“PRESERVING THE HONOR AND SANCTITY OF THE MOSQUE”

Dear blessed Muslims,

I remind myself and fellow audience to strive in strengthening our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala with true taqwa, by fulfilling all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all attain happiness in this world and the Hereafter.

Today I would like to expound on a khutbah titled “PRESERVING THE HONOR AND SANCTITY OF THE MOSQUE.”

Respected audience,

The masjid is a place of ‘ibaadah (worship) for the Muslims with ‘ibaadah such as the five daily prayers and i’tikaf. The mosque serves as the meeting place for fellow Muslims with various types of Islamic discourse such as religious lectures, tadhkeerah, tahleel, and religious celebrations. Since the early days of Islam, the progress and movements of the Muslim ummah had all began from the masjid and it symbolizes the unity of the ummah. The mosque is everything in the life of a Muslim. However, it must be reminded that the masjid has its own etiquettes to be adhered to and that the Muslims must preserve its nobility and sanctity whenever present in the masjid.

Dear beloved audience,

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala mentions in verse 18 of soorah at-Tawbah:

إنَّمَا يَعْمَرُ مَسْجِدَ الَّذِيِّ بِاللَّهِ وَالَّذِيْوَمُ اللَّاتِيْ أَخْرَ جَوْجُوهُ وَأَقَامَ الْصَّلَاةَ وَلَمْ يَخْشَ إِلَّاَ اللَّهُ فَعَسَىٰ أَوْلَيْكُنَّ أَنْ يَكُونُوا مِنَ الْمُهْتَدِينَ

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1 at-Tawbah 9:18
“The mosques of Allah are only to be maintained by those who believe in Allah and the Last Day and establish prayer and give zakah and do not fear except Allah, for it is expected that those will be of the [rightly] guided.”

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala explains that the believers are those that are qualified to maintain the mosques of Allah. Establishing and maintaining the mosque is from among the ways of attaining nearness to Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala. Islam truly emphasize on the preservation of the sanctity of the mosque, such that Islam prohibits those that have consumed things having bad odor such as petai (bitter bean), durian, onion, and tobacco from entering the masjid for it can cause discomfort to others present. Aside from that, we must maintain the cleanliness of our physical body and clothing, cleansing our mouth, and cleaning the place of ‘ibaadah from any impurities.

Dear blessed audience,

Nowadays, the honor and sanctity of the mosque has been violated through irresponsible acts. We would often find reports from various media sources regarding stolen donation box and orphan fund collection box in various mosques. The amount of cases of theft reported is truly alarming. It all involves various individuals including the adults or youth. At times, the human loses his consideration and become willing to violate the rights of the masjid, without thinking about the consequences of such criminal act. What these people think about is their own self-satisfaction in attaining temporary pleasure.

Hence, all qaryah (community) members must be responsible for the sanctity, cleanliness, and security of the masjid. Therefore, let us ponder upon verse 108 of soorah at-Tawbah, which among others expound upon the importance of the mosque as a place that triggers the taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala. May we be granted the will to preserve the sacredness and nobility of the mosques.

Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala mentions in verse 108 of soorah at-Tawbah:

فيه رجال تابعون أن يطهروا وَآلِهَةٌ تَحْبُبُ الْمُطَهَّرِينَ

“...Within it are men who love to purify themselves; and Allah loves those who purify themselves.”

Blessed audience,

The masjid is not a venue for planting seeds of hatred for a group of people against others, and it is not a place for causing disunity within the Muslim ummah. It is also not a place for spreading fitnah or an arena for disputation in defaming or badmouthing those disliked. What more with those manipulating the masjid as an avenue to degrade, humiliate, and curse with inappropriate words that should never be mentioned. Let us not make the masjid as a place to trigger conflicts, slandering, and belittling those that disagree with us. The mosque should also not be made as a place for business transactions, a carnival for selling medicinal products, and others.

Beloved Muslims,
All quarters must remain aware and sensitive with a full sense of responsibility in ensuring that every program held in the masjid complies with Islamic adab (etiquette) and akhlaaq (mannerism). Therefore, the sacredness of the mosque is to be observed so that harmony and ukhuwwah Islaamiyyah (Islamic brotherhood) will be nurtured amongst all. In the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu ‘anh, the Prophet صلی الله علیه و آله وسلم regarded the masjid as a noble place and it is a place that is beloved to Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala.

The Prophet صلی الله علیه و آله وسلم said:

أَحَبُّ البِلَادِ إِلَى اللّهِ مَسَاجِدُهَا

“The parts of land dearest to Allah are its mosques...”

(Muslim)

Dear beloved Muslims,

To hold a nikaah (wedding) ceremony in the masjid is permissible and it is even highly recommended. Hence, the rulings and etiquettes while in the masjid must be adhered to, which includes the way one would dress, the covering of the ‘awrah, not taking pictures indiscriminately, not conversing and laughing loudly only to cause disturbance upon others, tarnishing the nobility and sanctity of the mosque. The mosque’s honor and holiness must be preserved at all times so that the wedding ceremony will attain blessings and spared from the wrath of Allah. Anas bin Maalik radiyAllaahu ‘anh reported that Rasulullah ﷺ said:

إِنْ هَذِهِ الْمَسَاجِدُ، لَا تَصْلُحُ لِشَيْئٍ مِنْ هَذَا الْبُوْلُ، وَلَا الْقُدُرِ، إِنَّمَا هِيَ لِذَكْرِ اللّهِ عَزَّ وَJAَلِلٍ، وَالصَّلَاةِ، وَقَرَأَةِ الْفُرْقَانِ

“These mosques are not the places meant for urine and filth, but are only for the remembrance of Allah, prayer and the recitation of the Qur’an.”

(Muslim)

Dear blessed audience,

Since the time of Rasulullah ﷺ, the mosques are not limited to just being a place of worship, but instead they served as centers for da’wah activities. Therefore, the role of the mosques today must include various aspects such as organizing religious programs and community activities in the aspects of living matters, education, welfare, and efforts in unifying the ummah. This would include activities that cover lessons, da’wah, youth programs, religious celebrations, and encouragement to the local community in performing their five daily prayers in congregation (jamaa’ah). Hence, every Muslims and localities must play its very role in keeping the mosques abuzz, for maintaining the House of Allah is a proof of thankfulness upon the favors of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala. The Prophet ﷺ had mentioned in a hadeeth, as reported by Abu Sa’eed al-Khudri radiyAllaahu ‘anh:

إِذَا رَأَيْتُمُ الرَّجُلَ يَغْتَازُ مَسَاجِدَ، فَاشْهَدُوا لِهِ بِالإِيمَانِ
“When you see a man frequenting the mosque, testify that he is a believer.”
(at-Tirmidhi)

Dear blessed audience,

In concluding today’s khutbah, among the lessons that we can derive are as follows:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that the masjid is a place to develop and boost piety to Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala.

2. The Muslim ummah must utilize the mosque as a platform to unite the Muslims, as well as reviving the role of the mosque with all types of religious programs and activities.

3. All parties including the mosque administrator and its local attendees must work together in preserving the nobility, cleanliness, and safety of the mosque.

“[Such niches are] in mosques which Allah has ordered to be raised and that His name be mentioned therein; exalting Him within them in the morning and the evenings.”

(an-Noor 24:36)
THE SECOND KHUTBAH

الحمد لله الذي جعلنا من المسلمين، ورزقنا من الطيبات. أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له، وأشهد أن محمداً عبدوه ورسوله. أشهد صلاة وسلام على النبي محمد صلى الله عليه وسلم وعلى سيدنا محمد محقق وعلي الله وصفيه ومن طيبهم بإحسان إلى يوم الدين. أما بعد، فباذن الله، إنْقّوا الله، أوصيكم وإياي يفقوى الله فقُدّ فاز المتقون.

Dear blessed audience,

Once again, I would like to remind all of us to always have the *taqwa* of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala and realize that Islam teaches us to remain moderate in every actions and deeds. As Muslims, we are to manifest noble *akhlaaq*, having utmost personality and attitude for Rasulullah ﷺ was sent to perfect *akhlaaq* and as mercy for the entire mankind and the worlds. Therefore, let us always increase our *salawaat* and *salaam* upon our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala mentions:

"Indeed, Allah confers blessing upon the Prophet, and His angels [ask Him to do so]. O you who have believed, ask [Allah to confer] blessing upon him and ask [Allah to grant him] peace." (al-Ahzaab 33:56)
O Allah, You are the Lord that is All Mighty, we are grateful to You for having bestowed upon us rahmah and ni'mah, that we are able to continue the effort in empowering the Muslim ummah especially in the state of Selangor, as an advanced state, prosperous and providing welfare, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.

Hence, we sincerely beseech You, O Allah, strengthen our imaan and creed according to that of Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah, accept our righteous deeds, cultivate our soul with good mannerisms, unite our hearts, bestow upon us rizq with blessings, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, protect us from disasters and save us from teachings that are outside the fold of Islam such as Qadiyaani, deviant teachings such as Shee'ah, and other teachings deemed as deviating from Islamic teachings or contradicting the creed of Ahl as-Sunnah wal-Jamaa'ah. O Allah, open up our hearts in performing the five daily prayers, fulfilling zakaat through Lembaga Zakat Selangor (Selangor Zakaat Board), making waqf and infaaq of our wealth to Perbadanan Wakaf Negeri Selangor (Selangor Waqf Corporation), and Tabung Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor (Islamic Development Trust Fund of Selangor).

ربنا هب لنا من أزوجنا وذرّينتنا فرّةً أُغْيِرَ، وَأَجْعَلاً لِلمُقِيرينَ إِمَامًا رَبِينٌ، رَبٌّنَا إِنَّا فِي الْدُنْيَا حَسَنِينَ، وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنِينَ، وَفِي نَفْسِنَا عَذَابُ الْآخِرَةِ، عَبِيدَ اللَّهِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدُّ الْعَدَّ الْحَسَنِ وَإِبْتِيَاعِ ذِي الْقُرْبَى وَيَعْمَلُ عَلَى الْمُفَحَّشِينَ، وَالْمُسْتَقْرِبِ رَبِّنَا لْعَلَّكُمْ تَكُونُوا تَذَكَّرُونَ نَحْذِرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرُكُمْ وَيُشْكُرُوهُ عَلَى نَعْمَتِهِ يَزِّكُمْ، وَاسْتَلَوْهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ، يَعْطِيكُمْ ولَدْكُرَ الْوَلَّدَةِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تُصَنَّعُونَ

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Khuubah Jumaat  05 Jan 2018 M /17 Rabīdakhir 1439 H: "Menjaga Kemuliaan Dan Kesucian Masjid."

Jabatan Agama Islam Selangor