

To Be Delivered On: 13 March 2026CE | 23 Ramadaan 1447H



FRIDAY SERMON

Title:

***“SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY IN THE LAST
TEN NIGHTS OF RAMADAAN”***

***Published By:
Unit Khutbah***

***Bahagian Pengurusan Masjid
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR***

"SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY IN THE LAST TEN NIGHTS OF RAMADAAN"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: وَلِكُلِّ وَجْهَةٌ هُوَ مُوَلِّيَهَا فَاسْتَبِقُوا الْخَيْرَاتِ أَيْنَ مَا تَكُونُوا يَأْتِ بِكُمْ اللَّهُ جَمِيعًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ.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 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 abstaining from all matters that He forbade. May we all be bestowed with happiness and success in this world and the Hereafter.

¹ al-Baqarah 2:148.

² Aal 'Imraan 3:102.

On this very noble day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah* titled **"SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY IN THE LAST TEN NIGHTS OF RAMADAAN."**

Dear blessed Friday audience,

How fast time passes by. Ramadaan that we look forward to every single year is now approaching its very end. We have entered the final ten nights, nights where we switch into higher gear indulging in righteous deeds, perhaps our very last chance to attain forgiveness and the mercy of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in this worldly life.

I would like to remind everyone that this month is an avenue for *muhaasabah* (self-evaluation) and a golden opportunity whereby there is no guarantee that it will return again. Hence, let us seize this very opportunity in the best manner in this final ten nights of Ramadaan, for us to altogether conduct *muhaasabah* and evaluate ourselves, did we just pass through Ramadaan with heedlessness, or did we truly ponder upon the *maqasid* (higher objectives) within it?

Dear beloved Friday congregation,

Whenever the last ten nights approach, the Prophet ﷺ no longer engages in *'ibaadah* (worship) as he normally does. Moreover, he ﷺ would revive those nights with *qiyaam* (standing in prayer), making *du'aa* (supplication), and *munaajah* (intimate prayer) with full determination.

In the *hadeeth* of 'A'ishah *radiyAllaahu 'anha*, she said:

كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ إِذَا دَخَلَ الْعَشْرُ،
أَحْيَا اللَّيْلَ، وَأَيْقَظَ أَهْلَهُ، وَجَدَّ وَشَدَّ الْمِئْزَرَ

"With the start of the last ten nights of Ramadaan, the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) would pray all the night, and would keep his family awake for the prayers, and tightened his waist belt (i.e. devoted himself in worship)."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

From this *hadeeth*, we observe that Rasulullah ﷺ not only pursued the virtues of 'ibaadah alone, but he ﷺ would awaken members of his household as well, in reaping the virtues of those nights. This shows that the atmosphere of 'ibaadah must be nurtured and revived within the family institution and society.

Esteemed Friday congregants,

Know that the last ten nights have within them one very prominent night, whereby the rewards of performing righteous deeds on that night is equivalent to over a thousand months of worship. That is what is called the night of al-Qadr.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in the third verse of Soorah al-Qadr:

لَيْلَةُ الْقَدْرِ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ أَلْفِ شَهْرٍ.

"The Night of Decree is better than a thousand months."

The way that Rasulullah ﷺ pursued the night of al-Qadr is by frequently engaging in *qiyaam al-layl* (night prayer) and making *du'aa* as he ﷺ mentioned in the narration of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*:

مَنْ يَقُمْ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ إِيمَانًا وَاحْتِسَابًا غُفِرَ لَهُ مَا تَقَدَّمَ مِنْ

ذَنْبِهِ

"Whoever establishes the prayers on the night of Qadr out of sincere faith and hoping to attain Allah's rewards then all his past sins will be forgiven."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

In seeking the *barakah* (blessings) of this night, Rasulullah ﷺ has taught us that the supplication for forgiveness is the main act of worship.

In the narration of 'A'ishah *radiyAllaahu 'anha*, she inquired:

يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، أَرَأَيْتَ إِنْ عَلِمْتُ أَيَّ لَيْلَةٍ لَيْلَةَ الْقَدْرِ، مَا أَقُولُ فِيهَا؟ قَالَ: قُولِي: اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّكَ عَفُوٌّ تُحِبُّ الْعَفْوَ فَاعْفُ عَنِّي

"O Messenger of Allah! If I know when the night of al-Qadr is, what should I supplicate in it?" He (ﷺ) replied, "You should supplicate: Allahumma innaka 'afuwwun, tuhibbul 'afwa, fa'fu 'anni (O Allah, You are the Pardoner, and You love to pardon, so pardon me)."

(at-Tirmidhi)

Ennobled Friday audience,

Among other deeds, Rasulullah ﷺ had also performed *i'tikaaf* (spiritual retreat) in the masjid during the last ten nights of Ramadaan. *I'tikaaf* is a *sunnah* (supererogatory act) that is highly recommended, for it provides the opportunity to attain nearness to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, increase in *'ibaadah*, and tranquil the heart from worldly distractions.

From another narration of 'A'ishah *radiyAllaahu 'anha*:

"The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) used to perform i'tikaaf during the last ten days of Ramadaan until he died."

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Through *i'tikaaf*, Rasulullah ﷺ taught us that the last ten nights of Ramadaan provides the best opportunity to focus and direct the heart fully towards Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, increase righteous deeds, and incur *rahmah* (mercy) and forgiveness from Him.

Dear blessed Muslims,

In conjunction with the month of the revelation of al-Qur'an and in hot pursuit of the virtues of *laylat al-qadr*, I would like to express my deep sorrow when the holy scripture for the Muslim *ummah* was desecrated by irresponsible individual. The *mus-haf* (manuscript) of al-Qur'an is not merely pages of papers but it is a great *mu'jizah* (miracle) and sacrosanct for the Muslim *ummah*. I humbly call for stern action to be taken by the authorities, so

that the same blasphemy will not be repeated, and at the same time the effort in educating the masses must be continued so that the culture of respecting religious sanctity continues to be understood and observed. Aside from that, we must make the most of the opportunity in the last ten nights of Ramadaan, engaging in *munaajah* and invoking Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*, so that the glory of Islam will always be safeguarded.

Dear celebrated guests of Allah,

To end the *khutbah* today, let us altogether reflect upon the lessons that can be taken as guidance in our daily life:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must diligently pursue the virtues of Ramadaan by benefitting from its last ten nights with increased worship, frequently making *du'aa*, engaging in *qiyaam al-layl*, and *munaajah* to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

2. The Muslim *ummah* have certainty in the superiority of the night of al-Qadr, where the reward of performing righteous deeds on that night is equivalent to over a thousand months of worship, and none can guarantee whether the same opportunity will be offered again to us or not.

3. The Muslim *ummah* must enliven the atmosphere of *'ibaadah* along with family members and society, by mutually advising towards good and utilizing every righteous deed as inspirations for others to partake in becoming closer to Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ



وَسَارِعُوا إِلَىٰ مَغْفِرَةٍ مِّن رَّبِّكُمْ وَجَنَّةٍ عَرْضُهَا السَّمُوتُ وَالْأَرْضُ
أُعِدَّتْ لِلْمُتَّقِينَ.

“And hasten to forgiveness from your Lord and a garden as wide as the heavens and earth, prepared for the righteous.”

(Soorah Aal ‘Imraan 3:133)

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.

Noble Friday audience,

As a reminder, the determination of the beginning of the Islamic month depends on the appearance and position of the crescent moon (*hilaal*) in each country. Differences in *matla' ru'yah* (sighting-zone of the area) in every country will lead to differences in the determination of the beginning of the Islamic month including the month of Shawwaal.

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

صُومُوا لِرُؤْيَيْتِهِ وَأَفْطِرُوا لِرُؤْيَيْتِهِ فَإِنْ غُمِّيَ عَلَيْكُمْ فَأَكْمِلُوا
الْعَدَدَ

"Observe fast on sighting it (the crescent of Ramadaan) and break (fast) on sighting it (the crescent of Shawwaal), but if the sky is cloudy for you, then complete the number (of thirty)."

(Muslim)

In Malaysia, specifically in the state of Selangor, the sighting for the Shawwaal crescent will be conducted on Thursday, 29th Ramadaan 1447 Hijri, which corresponds to 19th March 2026. While the determination of the 1st of Shawwaal is subjected to the declaration by the Keeper of the Rulers' Seal immediately after the complete moonsighting process is carried out.

Here, I would like to advice all Muslims to leave the responsibility of determining the beginning of Shawwaal to the authorities. The Muslim *ummah* should concentrate and remain focused on ramping up 'ibaadah in the last ten nights of Ramadaan.

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 الْمَرْحُومِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحُ الدِّيْنِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيْزِ شَاهِ
الْحَاجِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهِدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُوْر، تَعَكَوْ اَمِيْرَ 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، وَبَلَّغَ
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*, 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 way of Imaam Junayd al-Baghdaadi and Imaam al-Ghazaali. Spare us from all forms of bribery and abuse of power, as well as misguidance and extremism, 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 ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.⁵

⁴ al-Furqaan 25:74.

⁵ al-Baqarah 2:201.

عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَايِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ
عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ⁶
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُواهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ،
وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ يُعْطِيكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا
تَصْنَعُونَ.

⁶ an-Nahl 16:90.