



جَابَطَانُ اِسْلَامِ سَلَانْجُور

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

# VIGILANCE WHEN USING SOCIAL MEDIA



Let us strive our utmost in

increasing our *taqwa* of Allah

*Subhaanahu Wata'aala* by

fulfilling all of His Commands

and avoiding all of His

prohibitions.

May we all be among His  
slaves whom are granted His  
blessings and love, as well as  
His protection, *Subhaanahu*  
*Wata ‘aala.*

On this blessed Friday, the chief of all days (*sayyid al-ayyaam*), let us internalize upon the *khutbah* entitled:

*“Vigilance When Using Social Media.”*

The globalized world today is witnessing the rapid growth of social media. All walks of life, whether young or old, children or adult, male or female, no one wants to be left out in

utilizing new social media applications such as facebook, twitter, blog, sms, and many more. Up until January 2012, about 62% of Malaysia's population of 29 million people was identified

as internet users. From that data, about 87.9% of those internet users actually have a facebook account, while 67% of them regularly watch Youtube. The latest statistics revealed that about 7.9 new

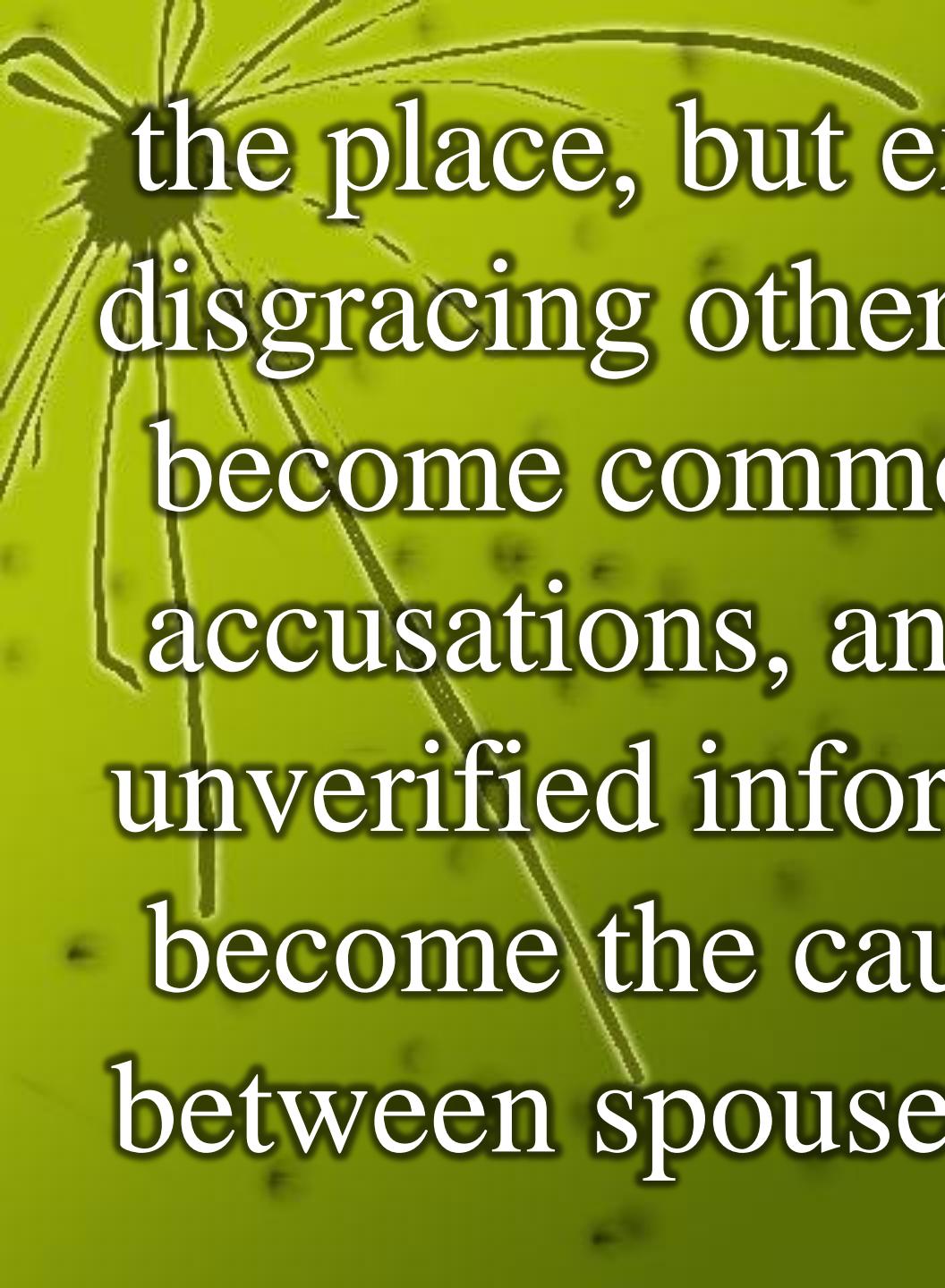


facebook accounts are registered every second.

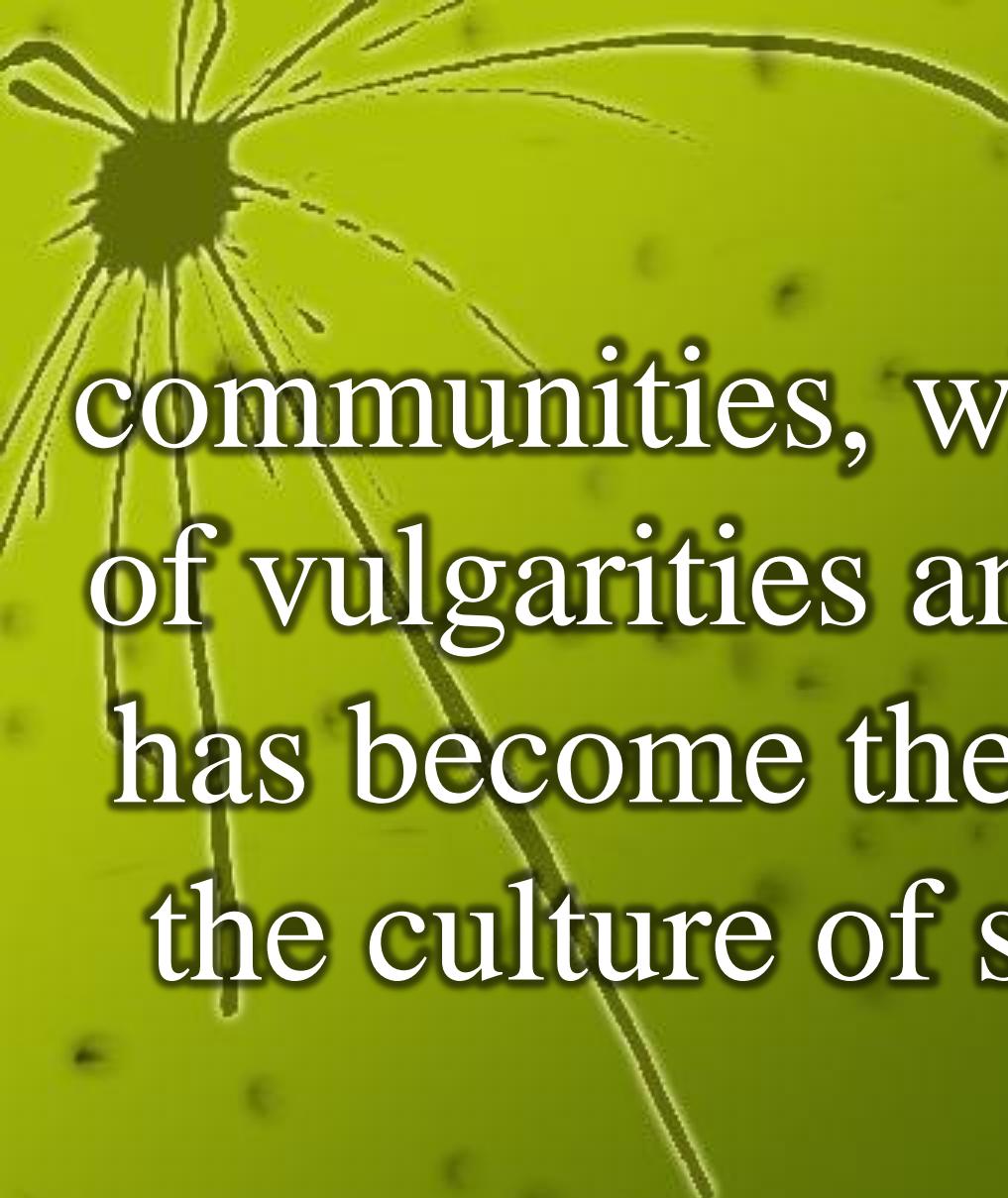
Furthermore, facebook tops the list as the most popular online social network in Malaysia.

Indeed, Islam does not impede  
on progress or modernization,  
but it is not unreasonable to  
state that the blessing of social  
media today has pretty much  
flipped around creating a

phenomenon that is very worrying. Many elements of wickedness have surfaced, grown, spread, and plagued our society through the social media. Not only the ‘*awrah* is uncovered all over

