



NEIGHBORLINESS:

LIVING WITH

UNITY AND

TOGETHERNESS



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

abstaining from all of His prohibitions. May we all become among those having true *taqwa*, becoming successful, and attaining salvation in this world and the Hereafter.

On this blessed day, let us
ponder upon the *khutbah*
entitled: “**Neighborliness:**
*Living With Unity And
Togetherness.*”

Neighbors refer to those that live in the same area or surrounding that we live in. in Islam, the area of neighborhood encompasses everyone within 40 houses from all corners of our

homes. In reality, in this country, the neighbors are comprised of Muslims and non-Muslims, or the Malays, Chinese, Indians, and others.

Islam stresses on the special status placed on the neighbors, such that Rasulullah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* would always remind about the neighbors' rights.

In addition, in Islam the matter of neighborliness is closely intertwined with one's *imaan*. It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh* that the Messenger of Allah

sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam

observed:

“He who believes in Allah and
the Last Day does not harm
his neighbor, and he who
believes in Allah and the Last
Day shows

**hospitality to his guest and he
who believes in Allah and the
Last Day speaks good or
remains silent.”**

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

Since our neighbors in this country are comprised of different ethnicity, faith, and ideology, then their very rights and status with such diversity should be well comprehended and

safeguarded.

Among the factors that can bring about happiness in our lives according to Islam is to have a good neighbor.

Naafi‘ ibn ‘Abdul Haarith
radiyAllaahu ‘anh reported that
the Prophet *sallAllahu ‘alayhi
wasallam* said:
“Part of the happiness of

the Muslim man includes a spacious dwelling, righteous neighbor, and a good mount.”

(Ahmad and al-Bukhaari’s *al-Adab al-Mufrad: saheeh*)

Therefore, to ensure that we will be privileged of having good neighbors, it behooves us to become good neighbors first.

Good neighbors are those that truly comprehend the rights of the neighbors,

upholding the harmony amongst
neighbors, and always
considering the neighbors as
part of their family.

‘A’ishah *radiyAllaahu ‘anha*
reported that the Prophet

sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam
said:

“Jibreel (*radiyAllaahu ‘anh*)
continued to advise me to
treat neighbors well until I

**thought he would make them
my heirs.”**

(Muslim and al-Bukhaari’s *al-Adab al-Mufrad*)

Indeed, knowing the neighbors’
rights is from among the
important matters

in Islam that should be known by every Muslim. Among the rights of the neighbors that must be known, understood, and upheld are:

1- Full understanding on the concept of tolerance and no compulsion in Islam

Islam is a religion that recognizes the reality and diversity of mankind in embracing various religions

(multi-religious) and having different cultures (multicultural). It is for this reason that Islam espouses the freedom of religion and emphasize that there is no coercion in Islam.

Hence, to manipulate the issue or sentiment of racism whether based on religion or ethnicity or ancestry or race, all are definitely not from Islam.

Realize that there is no solution that could be

reached by raising the racial issue. Verily, it would be impossible for us to unite Malaysians as one single race, but we are capable of making them as our brethren in faith by calling them to Islam.

2- Creating a pleasant and harmonious atmosphere

Indeed, good individuals or neighbors will definitely foster good relationship with their neighbors.

Good conducts such as knowing each other, greeting each other, smiling at each other, always inquiring about others' well being, and not stirring issues that could lead to conflict

such as exposing the fault of
others.

3- Helping and aiding each
other in various affairs

Among the Prophet *sallAllahu
'alayhi wasallam*'s message

regarding neighborliness is for us to aid our neighbors in all matters such as visiting them when they are sick or passed away, accompanying the deceased for the burial, and congratulating and

sending condolence at appropriate times. In a general sense, it is to help out each other in good deeds. Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala* mentions in al-Qur‘an:

**“... And cooperate in
righteousness and piety, but
do not cooperate in sin and
aggression. And fear Allah;
indeed, Allah is severe in
penalty.”**

(al-Maa’idah 5:2)

4- Protecting the neighbors' rights and not causing discomfort (inconvenience)

Among the message of Prophet *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* in regard to this matter is to not raise the wall

(fence) for it will obstruct the air (wind) flow and sight, except with their permission. Also to share our cooking or meals with the neighbors especially if the food or its preparation releases odors

that are appealing to the appetite. In addition, to uphold other mannerisms and etiquettes of neighborliness such as not parking our vehicles anywhere we please without

considering the rights of others,
disrupting daily affairs of the
neighbors, obstructing the path
or traffic flow, and ensuring that
our garbage waste does not
intrude the comfort and

cleanliness of the surrounding.

5- To manifest and exhibit the beauty of Islam in all aspects of lives

One significant responsibility upon every

Muslim is to convey and project the beauty of Islam to their non-Muslim neighbors. This is the golden opportunity and window for *da‘wah* to our neighbors.

When we truly know our

neighbors, then it becomes easier for us to approach them closely. Let us carry ourselves as Muslims that are sincere, trustworthy, truthful, responsible, dignified, possessing all

beautiful and pleasing characteristics. In this regard, Rasulullah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* has taught us several approaches in reaching out to our non-Muslim neighbors such as

presenting gifts to them or bringing joy to them with presents. Seize every moment and opportunity to make *da‘wah* to the neighbors whom are not yet Muslims.

We truly hope that they would
not espouse negative
perceptions about Islam.

Furthermore, for them to further
become well informed,
comprehend, and finally
entering the fold of

Islam, *inshaa' Allaah*. Sahl ibn Sa‘d *radiyAllaahu ‘anh* reported: The Prophet *sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam* said to ‘Ali *radiyAllaahu ‘anh*:

“By Allah, if a single person is guided by Allah through you, it will be better for you than a whole lot of red camels (i.e. great wealth).”

(al-Bukhaari and Muslim)

The conclusions and lessons
that can be drawn from today's

khutbah are as follows:

1- Neighbors are those that
reside nearby our residential.

According to Islam, neighbors
are those that live next door all
the way up to those that are
within the distance of 40 homes
from all angles of our dwelling.

2- Our neighbors are comprised of various racial and religious backgrounds. Hence, part of our initial effort is to be well informed and understand the intricacies of the different

faiths, culture, and customs, in
order for us to fulfill the rights
of the neighbors.

3- Neighbors have a special
status in Islam, so much so that
Rasulullah *sallAllahu ‘alayhi
wasallam* would

always remind us upon the importance of their rights. In addition, maintaining harmony amongst neighbors is from among matters pertaining to *imaan*.

4- Every Muslim must know the rights of their neighbors such as understanding the concept of tolerance in religion or belief, always maintaining a pleasant and harmonious atmosphere,

and aiding each other in all matters and aspects.

5- Seizing the golden opportunity for *da‘wah* by demonstrating the true beauty of Islam to our non-Muslim neighbors.

This is an important effort that must be partaken by everyone, for the benefit of Islam and the nation.

**“Worship Allah and associate
nothing with Him, and to
parents do good, and to
relatives, orphans, the needy,
the near neighbor, the
neighbor farther away,**

**the companion at your side,
the traveler, and those whom
your right hands possess.**

**Indeed, Allah does not like
those who are self-deluding
and boastful.”**

(an-Nisaa' 4:36)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي
وَإِيَّاكم بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْأَيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ
مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاقُتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ
قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ
بِإِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

O Allah, You are All-Powerful, we are truly grateful unto You for bestowing upon us *rahmah* and *ni'mah*, that we are able to continue the efforts in strengthening the Muslim nation especially the state of Selangor, as an advanced state, prosperous, and providing welfare services.

**Hence, we beseech You, O Allah,
strengthen our *imaan*, accept our
good deeds, solidify our unity,
increase our sustenance, enrich us
with beneficial knowledge, fill our
hearts with noble characters,**

**guide us to the path that is pleasing
to You, protect us from all types of
calamities and Your severe
tribulations so that our state will
continue to prosper and remain
blessed.**

O Allah, open up our hearts to complete the five daily *salawaat* and ‘ibaadah of zakaat as You have ordained. Bless the lives of those who have fulfilled their zakaat obligation, loving the poor and needy.

**Purify their wealth and hearts,
protect the *fuqaraa'* and *masaakeen*
from *kufr* and continuous poverty. O
Allah, increase and expand the
sustenance of those who made *waqf*
from of their wealth, accept their
waqf with eternal rewards until the
Hereafter.**



DI SEDIAKAN OLEH :

BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH :

UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR