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***Title:***

***“BRIBERY: THE ACCURSED PAYOFF”***

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## “BRIBERY: THE ACCURSED PAYOFF”

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: وَلَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَكُمْ بَيْنَكُمْ بِالْبَطْلِ وَتَدْلُوا بِهَا إِلَى الْحُكَّامِ لِتَأْكُلُوا فَرِيقًا مِّنْ أَمْوَالِ النَّاسِ بِالْإِثْمِ وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ ﴿١٨٨﴾<sup>1</sup>  
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ  
وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آئِلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ  
أَجْمَعِينَ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ! أُوصِيكُمْ وَآيَايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ  
فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى: يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا  
وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿١٠٢﴾<sup>2</sup>

**Dear blessed Muslims,**

Let us altogether strive to increase our *imaan* (faith) and *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by diligently performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all attain success in this world and the Hereafter.

The *khutbah* this time is titled “**BRIBERY: THE ACCURSED PAYOFF.**”

**Respected Muslims,**

As Muslims, we are encouraged to seek *halaal* (lawful) sustenance (*rizq*). Islam provides the freedom upon its *ummah* to generate wealth and

<sup>1</sup> al-Baqarah 2:188.

<sup>2</sup> Aal ‘Imraan 3:102.



fortune for as long as there is no violation against the *Sharee'ah* of Allah and the boundaries of humanity. One of Allah's prohibition is the crime of bribery or graft.

The year 2020 saw that Malaysia's rank in the Corruption Perception Index dropped from the 51<sup>st</sup> spot to 57<sup>th</sup>, indicating an increase in corruption by 23 percent. This increase is quite worrying and at the same time threatens the wellbeing of the nation and the safety of the society from various angles.

The words of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* that was recited earlier in the *khutbah*, namely verse 188 of Soorah al-Baqarah, which means:

***“And do not consume one another's wealth unjustly or send it [in bribery] to the rulers in order that [they might aid] you [to] consume a portion of the wealth of the people in sin, while you know [it is unlawful].”***

Bribery is truly an oppression upon wealth, in the form of acceptance or giving, payoff or kickback, so that one's vested interest is achieved. The bribe can be in the form of accepting money that is not within the person's rights to receive, rewards or anything of value.

Corruption offenses also include abuse of power, which can occur in several situations as in the following:-

1. Receipts and payments as incentives to expedite, approve, and settle matters pertaining to official duties. For example, an applicant who is bidding for a project gifted a holiday package abroad to a government official for approving the project tender to his company.
2. One who uses his position to make profit by awarding contracts or project tenders to family members. While a person of integrity will



announce such information and exclude himself from being involved in any of the decision regarding those tenders.

### **Blessed audience,**

Those involved in bribery have chosen to tarnish their self-dignity, corrode family happiness, disrupting the harmony of the society, and threatening the wellbeing of the nation. In the sight of Rasulullah ﷺ, they are from among the accursed.

In the *hadeeth* of Thawbaan *radiallaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

لَعَنَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﷺ الرَّاشِيَّ، وَالْمُرْتَشِيَّ، وَالرَّائِسَ الَّذِي  
يَمْتَشِي بَيْنَهُمَا

***“The Messenger of Allah ﷺ cursed the bribe giver, its taker and the one who acts as intermediary between them.”***

*(Ahmad)*

This *hadeeth* clearly tells us that every single one of those involved in bribery, namely the giver and taker, the intermediary or proxy for both parties or anyone willing to become the lackey for this heinous crime, they are all accursed and condemned. One who is accursed is definitely prevented from the *rahmah* (mercy) and guidance of Allah. Even more vile is if a person dies while his life is engulfed with heinous corruption.

### **Esteemed Muslims,**

We can see the adverse effects of bribery in the following matters:



**First:** Bribery shields evil and encourages the widespread of criminal activities within society.

**Second:** Oppression in governance by denying the rights of those truly deserving.

**Third:** The destruction of the justice system within a country. Citizens will lose faith in the nation's administrative and management system.

**Dear blessed Muslims,**

Selfishness, greed, and the evil crave of living in opulence instantly serve as the main motivation for a person to commit this wicked crime of bribery. *Imaan* and *taqwa* become no longer important for such person. Rewards and sins are ignored for he or she is blinded by the tremendous perks, in addition to worldly pleasures. The factors of life stress and impatience, weakness in self-control, ignorance upon the adverse effects of bribery upon the nation and institutions, the lack of transparency and monitoring within the administration thus creating the opportunity and room for corruption - all of these also contribute to the occurrence of the evil crime of bribery.

Those involved with bribery will have their *du'aa* (supplication) unanswered, their *'ibadah* (worship) unaccepted, their charity (*sadaqah*) rejected, and in the Hereafter they will be resurrected as a bankrupt (*mufllis*). Bribery will not make a person tranquil, while the wealth possessed will become a burden within throughout his life. So know that provisions that are cursed are devoid of *barakah* (blessings). Imagine the children and family members that have been feeding from sources and wealth amassed from unlawful means, what kind of gross betrayal is being committed by a person towards his own family? Be very afraid for Hellfire may become his abode in the Hereafter.



In the *hadeeth* of Ka'b bin 'Ujrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

يَا كَعْبُ بْنُ عُجْرَةَ لَا يَرْبُو لَحْمٌ نَبَتَ مِنْ سُحْتٍ إِلَّا  
كَانَتِ النَّارُ أَوْلَىٰ بِهِ

**“O Ka'b bin 'Ujrah! There is no flesh raised that sprouts from the unlawful except that the Fire is more appropriate for it.”**

(at-Tirmidhi)

The Muslim *ummah* must seek and ensure that the *rizq* sought are from sources that are *halaal*, as Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 168 of soorah al-Baqarah:

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ كُلُوا مِمَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطَوَاتِ  
الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُّبِينٌ ﴿١٦٨﴾

**“O mankind, eat from whatever is on earth [that is] lawful and good and do not follow the footsteps of Satan. Indeed, he is to you a clear enemy.”**

In conjunction with the new Hijri year 1443, we must continue our resolve and determination in building better personal, family, and community lives. Let us altogether avoid any form of bribery and corruption by building superior identity, faith, integrity, and trustworthiness. Together let us fight the criminals of bribery, whether the giver, taker, or intermediary by lodging report to the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (SPRM). May our nation become free from corruption.

**Dearest audience,**



To end the *khutbah* today, let us altogether derive internalizations as in the following:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must fear the punishments of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* upon the accursed practice of bribery.
2. The Muslim *ummah* must unite and cooperate for the sake of curbing the vile practice of bribery.
3. The Muslim *ummah* must prioritize upon the *halaal* and leave out the *haraam* (unlawful) at once, whatever the case may be.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ  
وَأَنْفِقُوا فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلَا تُلْقُوا بِأَيْدِيكُمْ إِلَى التَّهْلُكَةِ وَأَحْسِنُوا  
إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿١٩٥﴾

**“And spend in the way of Allah and do not throw [yourselves] with your [own] hands into destruction [by refraining]. And do good; indeed, Allah loves the doers of good.”**

(al-Baqarah 2:195)

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 جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ.  
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ  
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا  
مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ  
الدِّينِ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ  
بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

**Dear blessed audience,**

Once more, I would like to remind all of us to always have the *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by guarding ourselves and our families from abominable deeds and disobedience against Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. At the same time, we will continue to pray so that our country will always remain blessed and protected from all forms of threat, as well as contagions from the Covid-19 pandemic. For that, let us graciously accept the government's recommendation by registering ourselves through the *MySejahtera* application in order to obtain vaccine shots that have been authorized by the Ministry of Health Malaysia.

May we become among the slaves of Allah that are patient while enduring all diseases afflicted, disciplined in adhering to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and the new normal practices in overcoming the Covid-19 pandemic, for the sake of our own safety and the community.





While dealing with this pandemic, let us not take the easiest way out by harming and injuring ourselves. We must be selfless, patient, and strong mentally and physically, built upon solid *imaan*.

Let us altogether increase our *salawaat* upon our beloved Prophet Muhammad ﷺ as Allah has commanded:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا ﴿٥٦﴾

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ وَارْضَ اللَّهُمَّ عَنْ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَابَتِهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ مُجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزِّ الْإِسْلَامَ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ، وَأَهْلِكَ الْكُفْرَةَ وَالْمُبْتَدِعَةَ وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ وَدَمِّرْ أَعْدَاءَكَ أَعْدَاءَ الدِّينِ. وَانصُرْنَا عَلَى الْقَوْمِ الْكَافِرِينَ.

اللَّهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنَى، وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى، أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعَيْنِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ الصِّمْدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعْظَمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاطِينِ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ



الحاج ابن المرحوم سُلطان صَلَاحُ الدِّين عبد العزيز شاه  
الحاج. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَدِمِ الْعُوْنَ وَالْهَدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيْقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ  
وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لِوَلِيِّ عَهْدِ سَلَاطُوْر، تَعَكُوْ اَمِيْر شَاهِ ابْنِ  
السُّلْطَانِ شَرْفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ، فِيْ اَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ  
وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْنِكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْاِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ اَطْلُ  
عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحِيْنَ لِلْمُوْظَفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ  
مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيْقِ الْهُدٰى وَالرِّشَادِ.

O Allah, You are the Lord that is All Mighty, we are grateful to You for having bestowed upon us *rahmah* and blessings upon this state that continues to prosper and progress, and that its residents remain united, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.

O Allah, make us among Your slaves whom are always exalting Your Word and Religion. Keep us away from groups and those that like to criticize, curse, and insult Your Religion.

O Allah, grant us guidance in performing the five obligatory prayers in congregation, fulfilling *zakaat* through Selangor *Zakaat* Board (LZS), and give away our wealth and endowment (*waqf*) through *Perbadanan Wakaf Selangor* (Selangor Endowment Corporation) and *Tabung Infak Jariah Umat Islam Selangor* (TIJARI, Selangor Continuous Charity for Muslims Fund), and to the orphans through Darul Ehsan Islamic Foundation (YIDE).



اللَّهُمَّ يَا دَافِعَ الْبَلَاءِ، اِدْفَعْ عَنَّا هَذَا الْوَبَاءَ وَالْبَلَاءَ وَالْمَرَضَ  
وَالشَّدَائِدَ وَالْمِحْنَ، بِلُطْفِكَ يَا لَطِيفُ إِنَّكَ عَلَى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ  
قَدِيرٌ وَبِالْإِجَابَةِ جَدِيرٌ.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا.  
رَبَّنَا ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ ﴿٢٠١﴾.  
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَى  
وَيَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ



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