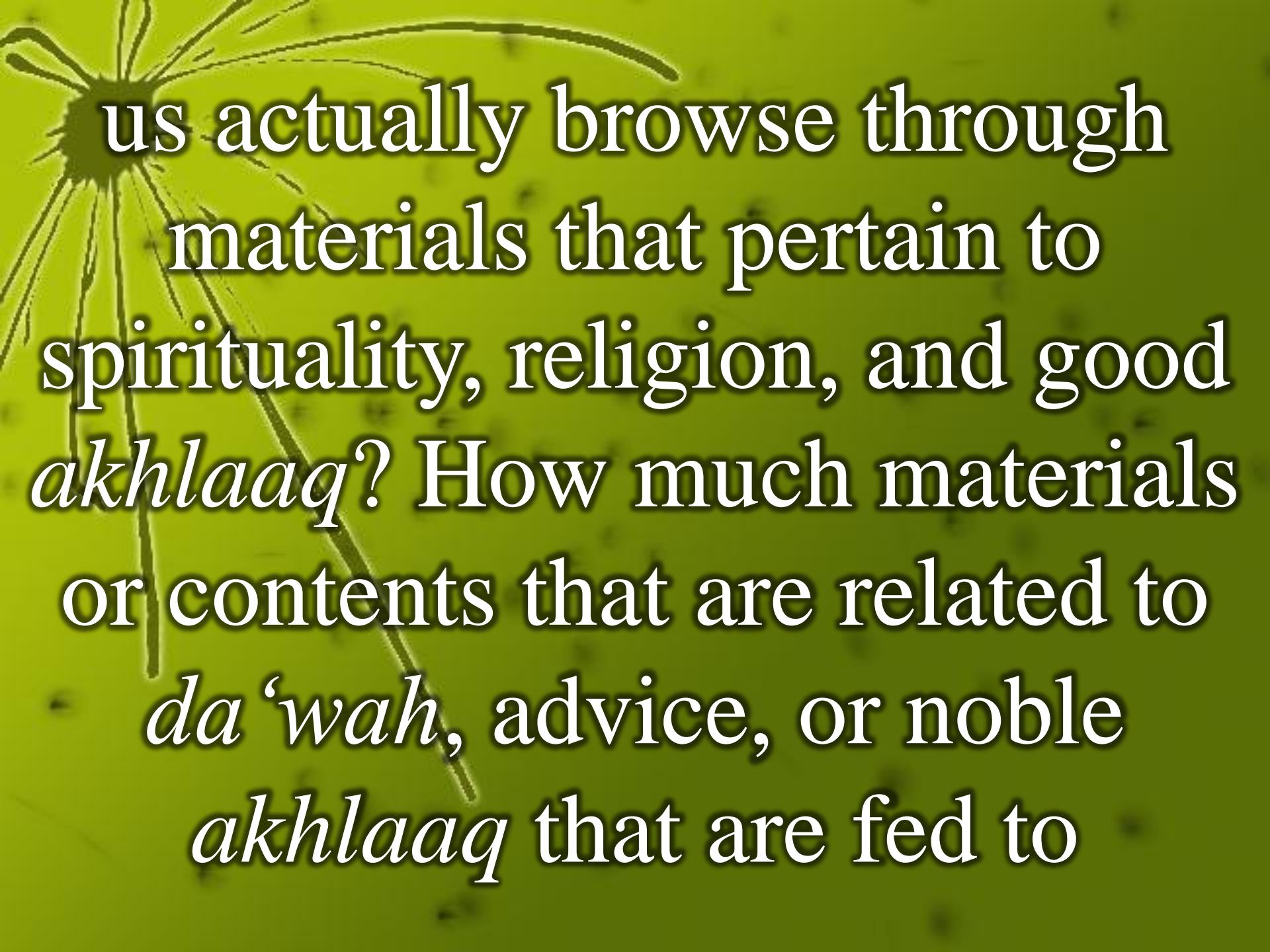


the place, but exposing and disgracing others openly has become common. Slander, accusations, and spreading unverified information have become the cause of fights between spouses and within



communities, while the usage of vulgarities and obscenities has become the norm within the culture of social media.

The Muslim *ummah* today  
spends a lot of time browsing  
through the social media  
compared to the time spent  
browsing on verses of the Holy  
Qur'an. The question begs  
how many of



us actually browse through materials that pertain to spirituality, religion, and good *akhlaaq*? How much materials or contents that are related to *da‘wah*, advice, or noble *akhlaaq* that are fed to

us via social media? Every time we “click” or browse through our social media page, does that “click” or browsing lead to goodness or disobedience? Are all of these truly investments for

the Hereafter that are truly beneficial, or only adds up to our burden of sins that are already heavy and laden?

Indeed, Allah has elevated us with the intellect, bestowing upon us blessings that are uncountable. However, the effect of the cyberspace at times becomes successful in turning us into a creation

with a foul mouth and filthy pen, lying and transgressing, hasty, impetuous, always rushing, weak, and disordered.

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

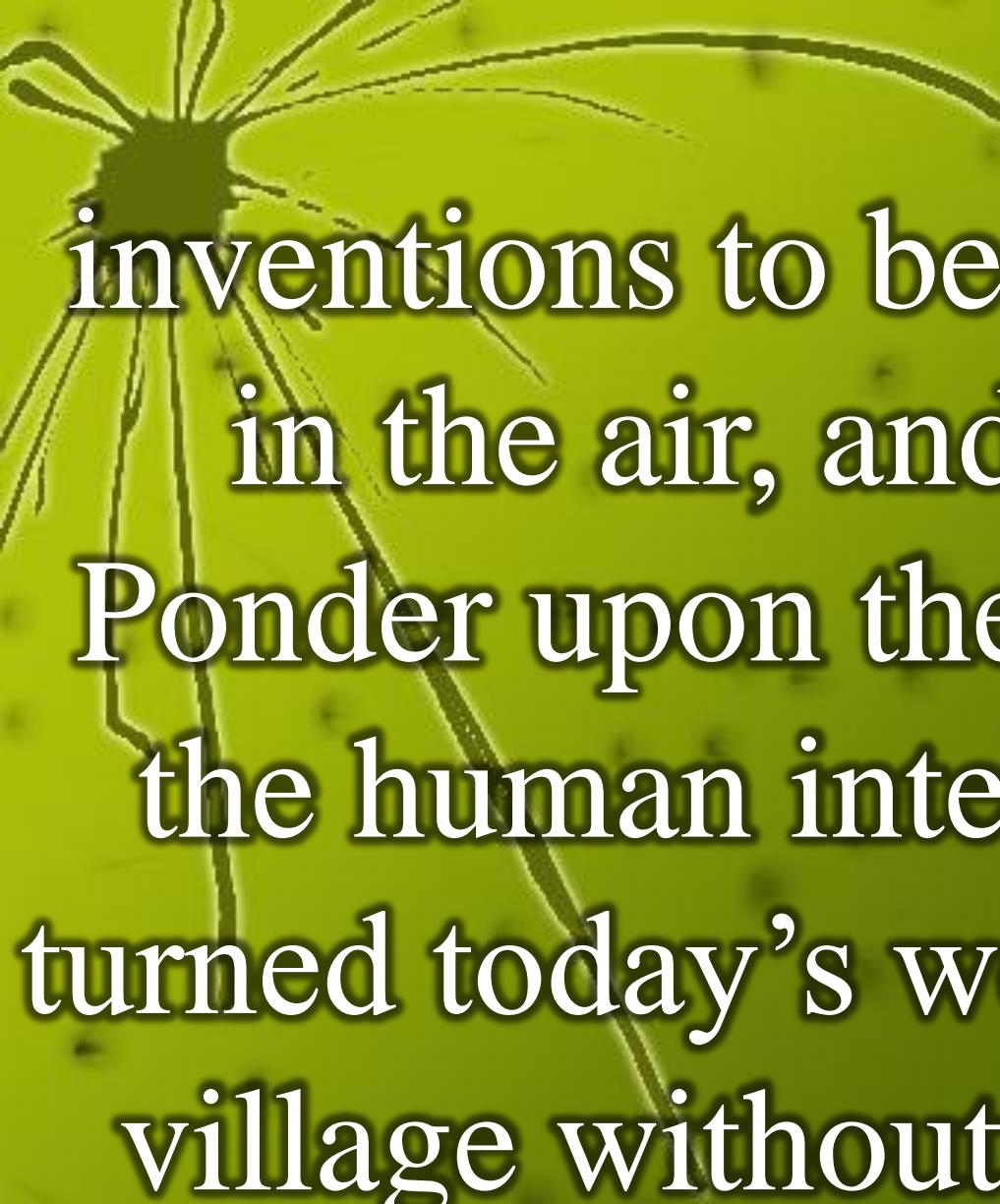
“And of the people is he  
who buys the amusement  
of speech to mislead  
[others] from the way of  
Allah without knowledge  
and who

takes it in ridicule. Those will have a humiliating punishment.”

(Luqmaan 31:6)

It must be remembered that the blessings of the intellect ('*aql*) has elevated the status of mankind over other creations.

It is with this '*aql* that mankind was successful in producing many



inventions to be used on land,  
in the air, and in the sea.

Ponder upon the capability of  
the human intellect that has  
turned today's world into a tiny  
village without distance and

borders through technological advancement of the social media such as facebook, WhatsApp, and others, all of which were inspirations from the intellect that was bestowed

by Allah upon humans. It is the '*aql*' that will steer technology heading towards either good or evil. Al-Imaam al-Ghazzaali *rahimahullaah* had once said:

*“A job is considered a virtue if it fulfils the need of the ‘aql and religion, and it is deemed as harmful if it violates the demand of the ‘aql and religion.”*

All these indicate that in handling this social media phenomenon, both the intellect and religion must go hand in hand. Whatever news and story that appears in social media will create

harmony if it is processed by an ‘*aql* that is religion-driven.

The wisdom in processing news and stories necessitates bashfulness and *taqwa*, from exposing their eyes and ears to matters that

humiliate others. Feeling  
fearful and ashamed to Allah if  
the hand and fingers of those  
spreading and sharing  
information that has yet to be  
confirmed of its authenticity.

Feeling worried that our

limbs and faculty of senses  
will become witnesses and  
proof of evilness in front of  
Allah *Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala*  
on the Day of Recompense.  
Are we not afraid that our  
good deeds

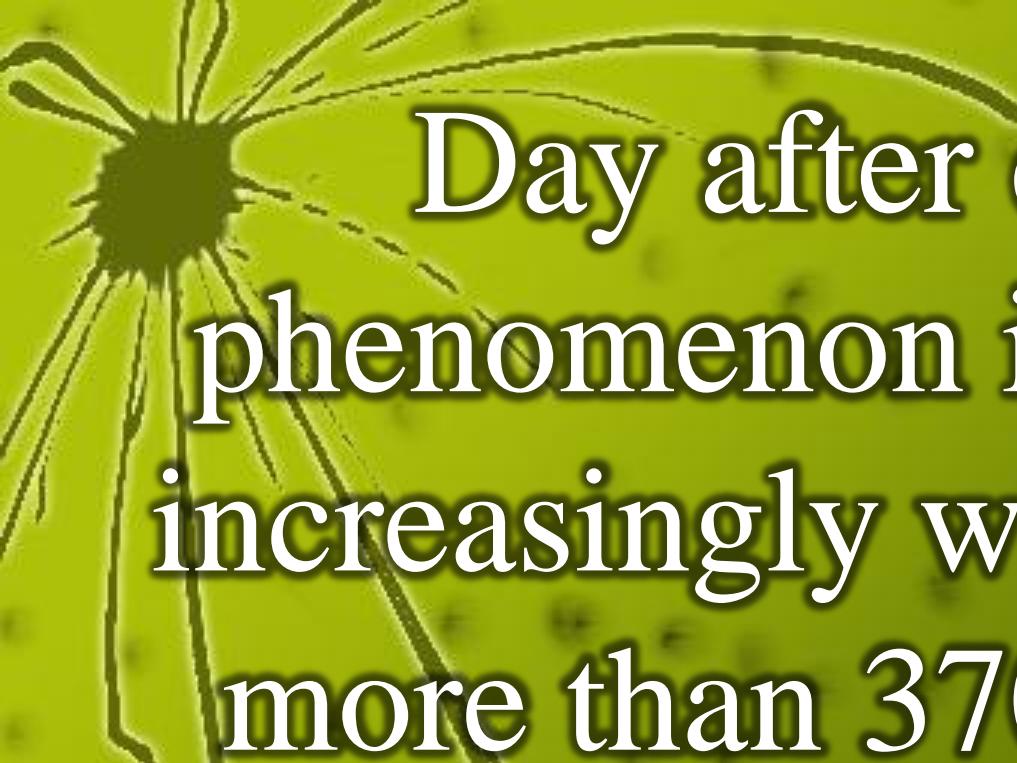
will render in vain just because we mistakenly “shared” a piece of information or sharing wickedness all over the place. Elements of religion, intellect, humility, and

*taqwa*, if all combined upon receiving any information, it will become the key to happiness in this world and the Hereafter. Let us be fearful with the admonishment from

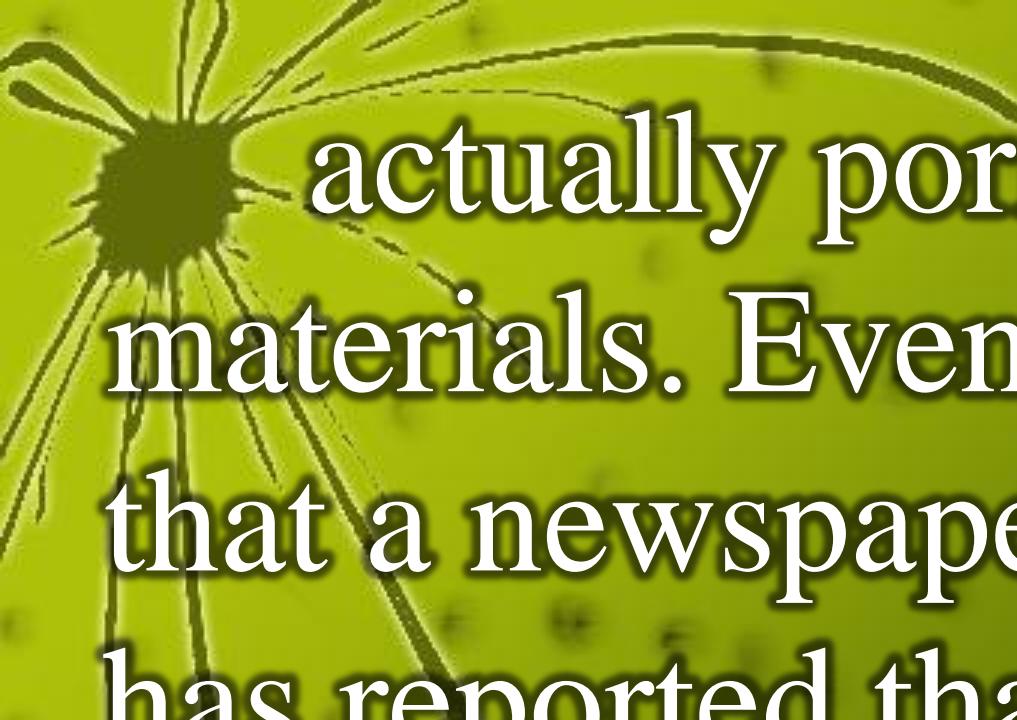
Allah Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala.

“Indeed, the worst of living creatures in the sight of Allah are the deaf and dumb who do not use reason.”

(al-Anfaal 8:22)



Day after day, this phenomenon is becoming increasingly worrying with more than 370 porn sites accessible on the internet. More than 2.5 billion emails that are sent daily are



actually pornographic materials. Even saddening is that a newspaper publication has reported that Malaysia is ranked eighth in the world in online search for pornography on the internet.

There is a credible research which concluded that 60% of teenagers committed *zinaa* (fornication) due to watching pornography on the internet. The reality in Malaysia today is that 90% of school



students actually browse through porn sites unintentionally because those sites are hiding behind “appropriate” websites and terminologies.

This is the reality that must be confronted thoroughly so that the *imaan* that has been built for many years will not be easily torn because of a picture or news piece. In the wake of multitudes of news

and stories spawning all over  
the social media and its like,  
let us reinvigorate ourselves,  
our children, and those around  
us with a message from Allah  
that we remain cautious with  
every news

that are conveyed to us. Allah

*Subhaanahu Wata‘aala*  
mentions in al-Qur’ān:

“O you who have believed, if  
there comes to you a  
disobedient one with

**information, investigate, lest  
you harm a people out of  
ignorance and become, over  
what you have done,  
regretful.”**

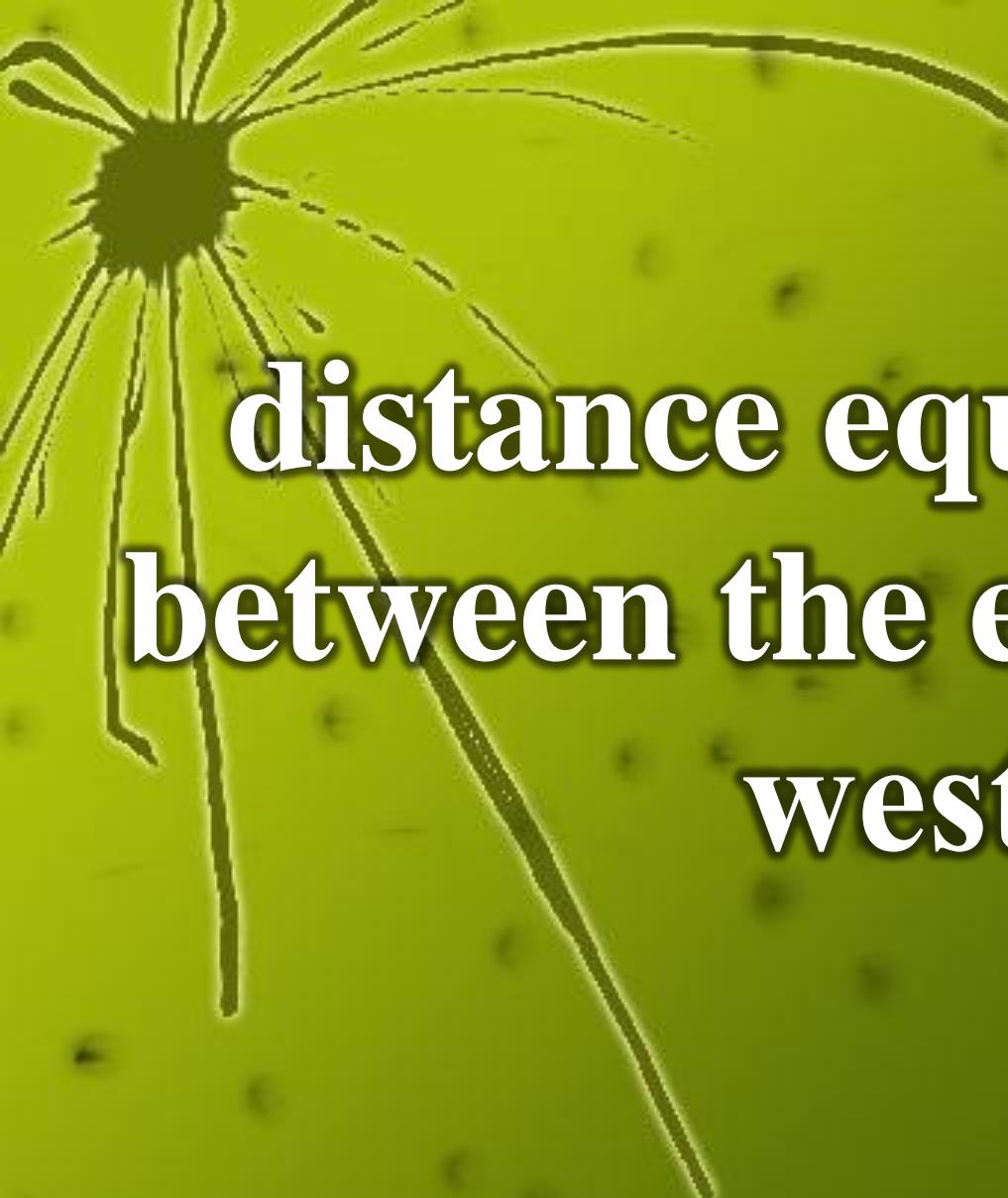
(al-Hujuraat 49:6)

Let us build a wall so that we will not violate the prohibition from Allah in avoiding suspicion. Let us abstain as much as possible from partaking in eating the flesh of our brothers.

Let us nourish our *imaan* and *taqwa* so that we will attain Allah's love and forgiveness, which are truly precious.

Hence, let us contemplate upon the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh,*

whom reported that Rasulullah ﷺ as saying: “A slave of Allah may utter a word without thinking whether it is right or wrong, he may slip down in the Fire as far away  
a



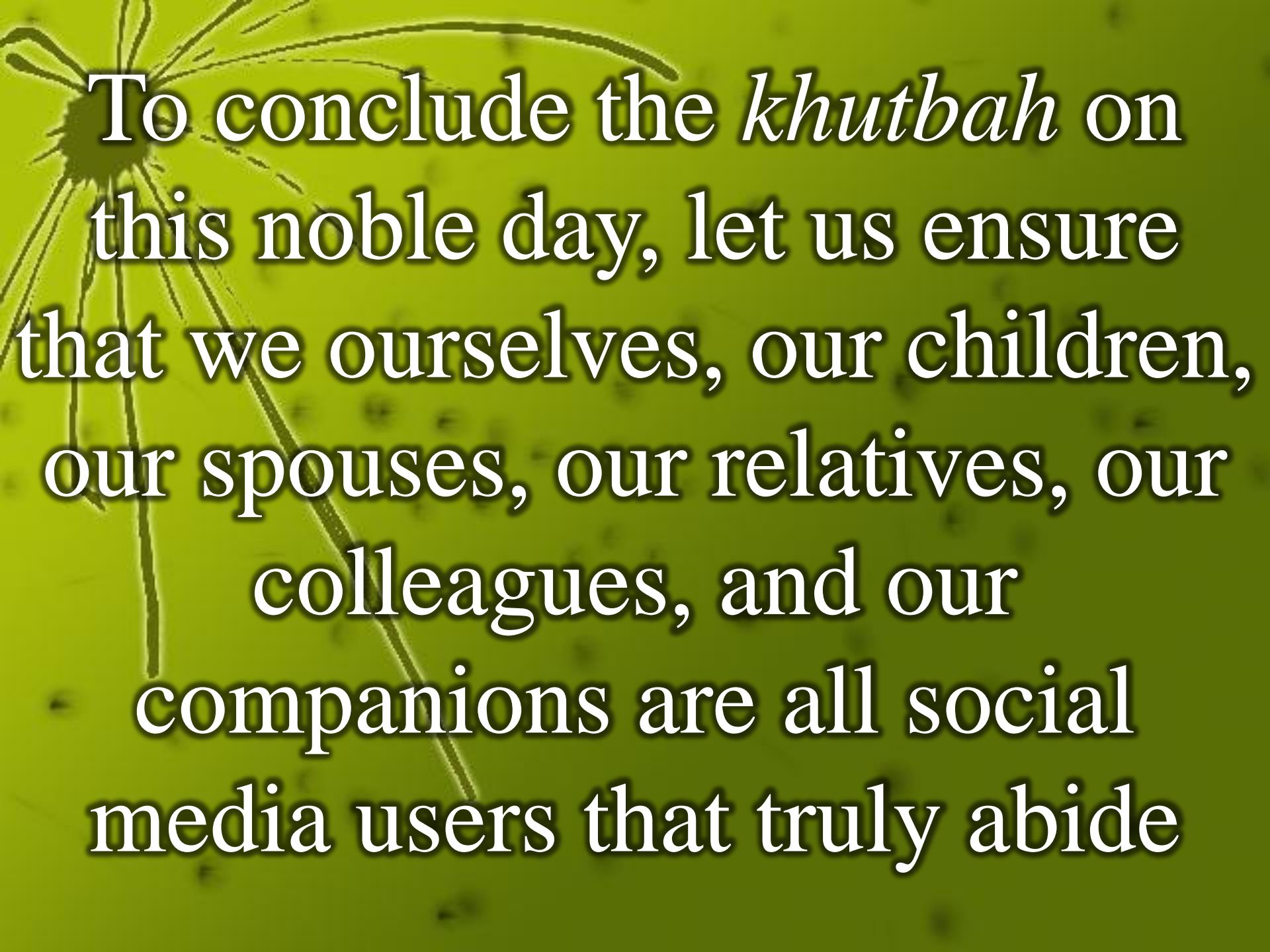
distance equal to that  
between the east and the  
west.”

(Agreed Upon)

Allah Subhaanahu Wata ‘aala  
had also reminded us in al-  
Qur'an:

**“Man does not utter any word except that with him is an observer prepared [to record].”**

(Qaaf 50:18)



To conclude the *khutbah* on this noble day, let us ensure that we ourselves, our children, our spouses, our relatives, our colleagues, and our companions are all social media users that truly abide

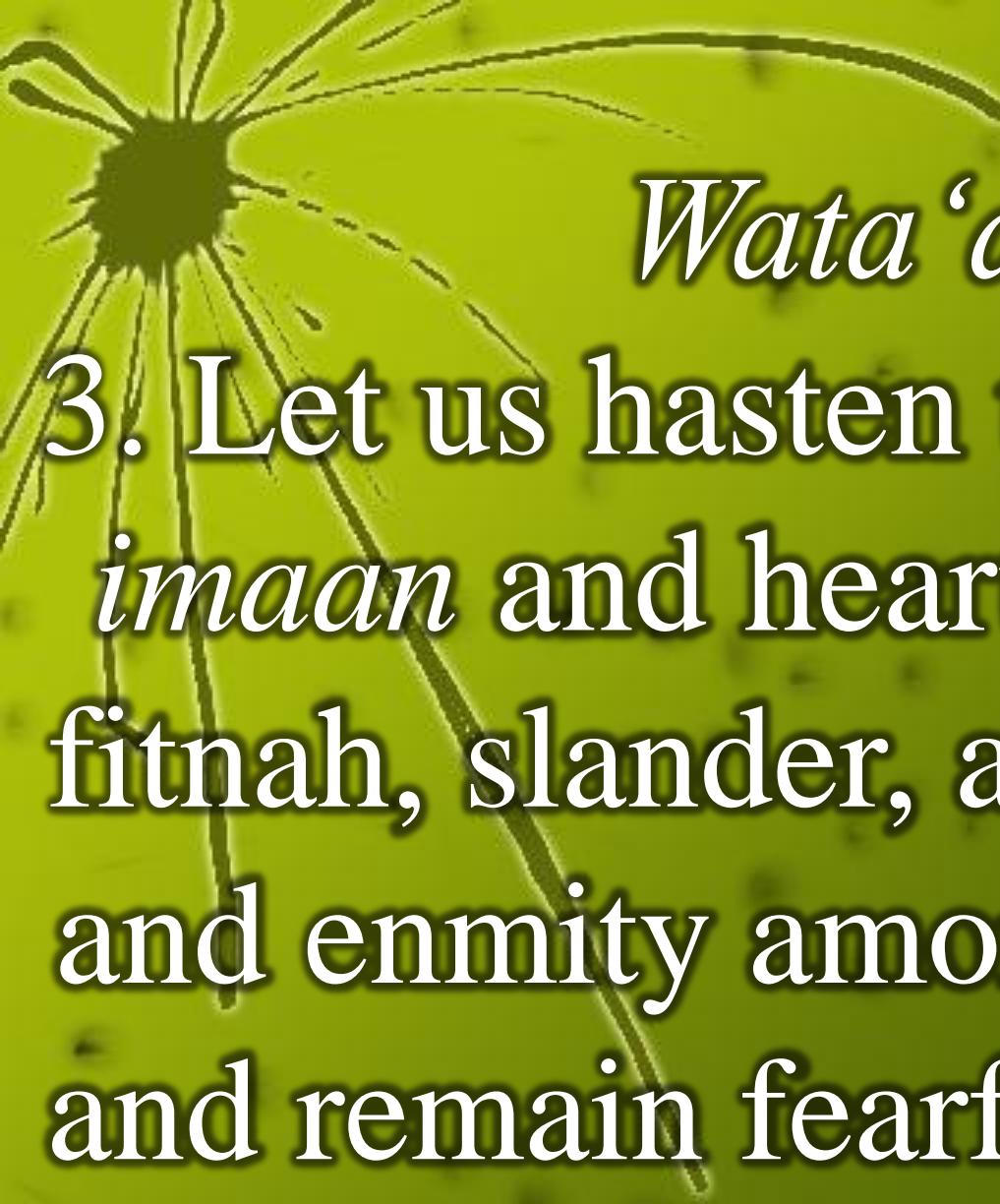
by the *Sharee'ah* of Allah  
*Subhaanahu Wata'aala*. Just  
like grocery items that we  
intend to purchase in the  
supermarket, we would first  
scrutinize, observe, and  
compare its price and quality

so that we will not incur any loss. Therefore:

1. Let us ensure that the time spent on social media will act as a bridge towards good and investment for the Hereafter.

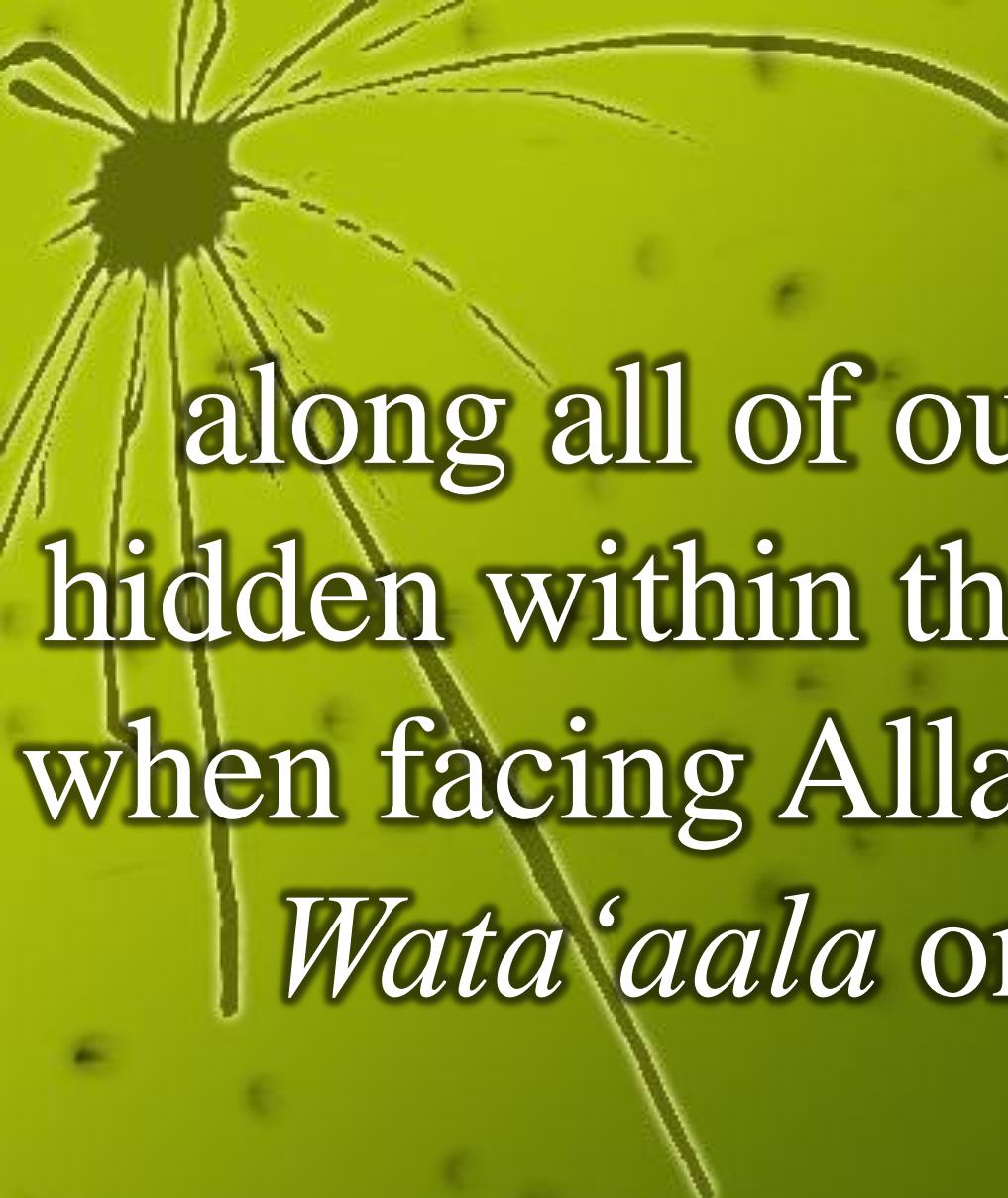
2. Let us train our fingers to  
only write or type matters that  
are good and beneficial so that  
our *mizaan* (scale) will be  
heavy with *hasanaat* (good  
deeds) in front of Allah

*Subhaanahu*



*Wata ‘aala.*

3. Let us hasten to develop our *imaan* and hearts in avoiding fitnah, slander, abuses, insults, and enmity amongst mankind, and remain fearful in dragging



along all of our evil deeds  
hidden within the social media  
when facing Allah *Subhaanahu  
Wata'aala* on that Day.

“That Day, the people will depart separated [into categories] to be shown [the result of] their deeds. So whoever does an atom's weight of

**good will see it. And whoever  
does an atom's weight of evil  
will see it.”**

(al-Zalzalah 99:6-8)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعَنِي  
وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ  
مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَفُوْنَ  
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ  
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ  
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ  
بِإِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

**Once again, I would like to remind all of us that Islam teach its adherents to remain moderate in all actions and deeds. At the same time, the Muslims are to avoid any form of extremism in which its**

**consequences will only disrupt  
the harmony, unity, and  
security of the Muslim ummah  
and our nation. Extremism will  
only give negative impression  
upon the nobility and holiness  
of al-Islam. On the contrary,  
the Muslim**

**ummah must inculcate noble akhlaaq, having utmost personality and attitude as true Muslims so that the world will know that Rasulullah (صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم) was sent down as a messenger, and Islam that was revealed is mercy**



**for the entire nation and  
universe.**

**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 *Tabung Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor* (Islamic Development Trust Fund of Selangor) with continuous reward until the Hereafter.

**O Allah, increase and widen the  
*rizq* of those that made *waqf*  
from their wealth with  
perpetual rewards until the  
Last Day.**



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِيْمِ

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

MAJLIS AMATI DAN PENGETAHUI

ILLUSTRASI OLEH :

UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

DI SEDIAKAN OLEH :

UNIT KHUTBAH, BAHAGIAN PENGURUSAN MASJID,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR