**“INTERCESSION AS OUR LAST CHANCE”**

Dear faithful followers of Rasulullah,

I remind myself and fellow audience to always have the *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta’ala* by ensuring that we are among those that would always firmly uphold all teachings brought by the Messenger ﷺ.

Respected audience,

As children of Adam, whether we admit it or not, we would always commit sins and mistakes. If our *tawbah* (repentance) is not accepted and our sins are not forgiven, then without a doubt we will become fuel for Allah’s Hellfire in the Hereafter. Indeed, there is no other way to escape from such horrifying predicament except with one final chance that is mandated to our Prophet, Muhammad ﷺ.

What is that final chance?

Please listen closely and pay close attention to this. That final opportunity is the “*Shafaa’ah* (intercession) of the Prophet ﷺ.” *Shafaa’ah* means aid or recommendation from the Prophet ﷺ. It is among the aspects of belief that is *waajib* (obligatory) to be firmly held by the Muslim *ummah*.

Indeed, the term *shafaa’ah* is not foreign to the majority of the Muslims within the *Nusantara* (Malay Archipelago). This is because due to the obsession upon the term *shafaa’at* itself, many named their children Supaat that originated from the word *Shafaa’ah*, which means intercession from the Prophet ﷺ in the Hereafter.

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1 Sabaa’ 34:28.
In al-Qur'an, the word Shafaa’ah was mentioned four (4) times, among them is where Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta‘aala mentions in verse 109 of soorah Ta-Ha:



“That Day, no intercession will benefit except [that of] one to whom the Most Merciful has given permission and has accepted his word.”

Al-Imaam at-Tahaawiy (الطحاوی) mentioned in the text of at-Tahaawiyah (الطحاوی) that:

وَالشَفَاعَةُ الَّتِيُ اَدْخَرُهَا لَهُمْ حَقّ كُمَّ رُؤُيَّ في الْأَخْبَار

“The Intercession (ash-shafaa’ah), which he deferred for them until the Day of Resurrection, is true as related in the narrations.”

In the hadeeth of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu ‘anh, the Prophet ﷺ said:

لَكِلّ نَبِيٍّ دَعْوَةً مُسْتَجَابَةٌ يَدْعُو بِهَا، وَأُرِيدُ أَنْ أَحْتَيْ دُعُوتُي شَفَاعَةً لَّمْ يُعْلَمَ يَدُوَّارُهَا في الْأَخْبَار.

“For every prophet there is one special invocation (that will not be rejected) with which he appeals (to Allah), and I want to keep such an invocation for interceding for my followers in the Hereafter.”

(al-Bukhaari)

In the hadeeth of ‘Uthmaan bin ‘Affaan radiyAllaahu ‘anh, it was narrated that Rasulullah ﷺ said:

يَشَفَعُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ مَنْ أَلْبِيَاءَ ثُمَّ الْعَلَمَاءَ ثُمَّ الْشُهْدَاءُ

“Three will intercede on the Day of Resurrection: The Prophets, then the scholars, then the martyrs.”

(ibn Maajah)

Dear esteemed audience,

Referring to the verses of al-Qur’an and authentic ahaadeeth, the scholars have concluded that shafaa’ah is divided into two, namely general and specific. General shafaa’ah is intercession granted to the Prophets, scholars, and martyrs. While specific shafaa’ah, also known as ash-Shafaa’ah al-Uzma (الشَفَاعَةُ العَظِيمَ), refers to the pleading by our beloved prophet ﷺ to Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta‘aala in asking for the judgment to
be passed and relieve them of the distress suffered from the long wait during the gathering at the mahshar. In the hadeeth of ‘A’ishah radiyAllaahu ‘anha, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

**تُحِْ شَرُِ نَ حُفَِ اتَّةً عُرَِ غُرْلًَِ**

“The people will be gathered barefooted, naked, and uncircumcised.”

(al-Bukhaari)

It is very clear that mankind will no longer be able to bear the suffering at the mahshar, that in the end they will throng like waves to Prophet Adam, Nooh, Ibraheem, Moosa, and ‘Isa (عليهم الصلاة والسلام) asking them to intercede so that the judgment may begin. All of those Prophets would refuse to intercede, whereby some would mention that they discovered that Allah is in great anger, while He has never been in such state before. They all would utter “nafsi, nafsi” (my soul, my soul, your soul, your soul, go save your souls). In the end, the people would collectively agree to go see our Prophet Muhammad ﷺ to plead to Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala so that the judgment will begin. Nabi Muhammad ﷺ would then agree and prostrate to Allah underneath the ‘Arash (Throne). The prophet’s request will be accepted and judgment will then begin.

Aside from Shafaa’ah al-Uzhma, there are other types of shafaa’ah bestowed upon the Prophet ﷺ, as in the following:

First: Intercession granted to the awliyaa’ (allies) and saaliheen (righteous) to elevate their station in paradise.

Second: Shafaa’ah for those with belief in their heart even the weight of a barley-grain, that they are taken out of hellfire and enter paradise. This shafaa’ah is bestowed upon Rasulullah ﷺ due to his mercy, crying while beseeching to Allah. Al-Imaam Muslim narrated a hadeeth on the authority of ibn ‘Umar radiyAllaahu ‘anhum that the Prophet ﷺ supplicated, “O Allah! My ummah, my ummah (they are still in hellfire)!” The Prophet’s request was accepted by Allah as He mentions:

إِنَا سَأَرْضِيكُمْ فِي اِمْتِكَانٍ، وَلَا نَسُوءُكَِ ...

“...Verily We will please you with regard to your ummah and would not displease you.”

Third: Intercession granted to the Prophet ﷺ to aid those who have equal amount of good and bad deeds on the scale. With this shafaa’ah, they will eventually enter Paradise.

Fourth: Shafaa’ah granted to the Prophet ﷺ to have certain people enter paradise without any accounting and punishment. These fortunate ones will enter paradise through a special path that has been pre-determined. May we all become among these fortunate ones, ameen! Al-Imaam Ahmad narrated a hadeeth on the authority of ‘Abdurrahman bin
Abu Bakr radiyAllaahu ‘anh whom said that Rasulullah ﷺ said, “Seventy thousand people of my followers will enter Paradise without accounts.” Sayyidina ‘Umar asked the Prophet ﷺ, “O Rasulullah, did you ask to increase the numbers?” Rasulullah replied, “Yes! I have requested for an increase, so Allah granted me that for each person there will be seventy thousand of them.” ’Umar inquired, “Did you ask for more increase, O Rasulullah?” Rasulullah replied, “Yes! For each person there will be another seventy thousand.” ’Umar inquired again, “Did you ask for another increase, O Rasulullah?” Rasulullah ﷺ replied, “Yes! I had asked for more but that was all that was granted.”

Fifth: Shafaa’ah bestowed upon the Prophet ﷺ to save those that have committed major sins from the torment of hellfire. In the hadeeth of Anas bin Maalik radiyAllaahu ‘anh, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

َهْل  الْكَبَائِر  مِنْ أَمْتِي

“My intercession is for those that have committed major sins from amongst my ummah.”

(Ahmad)

Dear blessed audience,

Finally, let us whisper deep within our hearts with pertinent questions as in the following: Are we from among those that are eligible to earn those shafaa’ah? Would Rasulullah truly know us through the salawaat and salam that we have sent him? Have we become true adherents of the teachings that he has brought that it entitles us to earn his intercession?

Noble audience,

Traversing through today’s khutbah, let us ponder upon the following directives and suggestions:

1. The Muslim ummah must have certainty that the very presence of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ in this world is to bring mercy to the worlds.
2. The Muslim ummah must duly realize that the mandate in providing shafaa’ah is solely by the grace and permission of Allah ‘Azza wa Jalla.
3. Those that desire to earn the shafaa’ah of the Prophet ﷺ must have never associated anything with Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta’aala.
4. Those that desire to earn the shafaa’ah of the Prophet ﷺ must qualify themselves by increasing their righteous deeds and salawaat upon the Prophet ﷺ.

أَعُوذُ بِلَهَّ مِنَ الْشَّيْطَانِ أَلْرَجِيمِ
There has certainly come to you a Messenger from among yourselves. Grievous to him is what you suffer; [he is] concerned over you and to the believers is kind and merciful.”

(at-Tawbah 9:128)
Khutbah Jumaat 15 November 2019M / 18 Rajab 1441H: “Suafaat Sebagai Peluang Terakhir”
Jabatan Agama Islam Selangor

THE SECOND KHUTBAH

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)

"اَلْحَمْدُِ ل لاه  الاذ يْ جَعَلَنَا م نَ الُْْسْل م يْنَ، وَرَزَقَنَا م نَ ال طاي  بَات ِ．
أَشْهَدُ أَِ نِْ لآا إ لَهَ إ لَاِ
اللاهُ وَحْدَهُ لََِ شَر يْكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُوِْ
اللاهُما صَل ِ وَسَل  مْ
وَبَار كِْ عَلَى
سَي  د نَا مُحَمادٍ وَعَلَى
فَا عَهُِ
مْ ب إ حْسَانٍِ إ لَى
يَوِْ م
الد  يْن . أَمَاا بَعْدُ، فَيا ع بَادَ الله ، ا تاقُواْ اللاهَ، أُوص يكُمْ وَِ
إ ياايَِ ب تَقْوَى الله ِ
فَقَدْ  فَازَ
الُْْتاقُوْنَ.
وَقَالَ اللهُ تَعَالى
िْ
And the pious and the equitable, and the just and the peaceful, an important and mighty, O Allah, bestow upon us guidance in performing the five daily prayers in the hearts, bestow upon us a path from the straying such as outside the fold of Islam such as Ahmadiyyah and teachings declared as astray such as Shee’ah and Al-Arqam sect. O Allah, Ya Rahmaan, Ya Raheem, unite our hearts, bestow upon us rizq with blessings, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, protect us from calamities. O Allah, bestow upon us guidance in performing the five daily prayers in congregation, 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).

"Syafaat Sebagai Peluang Terakhir"