



جَابَطَةُ الْأَمْرِ الْإِسْلَامِيِّةِ  
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JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

# ‘AWRAH: BETWEEN FREEDOM AND DIGNITY



Let us altogether strive in  
increasing our *taqwa* of Allah  
*Subhaanahu Wata 'aala* by  
truly pondering and embracing  
upon everything commanded

upon us and abstaining from  
all prohibited matters. May we  
all attain the pleasure of Allah  
in becoming a successful  
*ummah* in this world and the  
Hereafter.

Today's *khutbah* intends to increase our understanding regarding “‘Awrah: Between Freedom And Dignity.”

Indeed, food, dwelling, and clothing are all basic needs for mankind in this world. Food and drink as the source of energy in performing ‘*ibaadah* and recreational activities.

Dwelling is to

provide the physical and mental comfort. While clothing is to complete all of those aspects, manifesting an *ummah* that is faithful, civilized, and dignified. In other words, mankind that

are not clothed or exposing  
their ‘awrah, they are heading  
down the path of sin and  
incurring the Wrath of Allah  
*Subhaanahu Wata‘ala.*

It behooves the Muslim *ummah* to know the limits of ‘awrah for the men and women. The ‘awrah for the Muslim man is to cover areas between the navel and the knee.

The ‘awrah for the Muslim woman is to cover the entire body except for the face and both palms. An elaborated explanation has been mentioned by Allah Subhaanahu Wata‘aala in

al-Qur'an:

“And tell the believing women to reduce [some] of their vision and guard their private parts and not expose their adornment except that which

[necessarily] appears thereof  
and to wrap [a portion of]  
their headcovers over their  
chests and not expose their  
adornment except to their  
husbands, their fathers,

their husbands' fathers, their sons, their husbands' sons, their brothers, their brothers' sons, their sisters' sons, their women, that which their right hands possess, or those male

attendants having no physical desire, or children who are not yet aware of the private aspects of women. And let them not stamp their feet to make known what they conceal

of their adornment. And turn to Allah in repentance, all of you, O believers, that you might succeed.”

(an-Noor 24:31)

Hence, the Muslim *ummah* must restrain themselves from violating those limits in matters of adornment and clothing, which are important components of ‘awrah.

Why does Islam really emphasize on the matters of '*'awrah*', whether for the man or woman? This is because there are many hidden wisdom behind it, in which some have yet to be

understood the by the Muslim  
*ummah* today, among them:

- 1- To protect women from being harmed whether physically or mentally;
- Covering the ‘awrah

completely especially for the Muslim women can prevent any form of harassment whether physically or mentally. Indirectly, clothing that appears modest and decent is a way of avoiding

*fitnah*, leering, and helps to avoid immoral incidents.

Avenues that lead to wickedness such as rape, fornication, and incest can all be blocked off.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata‘aala  
mentions in al-Qur‘an:  
**“O Prophet, tell your wives  
and your daughters and the  
women of the believers to  
bring down over**

themselves [part] of their outer garments. That is more suitable that they will be known and not be abused. And ever is Allah Forgiving and Merciful.”

(al-Ahzaab 33:59)

The simplest analogy that we can derive is that of a house that was left by its residents to return to their hometown.

House A was left with its doors, windows, and gates nicely locked up.

While House B was left abandoned and unlocked as is.

Which house would be appealing to the thief?

Definitely House B for it is truly exposed and even facilitates for outsiders to

trespass. Such is a very simple analogy for women that properly cover their ‘awrah.

2- The second wisdom is to  
elevate the stature of mankind  
far above other creations  
created by Allah *Subhaanahu  
Wata ‘aala.*

This is the superiority that  
Allah has granted upon

mankind. Mankind was blessed with the ‘*aql* (intellect), that with it, one can truly ponder upon good deeds, evil deeds, committing sins, and attaining rewards.

Furthermore, the ‘*aql* is placed at the highest location on the human body, symbolizing the creation of Allah as the best of creation.

Privileged indeed are the Muslim women for the high

valuation and recognition that Islam confers upon them. Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala* mentions in al-Qur’ān: “We have certainly created man in the best of stature;

Then We return him to the lowest of the low, Except for those who believe and do righteous deeds, for they will have a reward uninterrupted.”

(at-Teen 95:4-6)

Mankind being the best of  
creations is commanded to  
cover their body with clothing  
that is modest, complete, and  
beautiful according to Islamic  
rulings, so that they can be

distinguished from animals  
that are empty-hearted without  
intellect and always exposed at  
all times.

Some society actually deems the covering of ‘awrah restricts individual freedom. Is such allegation true? Such allegation must be refuted altogether. It is all sensationalized by the

enemies of Islam through propaganda that unfortunately some Muslims are easily duped and fall for such lies. We are constantly bombarded with entertainment and fashion of

wide variety and styles that we have now become confused between what is permissible and impermissible by the

*Shara'*:

Allah *Subhaanahu Wata'aala*  
has forbade the Muslim men  
and women from exposing  
their '*awrah*' not to restrict  
their freedom but because  
Allah actually honors and  
recognizes them.

No men or women becomes oppressed or persecuted by covering their ‘awrah. On the contrary, it is those exposing the ‘awrah that are actually oppressing themselves and even

harming others. Truthfully,  
Islam guides all of us towards  
the path of pleasure and *taqwa*  
of Allah *Subhaanahu  
Wata 'aala*, by closing up the  
paths to disobedience and  
increasing

one's *imaan*. This is the absolute freedom that must be diligently sought after by every single individual in attaining the pleasure of Allah.

On this very occasion, I would like to remind all of us to take lessons from these following matters:

1- The Muslim *ummah* must possess sound ‘*aqeedah* by having full certainty that

covering the ‘awrah is an ordainment within the *Sharee‘ah* that is *waajib* upon every Muslim.

2- Allah *Subhaanahu Wata‘aala* has obligated the Muslim men and women to

cover their ‘awrah for the purpose of elevating and honoring the degree of mankind as compared to other creations of Allah.

3- The Muslim women must cover their ‘awrah so as to

avoid sexual harassment and mistreatment by wicked and immoral men.

4- The head of the family, community, society, and leaders must ensure that they and their subjects or

dependents have truly abide by  
the *Sharee'ah* of Allah  
especially with regard to  
covering the '*awrah*.

5- The organizers and sponsors  
of fashion clothing must have  
the awareness and

sensitivity with every fashion designed, ensuring that it fully complies with the *Sharee'ah* of Allah.

6- The covering of '*awrah* is not merely covering one's physical body, but includes

one's fear of disobeying Allah,  
and increasing one's *taqwa* of  
Allah *Subhaanahu Wata 'aala.*

“O children of Adam, let not Satan tempt you as he removed your parents from Paradise, stripping them of their clothing to show them their private parts. Indeed, he sees you, he and his

tribe, from where you do not see them. Indeed, We have made the devils allies to those who do not believe.”

(al-A‘raaf 7:27)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي  
وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ  
مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ  
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ  
الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ  
الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ  
إِنَّهُ 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 practicing and**

**upholding Islam. The Muslim  
*ummah* should become the  
exemplary nation that brings  
mercy to the entire 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.**



سُبْحَانَ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH :

UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

DI SEDIAKAN OLEH :

UNIT KHUTBAH, BAHAGIAN PENGURUSAN MASJID,

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR