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“FASTING IS A SHIELD”

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JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

“FASTING IS A SHIELD”

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا
كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ¹.

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 وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.²

Dear blessed Muslims,

I sincerely call upon all of us to increase our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by performing all of His Commands and leaving out all matters that He forbade. May we all be blessed with blissfulness and success in this world and the Hereafter.

¹ al-Baqarah 2:183.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.

On this blessed day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah* titled **"FASTING IS A SHIELD."**

Blessed Friday audience,

With the arrival of the noble month of Ramadaan, we as Muslims and believers must welcome it with happiness and gratitude for the *ni'mah* (favor) of the opportunity for *'ibaadah* (worship) that Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* has bestowed. Ramadaan is not merely the routine of refraining from eating and drinking, but it is the madrasah of *akhlaaq* (character) that can form a more tranquil, civilized, and open-minded personality.

Have certainty that the *'ibaadah* of fasting that we will endure this Ramadaan will definitely be able to educate and improve our *akhlaaq* towards becoming better and positive. This coincides with its main role in the development of *akhlaaq* and in line with the objective that Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* has stipulated, which is to revive *taqwa* within the hearts.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 183 of Soorah al-Baqarah:

"O you who have believed, decreed upon you is fasting as it was decreed upon those before you that you may become righteous."

From this verse, it clearly indicates that fasting is *waseelah* (path) towards *taqwa*. This *'ibaadah*, in reality, strengthens both our spiritual and *akhlaaq* aspects, training us to become obedient to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and refraining from committing matters that He forbade.

Dear beloved Friday congregation,

The *'ibaadah* of fasting also has its role as a shield for the soul of a Muslim. It can keep us away from uttering vulgarities, non-beneficial disputes, and desires that lead to evil and sins.

In the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

الصَّيَّامُ جُنَّةٌ، فَلَا يَرْفُثُ وَلَا يَجْهَلُ، وَإِنْ أَمْرُؤُ قَاتَلَهُ أَوْ
شَاتَمَهُ، فَلْيَقُلْ إِنِّي صَائِمٌ مَرَّتَيْنِ

"Fasting is a shield. So, the person observing fasting should avoid sexual relation with his wife and should not behave foolishly and impudently, and if somebody fights with him or abuses him, he should tell him twice, 'I am fasting.'"

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Therefore, Ramadaan this year also reminds us to not distort facts, not hasty in judging, not accusing others let alone slander, and not spreading information without having knowledge and authentic information. At times, we think that we are fighting for the truth, while the reality is that we are only defending assumptions and desires because we are driven by emotions, sentiments, and public support.

Respected Friday congregants,

Along with that, Islam teaches us on the principles of *tabayyun* and *tathabbut*, which is to ensure that a particular matter has been thoroughly

researched and verified of its authenticity prior to making a statement or conveying it to others.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 6 of Soorah al-Hujuraat:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِن جَاءَكُمْ فَاسِقٌ بِنَبَأٍ فَتَبَيَّنُوا أَن تُصِيبُوا قَوْمًا
بِجَهْلَةٍ فَتُصْبِحُوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلْتُمْ نَادِمِينَ .

“O you who have believed, if there comes to you a disobedient one with information, investigate, lest you harm a people out of ignorance and become, over what you have done, regretful.”

Ennobled Friday congregants,

The reward for the *'ibaadah* of fasting is very special, far greater than other deeds. Rasulullah ﷺ explained that all of the deeds of the children of Adam *'Alayhissalaam* have been determined of its multiples in rewards except for fasting, for fasting belongs to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, and only He knows the reality regarding the *sabr* (patience), *ikhlaas* (sincerity), and sacrifice of a servant. Hence, Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* Himself promises its recompense, a reward that is immeasurable by calculation and unachievable by the assessment of human intellect.

In the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

الصِّيَامُ لِي وَأَنَا أُجْزِي بِهِ، وَالْحَسَنَةُ بِعَشْرِ أَمْثَالِهَا

"Fasting is for Me and I reward it. Every good action is rewarded by ten times its kind."

(al-Bukhaari)

Therefore, fellow congregation, with the coming of Ramadaan this time around, let us ensure that our fasting is one that is truly with *ikhlaas* for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. Ensure that our soul becomes stronger to ward off all *shahwah* (lust) and evil impulses that can annihilate oneself and society.

Dear noble guests of Allah,

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

1. The Muslim *ummah* must take full advantage of the month of Ramadaan by increasing righteous deeds and utilizing fasting as a shield from *munkar* (evil), and realize that every sincere deed will be recompensed by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* with endless rewards.

2. The Muslim *ummah* must embrace Ramadaan as spiritual madrasah that revitalizes the soul, not merely refraining from thirst and hunger, but training the soul to control the tongue, suppressing the *nafs* (desire), improves the *akhlaaq*, and strengthens the *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

3. The Muslim *ummah* must guard its speech and actions by ensuring that every word uttered are true and based on facts, so that there will be no fitnah, accusations, or dissemination of inaccurate information that can cause disruption within society.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا.

"O you who have believed, fear Allah and speak words of appropriate justice."

(Soorah al-Ahzaab 33:70)

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،



ISLAMIC SAVOUR OBEEDIENCE

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 أَعِزَّ 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 الصِّمْدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا
الْمُعَظَّمِ، 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، تَغْكُوْ اَمِيْر شَاهِ ابْنِ
السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفُ الدِّيْنِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِيْ اَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ
عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحِيْنَ لِلْمَوْظَفِيْنَ 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*, as formulated by Imaam Abu Hasan al-Ash'ari and Imaam Abu Mansoor al-Maatureedi, practicing upon the

Shaafi'i *Madhhab* (juristic school of thought) while accepting the other three *madhaahib*, practicing *tasawwuf* upon the path of Imaam Junayd al-Baghdaadi and Imaam al-Ghazaali. 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 calamity. 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 آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.⁵
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَنْهَى
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ.⁶

⁴ al-Furqan 25:74.

⁵ al-Baqarah 2:201.

⁶ an-Nahl 16:90.

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