبَلَدَ آمِنًا مُطْمَئِنًّا وَسَائِرَ
بِلَادِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ.

³ al-Ahzaab 33:56.



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 الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا
الْمُعْظَمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطُوْر، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ ابْنِ الْمَرْحُومِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحُ الدِّيْنِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيْزِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُوْر، تَعْكُوْ اَمِيْر شَاهِ ابْنِ
السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِيْ اَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ
عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحِيْنَ لِلْمَوْظُفِّيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ
مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيْقِ الْهُدٰى 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 bribery



and abuse of power, as well as 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 disaster, 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! Protect the Muslim *ummah* and Masjid al-Aqsa in Palestine. Preserve them from oppression and evil, and bestow upon them steadfastness, strength, and victory.

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 وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ.⁶
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ،
وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِيكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا
تَصْنَعُونَ.

⁴ al-Furqaan 25:74.

⁵ al-Baqarah 2:201.

⁶ an-Nahl 16:90.