



جَابَطَانُ اِسْلَامِ سَلَانْجُور  
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

# STEADFASTNESS IN WORSHIP



Let us strive to increase our  
*taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala* with full obedience,  
certainty and sincerity, which is  
by fulfilling all of His  
Commands and avoiding all of  
His prohibitions.

Truly, may we become  
individuals having *taqwa*,  
attaining salvation in this world  
and the Hereafter.

On this blessed day, let us  
ponder upon a *khutbah* entitled:  
**“Steadfastness In Worship.”**

Indeed, *istiqaamah*  
(steadfastness) or consistency in  
performing ‘ibaadah or being in  
the state of obedience is  
something that is very difficult  
to achieve.

This is because *imaan* is actually in the heart. And the heart as it is known in Arabic as “*qalbun*” is defined as something having that is always vacillating. Hence, a person may have *imaan* in

the morning, but falls into *kufr* (disbelief) at night. Or being in the state of obedience in the morning, but transgresses at night. Or doing good deeds in the morning, but plunges into

heedlessness at night. Because it is the nature of the heart to always vacillate, or not *istiqaamah* and being consistent. Anas bin Maalik *radiyAllaahu 'anh* narrated that Rasulullah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said:

“...Indeed the hearts are  
between the two Fingers of  
Allah's Fingers, He  
changes them as He wills.”

(at-Tirmidhi: *saheeh*)

*Istiqaamah* means to follow one path or remaining consistent upon one guideline. Imam an-

Nawawi *rahimahullaah* explained *istiqaamah* stating that: “*The scholars have mentioned that*

*istiqaamah is to always remain  
in the obedience to Allah  
Subhaanahu Wata‘aala. This is  
the istiqaamah that is  
emphasized by al-Qur‘an and  
as-Sunnah.”*

For example, to consistently pray the *fard* prayer in congregation, always performing the *qabliyah* and *ba‘diyah sunnah* prayers, *istiqaamah* in covering one’s ‘awrah, *istiqaamah* in giving

away one's wealth for charity in the Path of Allah, and many others. Indeed, *istiqaamah* is truly difficult. That is why Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala* has promised a huge reward for

those that constantly remain in  
*istiqaamah.*

Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala*  
mentions in al-Qur'an:

“Indeed, those who have said, “Our Lord is Allah,” and then remained on a right course - the angels will descend upon them,

[saying], “Do not fear and do not grieve but receive good tidings of Paradise, which you were promised.””

(Fussilat 61:30)

Indeed, *istiqaamah* is heavily emphasized in our religion.

*Istiqaamah* is truly emphasized in Islam, as it was decreed by Allah Subhaanahu Wata‘aala and His Messenger.

Among them is the verse in al-Qur'an:

**“So remain on a right course  
as you have been commanded,  
[you] and those who have  
turned back with you [to  
Allah],**

and do not transgress.  
Indeed, He is Seeing of  
what you do.”

(Hood 11:112)

Among *ahaadeeth* that mentions *istiqaamah* is the narration by Sufyaan bin ‘Abdullah ath-Thaqafi *radiyAllaahu ‘anh*, whom reported:

I said, “O Messenger of Allah,  
tell me something of Islam  
which I will not ask anyone  
else about it.” He (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said,  
“Say, ‘I believe in Allah’ and  
then be steadfast.”

(Muslim)

Through the selected verses and this *hadeeth*, it is evident\* that *istiqaamah* is a command from Allah Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala. While the *hadeeth* explains that the key to success or

living guidelines in attaining the pleasure of Allah is achieved through *istiqaamah*.

Furthermore, the explanation from Rasulullah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) in answering the Companion's question truly

emphasize that in order for one to excel and succeed in this world and Hereafter, it must be with solid *imaan* and continuous deeds with consistency or *istiqaamah*.

Among matters that hinders *istiqaamah* is when one deem sinning and disobedience as something light, always busy with worldly affairs without concerning about the

Hereafter, and surrounded with bad environment whether having immoral companions, broken homes, or living in an ‘uncivilized’ society. All these are among the factors that would cripple

one's effort for *istiqaamah* in  
preserving obedience unto Allah  
*Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.*

Among the characteristics of  
*istiqaamah*, whether through the  
actions of the heart,

tongue, and limbs, in  
continuously remaining in  
obedience are:

1- Obedience with full  
*mujaahadah* in fighting against  
the *nafs*. Indeed, *imaan*  
increases and

decreases. Hence, the Muslim must remain *mujaahadah* in performing the obligatory ‘ibaadah, and perfecting them with supererogatory acts.

2- Always attending knowledge-oriented activities. Indeed, knowledge is the key to all goodness. With knowledge, one will come to know, worship, and devote oneself to Allah

*Subhaanahu Wata‘aala.* With knowledge, one will know his obligations upon Allah

*Subhaanahu Wata‘aala.* With knowledge, fulfilling the obligation towards Allah

*Subhaanahu*

*Wata ‘aala* will become easy, beautiful, and enjoyable.

3- *Ikhlaas* (sincerity) in seeking knowledge and practicing them.

Verily, *ikhlaas* is the soul of all ‘ibaadah. When *ikhlaas* is

fertile and cultivated in the heart, then ‘ibaadah will continue to flourish, stemming from the heart.

4- Befriending or being in the company of the righteous.  
Indeed, being in

the company of the righteous can strengthen one's enthusiasm to continue remaining in the obedience of Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala*. Furthermore, even a good environment

would suffice to save us from heedlessness, what more if we are always in the company of those having good conduct, righteous, and obedient to Allah

*Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala.*

5- Moderation in religious practice and behavior. Indeed, moderation in religious practice according to one's ability becomes the savior from feeling fatigue or boredom, which in the

end prompts one to abandon them entirely. Verily, a good practice would be low in quantity but performed continuously. *Insha Allah*, a small beginning will definitely result in

multitudes when it becomes a habit.

Among other deeds that would aid in *istiqaamah* is to always engage in *istighfaar*, *du ‘aa*, *adhkaar*, remembering death, making

*tawbah*, and yearning to die  
having the Pleasure of Allah  
*Subhaanahu Wata‘aala.*

Among the benefits of  
*istiqaamah* is that one will  
always remain in the company  
of the angels of

mercy, one's heart and life  
engulfed in peace and  
happiness, and even paradise is  
guaranteed for him and his *rizq*  
expanded by Allah *Subhaanahu  
Wata'aala.*

Let us altogether remain  
determined and committed  
towards obedience by creating a  
righteous or conducive  
environment so that it will  
stimulate and encourage  
goodness for all

of us. May we always remain in obedience, forgiveness, and mercy of Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala*. The conclusions that can be derived from today's *khutbah* are as follows:

1- We must always remain *istiqaamah* in fulfilling religious duties decreed by Allah *Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala* through the verses of al-Qur’ān and the *sunnah* of Rasulullah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ).

2- We must always be in the company of the scholars and the righteous and frequent circles of knowledge to discipline the soul in attaining blissfulness in this world and the Hereafter.

3- We must always make *du‘aa* to Allah so that we will forever remain in obedience and standing firm until we breathe our last.

“[Who say], “Our Lord, let  
not our hearts deviate after  
You have guided us and grant  
us from Yourself mercy.  
Indeed, You are the  
Bestower.””

(Aal-‘Imraan 3:8)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي  
وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ  
مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاقُتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ أَفُولُ  
قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ  
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ  
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ  
إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

**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 Selangor, as an advanced state, prosperous, and providing welfare.**

Hence, we sincerely beseech  
you, O Allah, strengthen our  
*imaan*, accept our deeds,  
strengthen our unity, increase  
our *rizq*, enrich us with  
beneficial knowledge, cultivate  
our soul with good mannerisms,

**return us to the path that you  
are pleased with, protect us  
from disasters and your severe  
trials, so that our nation will  
become more peaceful and filled  
with blessings.**

**O Allah, we sincerely beseech you,  
strengthen our beliefs according to  
the creed of *Ahlus Sunnah wal-*  
*Jamaa'ah*, and protect us from  
deeds and '*aqeedah* that are astray  
such as the extreme *Shee'is*,  
*Qadiyani*, and other ideologies.**

**O Allah, open up our hearts in fulfilling the five daily prayers, performing *zakaat*, and other obligations. Bless those that have fulfilled their *zakaat* and loving the *fuqaraa'* and *masaakin*, and those that have**

**made *waqf* and gave up their wealth for the *Tabung Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor* (Islamic Development Trust Fund of Selangor) with continuous reward until the Day of Judgment.**



DISEDIAKAN OLEH :  
UNIT KHUTBAH, BAHAGIAN PENGURUSAN MASJID  
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH :  
UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,  
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR