



جَابَاتَانِ اِسْلَامِ سِلَانْجُور
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

GRATEFULNESS
FOR THE
BLESSINGS OF
INDEPENDENCE



Let us march and stride in ways
that leads to pleasing Allah
Subhaanahu Wata 'aala by
fulfilling all of His Commands
and avoiding all of His
prohibitions so that we will be

regarded as among those having true *taqwa*. The *khutbah* today intends to encourage us in having: “*Gratefulness For The Blessings Of Independence.*”

Alhamdulillah, we are still blessed with the opportunity to commemorate the 56th anniversary of the nation's Independence. For the senior citizens that are above 50 years of age,

surely every Independence Day would reminisce them of three eras, namely:

- 1- The era of British colonization.
- 2- The era of Japanese occupation.

3- The era of fighting against Communist tyranny.

Those periods all contributed to unparalleled tremendous suffering to the people. They had to endure severe shortage of food, clothing,

dwelling, and other basic necessities. Some of them had resorted to forced labor enduring heavy work by the Japanese military on the battlefield, building roads, railroads, and bridges.

They had to bear the load of war
machineries while surviving on
very limited supply of food and
clothing that some had even lost
their lives in the deep tropical
jungles throughout

East Asia, without any medical treatment and funeral arrangements after their demise. By the permission of Allah, due to the diligence and persistence of our warriors

that relentlessly do not
recognize defeat, we had
successfully attained
Independence, becoming a
respected and sovereign nation.
All is due to the mercy of Allah

Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala, for it is by His Will that the courage to fight off the colonialists manifested, uniting the people in becoming a solid force and finally gaining Independence.

In commemorating *Merdeka* (Independence) Day, we must be thankful, supplicate, and praise Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala*, as well as increasing our '*ibaadah* unto Him. It is feared that some of

us will be deeply engrossed in celebrating the occasion with events such as sports fest and fun parties, but neglectful and heedless in remembering Allah

Subhaanahu Wata‘ala and

performing ‘ibaadah unto Him. Indeed, the reality of liberty and freedom is to have citizens that are educated, having first-class mindset, ambitious,

very knowledgeable, so that the pursuit in upholding and championing the people will be fulfilled with true success. If these matters can be achieved, then these deeds are a manifestation of

gratefulness to Allah

Subhaanahu Wata‘aala whom
had bestowed Independence
upon us. On the contrary, if we
do not want do or contribute
anything in commemorating

this Independence, then it means that we have betrayed our freedom fighters that had fallen in their noble pursuit, and also denied (*kufr*) upon the *ni‘mah* from Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala.*

Shukr (gratefulness) is from among the praiseworthy deed in Islam. Those that are thankful are praised by Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala* and they are promised with great rewards in this world and

the Hereafter. Allah
Subhaanahu Wata‘ala
mentions in al-Qur‘an:
**“And [remember] when your
Lord proclaimed, ‘If you are
grateful,**

I will surely increase you
[in favor]; but if you deny,
indeed, My punishment is
severe.””

(Ibraaheem 14:7)

The prosperity of a nation largely depends on the level of quality of its people. If the society practices a lifestyle that is pure and having noble *akhlaaq*, then the country will become stable and

increasingly progressive. But if the society resorts to a lifestyle that is vile and corrupted with bribery and power abuse, then the nation will collapse and decline.

This is because bribery and its like can destroy the administrative system of an organization, which in turn will destruct the whole entire nation.

Bribery would only be initiated by a person having low *akhlaaq*, greed, hastily satiating the *hawaa*, craving to get rich quick, and others. When these traits overpowers a person,

then there will be those willing to offer bribery, accepts it, or becoming the intermediary.

Hence, every Malaysian must cleanse themselves from being involved in this heinous and

distasteful act. In one *hadeeth*, it was narrated that Rasulullah *sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam*

said:

“May the curse of Allah be
upon the one who pays a bribe
and the one who
takes it.”

(ibn Maajah, at-Tirmidhi, Abu Dawood,
Ahmad: *saheeh*)

In raising a nation and its
people, everyone must elevate
themselves in becoming better
and

productive individuals. This is pertinent especially for the leaders, civil servants, entrepreneurs, educators, and Muslim scholars. It behooves everyone to become better slaves of

Allah *Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala*,
becoming righteous *Muslimeen*.

In addition to hard work and
rigorous effort in increasing
productivity, we must
strengthen our *imaan* and

taqwa of Allah *Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala*, and also implementing all the rules and regulations ordained by Allah *Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala.*

We must realize that the earth
and the heavens all belong to
Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala.*
Everything in between and
within them were created by
Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala*
for

mankind to remain aware, in remembrance, being thankful, praising, and performing ‘ibaadah to Him. With virtuous akhlaaq, we will be able to build a developed nation that is

peaceful and prosperous, which
in the end will bring about
prosperity to each citizen.

Among the important matters in safeguarding our liberty and freedom is unity. The unity of the *ummah* is very important so that our Independence will bring about mercy to the people.

The fundamentals and principles for unity in Islam has been clearly laid out in al-Qur'an and explained by Rasulullah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* in his *sunnah*.
The reality of unity in Islam

has its own uniqueness, which is
to collaborate, combine, unite, ,
firmly holding onto *Hablillah* as
explained by the scholars
referring to the Book of Allah
Subhaanahu

*Wata ‘aala and the sunnah of Rasulullah *sallAllahu ‘alayhi wasallam*. Those that cling upon these two divine sources with steadfastness are those that are united and will not depart from the*

teachings of Allah Subhaanahu
Wata ‘aala.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala
mentions in al-Qur’an:

**“And hold firmly to the
rope of Allah all together
and do not become
divided...”**

(Aal-‘Imraan 3:103)

One of the reasons that contribute to the failure of unity of the *ummah* is the despicable habit of slander and causing *fitnah*. *Fitnah* here refers to intentionally making up the faults and

shortcomings of others,
exaggerating the faults and
mistakes of others, and
falsifying the good act of others
as bad deeds.

From among its intent is to
disgrace a particular

individual. There are those that would hurl *fitnah* just to promote their own selves while dishonoring their adversaries. This wicked deed not only can hurt others, but it can further

cause conflict and division
within the society.

In Islam, *fitnah* is from among
the reprehensible deed, and it is
also from among the major sins.

From among all of the
deplorable

traits mentioned, *fitnah* sits at the top in terms of its wickedness. Allah *Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala* mentions in al-Qur’ān:

“Indeed, those who have tortured the believing men

and believing women and then
have not repented will have
the punishment of Hell, and
they will have the punishment
of the Burning Fire.”

(al-Burooj 85:10)

Anas ibn Maalik *radiyAllaahu 'anh* reported: The Messenger of Allah *sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam* said:

“When I was taken upon my night journey, I passed

by a people who had metal hooks in their hands and they were clawing at their faces and necks. I said: ‘Who are these, O Jibreel?’

He said: ‘These are the ones who eat the flesh of people (49:12) and disgrace their honor.’”

(Abu Dawood and Ahmad)

Typically, slandering others can happen to just about everyone, usually fuelled by greed, envy, selfishness, and other negative characteristics. Moreover, it would be resorted to by

someone who greatly cares
about worldliness more than
affairs of the religion.

Slander and calumnies will
cause negative consequences
such as wrongfully dishonoring
others and

further causing discord and disputes within the community. This is because those slandered will undoubtedly defend themselves, and when the patience runs out, it will only

cause aggressiveness and
savage behavior.

Our Independence is rendered
meaningless if it is without
deeds that uphold the dignity of
the people.

Hence, here lies the obligation upon us to revitalize our Independence. We must diligently strive to empower the people and uplift them from backwardness unto

becoming advanced in all aspects. To be just in their leadership, having stability in their political system, solid in their economy, complete in their education, and sound in their religion.

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

“... Indeed, Allah will not
change the condition of a
people until they change what
is in themselves ...”

(ar-Ra‘d 13:11)

The conclusions and lessons
that can be derived from today's
khutbah are:

- 1- In commemorating the
anniversary of our
Independence Day, let us be
grateful to Allah

Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala by
increasing our ‘ibaadah unto
Him and abstaining from all of
His prohibitions.

2- The efforts in nurturing unity
based upon al-Qur’an and *as-
Sunnah* must be

intensified so that the nation will be safe from enemy threats.

3- Vile and deplorable deeds such as bribery, power abuse, and other negative acts must be avoided so that

our nation building process can flourish smoothly.

4- Everyone must cooperate and work together in striving to

develop the country by increasing productivity and firmly holding onto the religion and human capital development.

“And if only the people of the cities had believed and feared Allah, We would have opened upon them blessings from the heaven and the earth;

but they denied [the messengers], so We seized them for what they were earning.”

(al-A‘raaf 7:96)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي
وَإِيَّاكمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقْبَلَ
مِنِي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاقَتِهِ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ
قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ
الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ
إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

**O Allah, You are the Almighty Lord,
we are grateful unto You for having
bestowed upon us Mercy and
Blessings, nourishing us to strive
to continue in strengthening the
Muslim nation especially the state
of Selangor, as an advanced,
progressive, peaceful, and
benevolent state.**

**We beseech and beg You, Ya Allah,
to strengthen our *imaan*, increase
our good deeds, strengthen our
unity, increase our provision,
enrich us with beneficial
knowledge, nourish our soul with
beautiful *akhlaaq*, guide us to the
Path that is Pleasing to You,**

protect us from Your severe tribulations such as the long drought, severe flooding, disease outbreak, violence and instability, poverty, and others, so that our land will become more peaceful and blessed.

Oh Allah, we ask You to open up the hearts of the Muslim *ummah* especially in Selangor, to fulfill their *zakaat* obligation as You had decreed in al-Qur'an. Bless the lives of those who have fulfilled their *zakaat* obligation, loving and caring for the poor and needy.

**Purify their wealth and soul so that
they will live according to that
which pleases You. Protect the poor
and needy from disbelief and
everlasting poverty. *Allaahummaa
ameen***



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

جَاْبَاتُانِ اَجَامِ اِسْلَامِ سِلَانْجُورِ

DI SEDIAKAN OLEH :

BAHAGIAN KHUTBAH,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH :

UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR