



"THE OBLIGATION OF PRAYING IN CONGREGATION"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: وَأَقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتُوا الزَّكَاةَ وَارْكَعُوا مَعَ الرَّاكِعِينَ ﴿٤٣﴾¹

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ
الْمُتَّقُونَ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى:
يَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ .

Dear blessed Muslims,

I remind myself and fellow audience to strive in increasing our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* by performing all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we all attain success in this world and the Hereafter.

Let us altogether internalize upon a *khutbah* titled "**THE OBLIGATION OF PRAYING IN CONGREGATION.**"

Blessed audience,

Among the *shi'aar* (symbols) of Islam that is major and having great virtue is praying in congregation in the mosque, as in the very practice of Rasulullah ﷺ. In Islam, performing the *salaah* (prayer) in *jamaa'ah* (congregation) is a very significant matter and has a high rank in the Sight of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. Therefore, the first thing that was done by Rasulullah ﷺ upon arriving in Madeenah was to build a masjid for performing the *salaah*.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 36 of soorah an-Noor:

فِي بُيُوتٍ أُذِنَ لِلَّهِ أَنْ تَرْفَعَ وَيُذَكَّرَ فِيهَا أَسْمُهُ يُسَبِّحُ لَهُ فِيهَا بِالْغُدُوِّ وَالْآصَالِ



"[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."

This *shi'aar* is deemed as petty by many Muslims, due to their pursuit of their own lust, and also those having very little *taqwa* in their hearts, whom are mainly the hypocrites and those that are heedless.

¹ al-Baqarah 2:43



Verily, not performing *salaah* in *jamaa'ah* is truly a great loss, where the vast majority of the society ignores this practice and do not come to the mosques, though they can clearly hear the call (حى على الفلاح, حى على الصلاح), but they would just ignore it instead.

Take heed for the severe warning from the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم as narrated by Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh* where Rasulullah صلى الله عليه وسلم had threatened to set ablaze the homes of those who did not perform *salaah* in congregation at the masjid.

Blessed Muslims,

Verily, the reward of praying in *jamaa'ah* is more than 27 times compared to praying alone. If it is mentioned to mankind that an investment of RM1 in commerce will be multiplied 27 times, surely they will compete, and even fight for it, because of their greed for worldly gain that is very trivial. The virtue of praying in *jamaa'ah* as compared to praying alone is very clear, as it was mentioned in the *hadeeth* of 'Abdullah ibn 'Umar *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma* where Rasulullah صلى الله عليه وسلم mentioned:

صَلَاةُ الْجَمَاعَةِ تَفْضُلُ صَلَاةِ الْفَذِّ بِسَبْعٍ وَعِشْرِينَ دَرَجَةً

"The prayer in congregation is twenty seven times superior to the prayer offered by person alone."

(al-Bukhaari)

Dear blessed audience,

Indeed, there are many great virtues promised when we pray in congregation, among them is the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh* where Rasulullah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

لَوْ يَعْلَمُ النَّاسُ مَا فِي النِّدَاءِ وَالصَّفِّ الْأَوَّلِ ثُمَّ لَمْ يَجِدُوا إِلَّا أَنْ يَسْتَهْمُوا
لَاسْتَهْمُوا عَلَيْهِ، وَلَوْ يَعْلَمُونَ مَا فِي التَّهَجِيرِ لَاسْتَبَقُوا إِلَيْهِ، وَلَوْ يَعْلَمُونَ مَا فِي
الْعَتَمَةِ وَالصُّبْحِ لَأَتَوْهُمَا وَلَوْ حَبْوًا

"If the people knew what is the reward of making the call (for the prayer) and (of being in) the first row (in the prayer), and if they found no other way to get this privilege except by casting lots, they would certainly cast lots for it. If they knew the reward of the noon prayer, they would race for it, and if they knew the reward of the morning (i.e. Fajr) and 'Ishaa prayers, they would present themselves for the prayer even if they had to crawl to reach there."

(al-Bukhaari)

Aside from that, the virtue of praying in *jamaa'ah* is also mentioned in the *hadeeth* of Anas bin Maalik *radiyAllaahu 'anh* where Rasulullah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:



مَنْ صَلَّى لِلَّهِ أَرْبَعِينَ يَوْمًا فِي جَمَاعَةٍ يُدْرِكُ التَّكْبِيرَةَ الْأُولَى كُتِبَتْ لَهُ
بِرَاءَتَانِ، بَرَاءَةٌ مِنَ النَّارِ وَبَرَاءَةٌ مِنَ النِّفَاقِ.

"Whoever performs Salaah for Allah for forty days in congregation, catching the first Takbeer, two absolutions are written for him: absolution from the Fire and absolution from hypocrisy."

(at-Tirmidhi)

In addition to that, in the *hadeeth* of Abu Umaamah al-Baahili *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

مَنْ خَرَجَ مِنْ بَيْتِهِ مُتَطَهِّرًا إِلَى صَلَاةٍ مَكْتُوبَةٍ فَأَجْرُهُ كَأَجْرِ الْحَاجِّ الْمُحْرِمِ

"If anyone goes out from his house after performing ablution for saying the prescribed prayer in congregation (in the mosque), his reward will be like that of one who goes for hajj pilgrimage after wearing ihraam."

(Abu Dawood)

Dear blessed Muslims,

Through this blessed House of Allah, let us unite, and strengthen our brotherhood ties in collectively aiding our offspring, neighbors, and community members by inviting and persuading them to frequent the mosque. Also, let us pray in congregation at the mosque as frequent as possible. How blissful it is when we would stand together praying in the rows behind the *imaam*, and how delightful when we would sit together while making *dhikr*, supplicating, and shaking each others' hands every time we would meet everyday, in an atmosphere that is filled with candor and sincerity for the sake of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

Dear blessed audience,

The conclusion of the *khutbah*, in which lessons that can be derived today are as follows:

1. The Muslim *ummah* must have certainty that all commands from Allah and His Messenger must be duly performed with diligence.
2. It is *wajib* upon the Muslim *ummah* to fulfill the obligatory prayers for they would be the first matter that will be judged by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.
3. The Muslim *ummah* must place utmost priority upon praying in congregation for its tremendous virtues and great rewards in the Sight of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.



أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا لَا نَسْأَلُكَ رِزْقًا نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُكَ وَالْعَاقِبَةُ

لِلتَّقْوَى ﴿١٣٢﴾

"And enjoin prayer upon your family [and people] and be steadfast therein. We ask you not for provision; We provide for you, and the [best] outcome is for [those of] righteousness."

(Ta-Ha 20:132)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.

Hasal / syda
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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 again, I would like to remind all of us to always have the *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*. As Muslims, we are to manifest noble *akhlaaq*, having utmost personality and attitude for Rasulullah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم 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 صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم. Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* 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)

إِنَّ اللَّهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا.

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 يَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَعِزِّزْ 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 بَعِينِ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةِ، وَبِحِفْظِ وَقَايَتِكَ



الصَّمَدَانِيَّةِ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعْظَمِ، سُلْطَانَ سَلَاعُورِ، سُلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ
ادريس شاه الحاج، ابن المرحوم سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عبد العزيز شاه الحاج.
اللَّهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعُونَ وَالْهَدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لِيُؤَيِّ عَهْدِ
سَلَاعُورِ، تَعَكُّو أَمِيرِ شَاهِ، ابْنِ السُّلْطَانَ شَرَفِ الدِّينِ ادريس شاه الحاج، فِي
أَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. اللَّهُمَّ أَطْلُ عُمْرَهُمَا،
مُصْلِحِينَ لِلْمَوْظُفِينَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبِلَادِ، وَبَلِّغْ مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.

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 this state has become an advanced state, prosperous and providing welfare, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic affairs in this state.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا. رَبَّنَا
ءَاتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ النَّارِ.
عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَانِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ
الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿١٠١﴾
فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُوهُ عَلَىٰ نِعْمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ
فَضْلِهِ يَعْطِكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ.