



جَابَطَانِ اِسْلَامِ سِلَانْجُور

JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

THE ROLE OF THE ‘ULAMA’





I urge all of us to increase our
taqwa of Allah *Subhaanahu
Wata'aala* by doing that which
He has commanded and leaving
out His prohibitions.

Let us increase our
remembrance of Allah

Subhaanahu Wata‘ala and
sending the blessings (*salawaat*)
upon Rasulullah *sallAllaahu*
‘alayhi wasallam,

in striving to follow all his
*sunnah sallAllaahu 'alayhi
wasallam*. Indeed, we truly hope
that it will grant us benefit in
this world and the Hereafter.

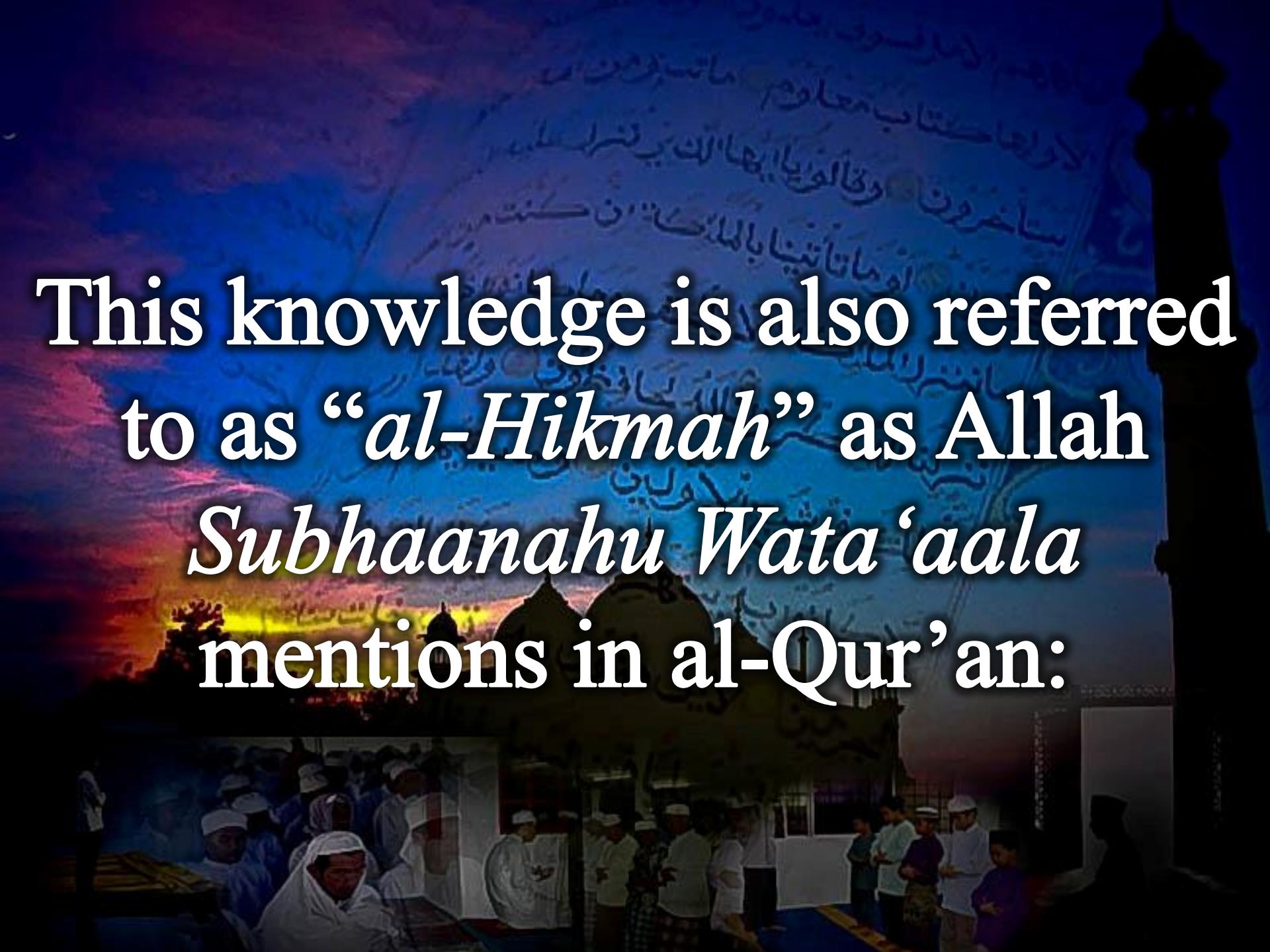
Ulama' are Muslim scholars who are learned and well-versed in the Islamic sciences including '*aqeedah*, *Sharee'ah*, and *akhlaaq*. These knowledge disciplines are of a prestigious level since they are related to Allah,

Rasulullah *sallAllaahu 'alayhi wasallam*, al-Qur'an, aspects of living, politics, culture, economics, and others. It is these knowledge that will help determine one's outcome in this world and the Hereafter.

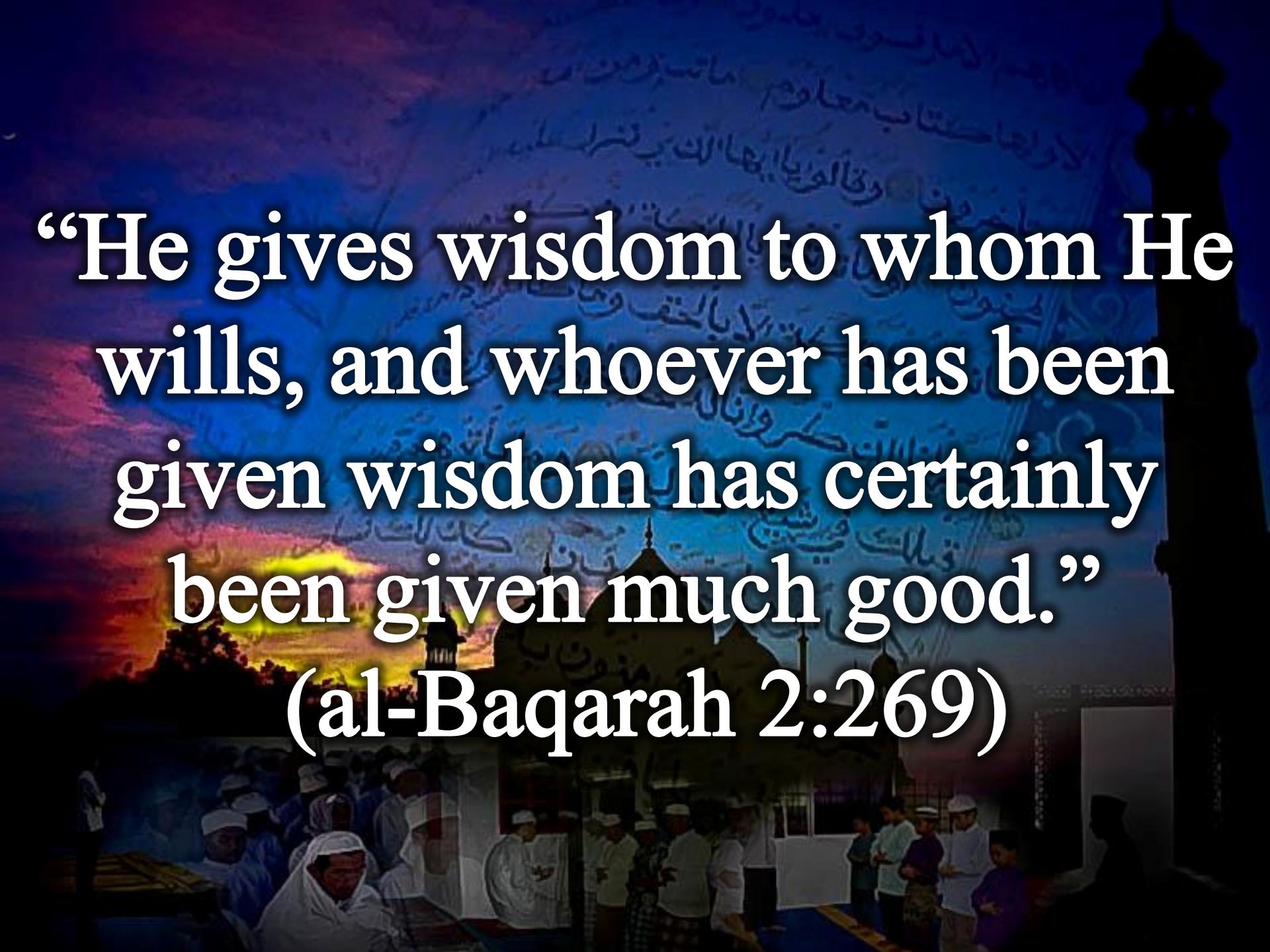
These branches of knowledge
are better known as *ad-deen* by
Rasulullah *sallAllaahu 'alayhi
wasallam*, as it was reported on
the authority of Mu‘awiyah
radiyAllaahu 'anh:

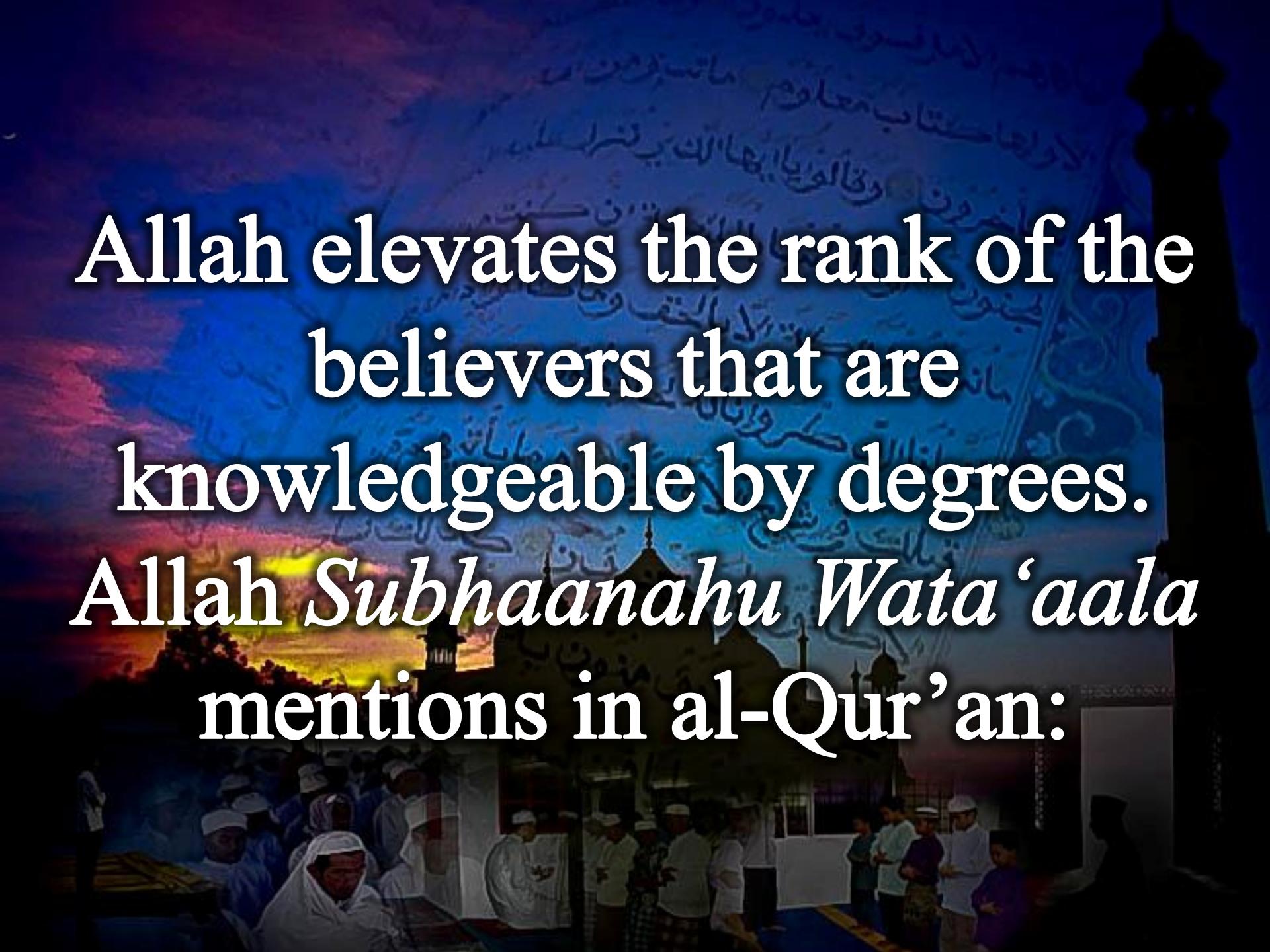
“If Allah wants to do good to a person, He makes him comprehend the religion (understanding of al-Qur’ān and *as-Sunnah*)....”
(Agreed upon)

This knowledge is also referred to as “*al-Hikmah*” as Allah Subhaanahu Wata‘aala mentions in al-Qur’an:



“He gives wisdom to whom He wills, and whoever has been given wisdom has certainly been given much good.”
(al-Baqarah 2:269)





Allah elevates the rank of the
believers that are
knowledgeable by degrees.

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

“... Allah will raise those who have believed among you and those who were given knowledge, by degrees. And Allah is Acquainted with what you do.”

(al-Mujaadilah 58:11)

In another *hadeeth*, ‘Umar bin al-Khattab *radiyAllaahu ‘anh* reported:
The Prophet *sallAllaahu ‘alayhi wasallam* said:

"Verily, Allah elevates some people with this Qur'an and abases others."

(Muslim)

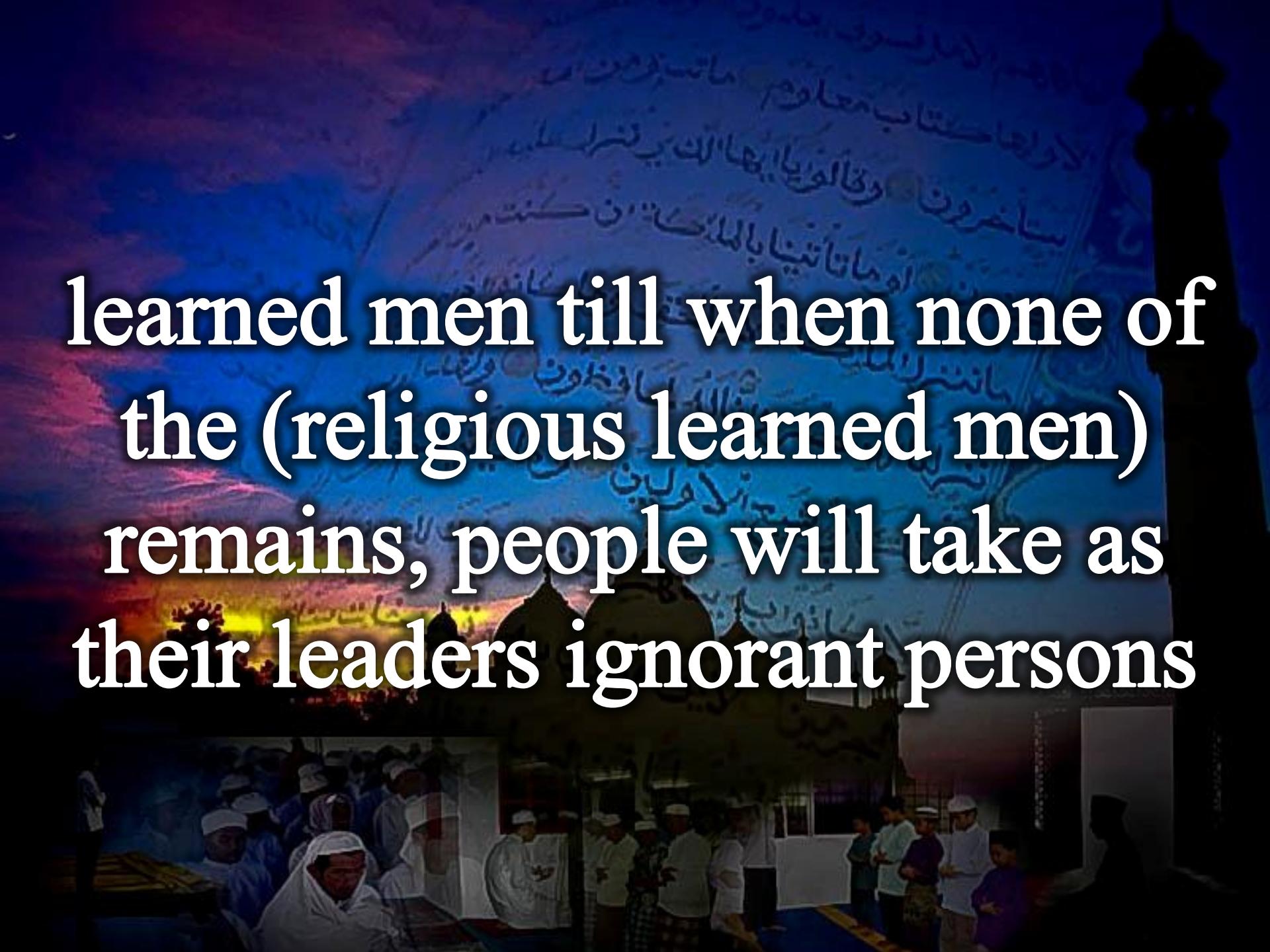
This is the type of knowledge
that was declared by Allah,
which will be snatched and
taken away from the people
with the death of the ‘ulama’.

Narrated ‘Abdullah bin ‘Amr
bin al-‘As *radiyAllaahu*
‘anhuma:

I heard Allah's Apostle
sallAllaahu 'alayhi wasallam
saying:

"Allah does not take away the knowledge, by taking it away from (the hearts of) the people, but takes it away by the death of the religious

learned men till when none of
the (religious learned men)
remains, people will take as
their leaders ignorant persons

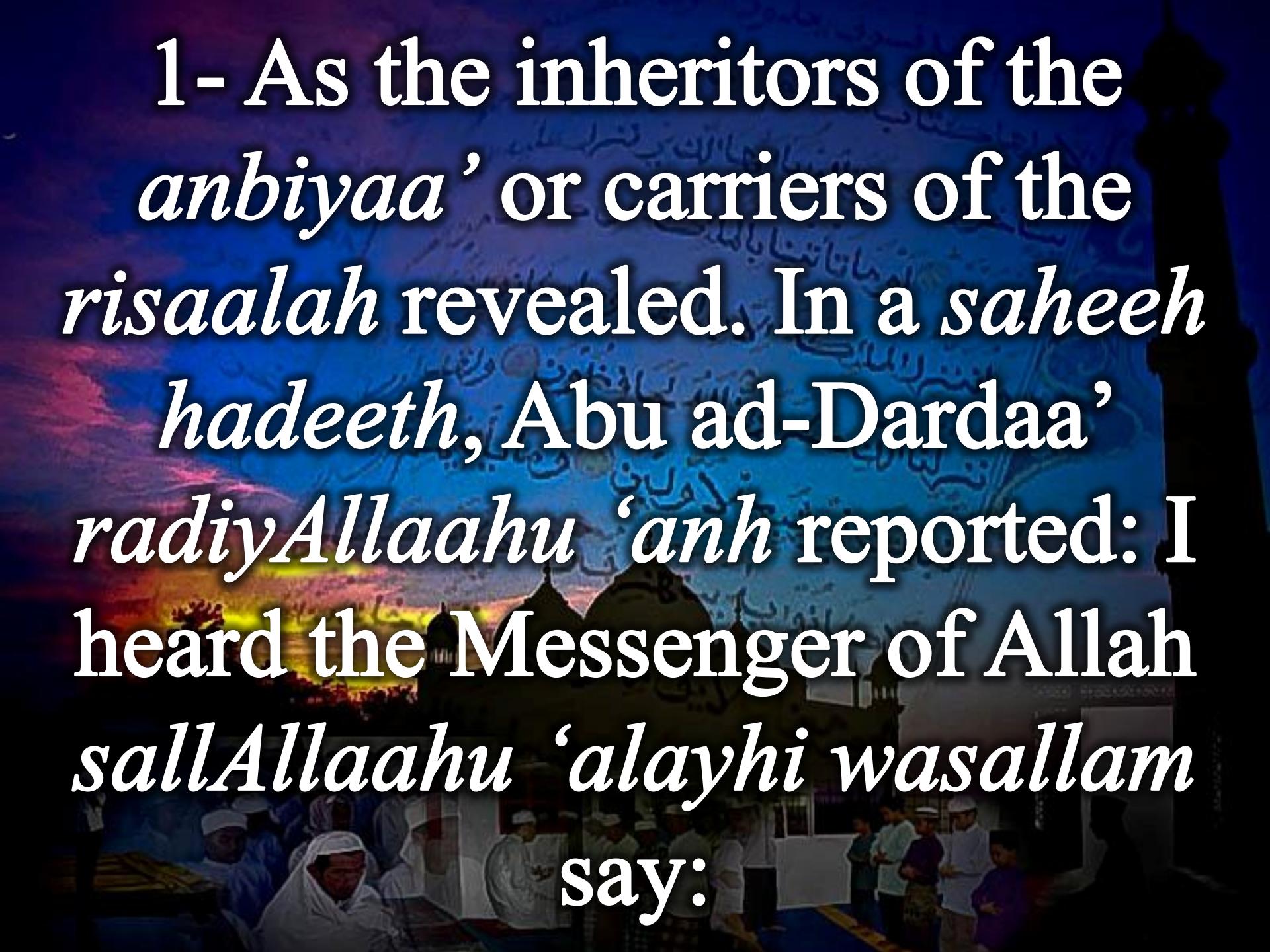


who when consulted will give
their verdict without knowledge.
So they will go astray and will
lead the people astray."

(Agreed upon)

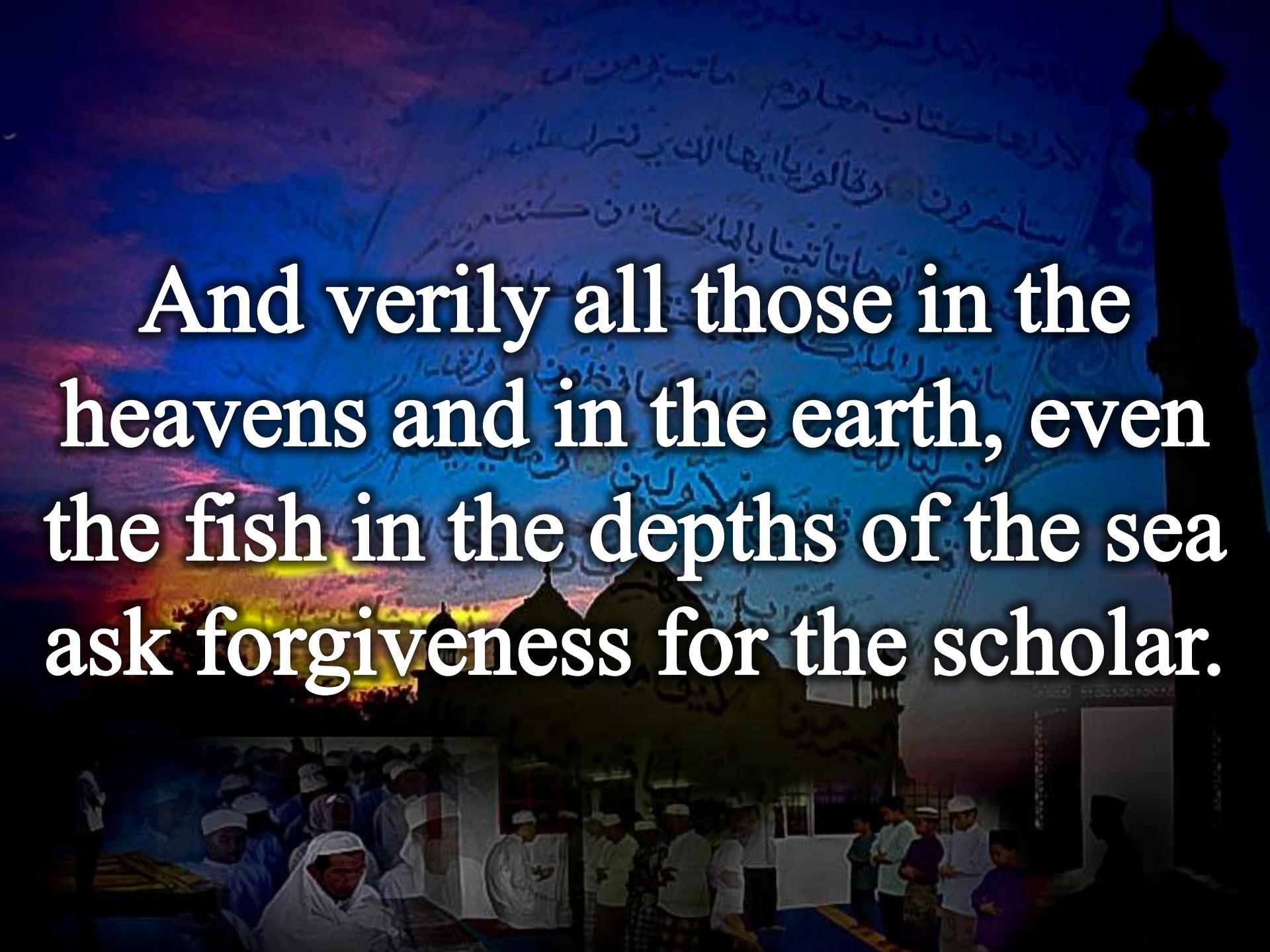
What are the roles of the
'ulama' in this world that they
hold such high status? Their
roles are:

1- As the inheritors of the *anbiyaa'* or carriers of the *risaalah* revealed. In a *saheeh hadeeth*, Abu ad-Dardaa' *radiyAllaahu 'anh* reported: I heard the Messenger of Allah *sallAllaahu 'alayhi wasallam* say:



“Whoever treads a path due to
which he seeks knowledge,
Allah will make him tread one
of the paths towards Paradise.
And the angels lower their
wings out of contentment for
the seeker of knowledge.

And verily all those in the
heavens and in the earth, even
the fish in the depths of the sea
ask forgiveness for the scholar.



And verily, the virtue of the scholar over the worshipper is like the virtue of the moon on the night of Al-Badr over all of the stars. Indeed, the scholars are the inheritors of the prophets,

for the prophets do not leave behind a dinar or a dirham for inheritance, but rather, they leave behind knowledge. So whoever takes hold of it, has acquired a large share (i.e. of inheritance).”

(Abu Dawud, at-Tirmidhi, and ibn Hibbaan: *saheeh*)

Defaming, renouncing, and prohibiting the scholars from spreading Islamic knowledge, and even more heinous is prosecuting them, is evilness

and a grave sin. Allah

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

”Those who disbelieve in the signs of Allah and kill the prophets without right and kill those who order justice from among the people – give them tidings of a painful punishment.

They are the ones whose deeds have become worthless in this world and the Hereafter, and for them there will be no helpers.”

(Aali-‘Imraan 3:21-22)

2- The ‘*ulama*’ educates the *ummah* in strengthening their ‘*aqeedah*, *Sharee‘ah*, and *akhlaaq*. Those that stays idle without any effort in disseminating the *risaalah* and Islamic cause as shown by

Rasulullah *sallAllaahu 'alayhi wasallam* are not genuine '*ulama*'. Aspects of living such as culture, politics, and economics from the Islamic perspectives are to be taught by the Muslim scholars to the general public.

It is their very duty to clarify and guide the Muslims away from remnants and remains of *jahiliyy* understanding, *khurafaat*, and racialism that can erode the ‘*aqeedah* of the Muslims.

3- The ‘*ulama*’ are prime example of those fearing Allah and role models in manifestation of true *akhlaaq* in Islam. The characteristics and demeanor of the ‘*ulama*’ shall reflect sound manners

and *akhlaaq* in governance, administration, leadership, family affairs, and others. It is not from among the ‘*ulama*’ those that delve into moral decadence and corruption such as bribery and others.

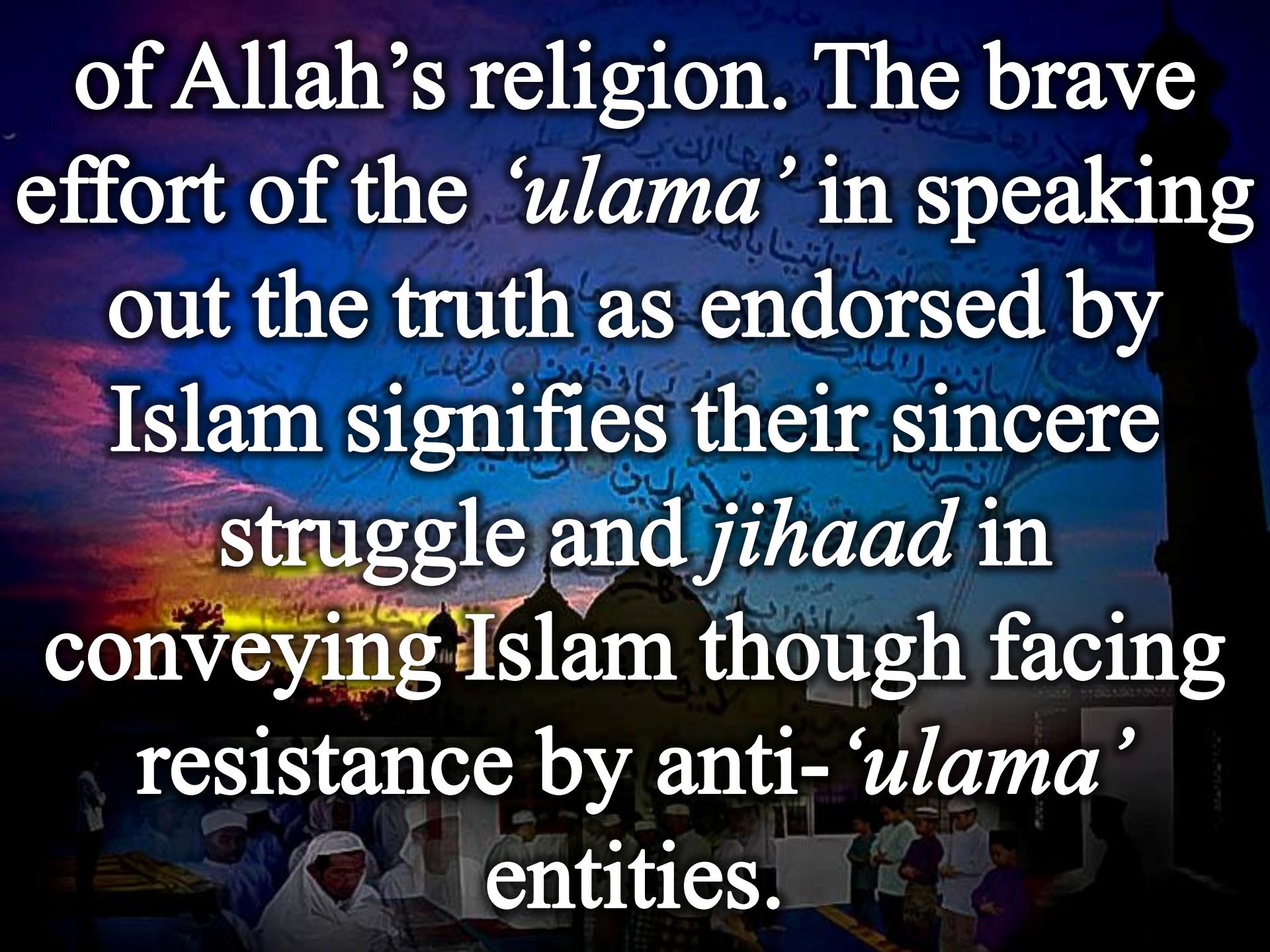
4- The ‘*ulama*’ are those that are sensitive and caring, with great concern on the affairs of the *ummah*, and striving to reform the status of socio-politics, culture, economics, and others.

They are in the frontline of *jihaad* in upholding governance according to Islamic teachings. They strive in dignifying the Muslim *ummah* in various aspects to become the best *ummah*, in fulfilling their *amaanah* and duties of their knowledge.

5- The ‘*ulama*’ are the source of reference and guidance for the Muslim *ummah* from every evil thought and deviant understandings stemming from manmade ideologies. Thus, any effort in preventing the ‘*ulama*’

from teaching Islamic knowledge is a heinous crime.

For example, causing difficulties for the ‘ulama’ to convey the teachings of Allah by imprisonment or banning them from the public is a clear form of extinguishing the rays

A composite image featuring a mosque with two minarets against a sunset sky. In the foreground, several people are seen from behind, some wearing traditional Islamic headgear like ghutras and agals. The background shows a dark, textured wall with faint Arabic calligraphy.

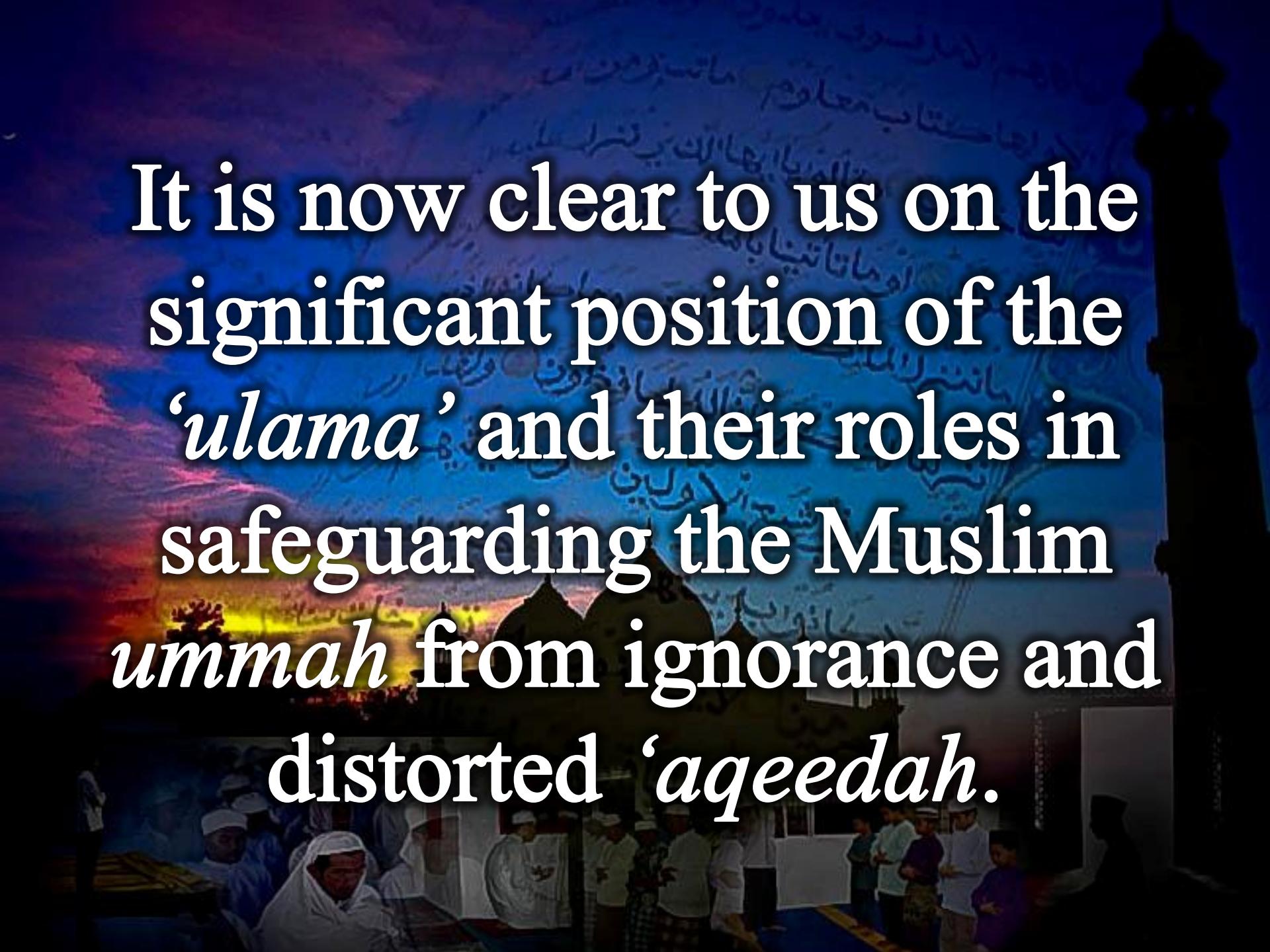
of Allah's religion. The brave effort of the '*ulama*' in speaking out the truth as endorsed by Islam signifies their sincere struggle and *jihad* in conveying Islam though facing resistance by anti-'*ulama*' entities.

6- The ‘*ulama*’ constantly plays a vital role in preventing evil, oppression, and deeds that are contradicting Allah’s teachings. This is as it was commanded in al-Qur’an:



“And let there be [arising] from you a nation inviting to [all that is] good, enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong, and those will be the successful.”

(Aali-‘Imraan 3:104)

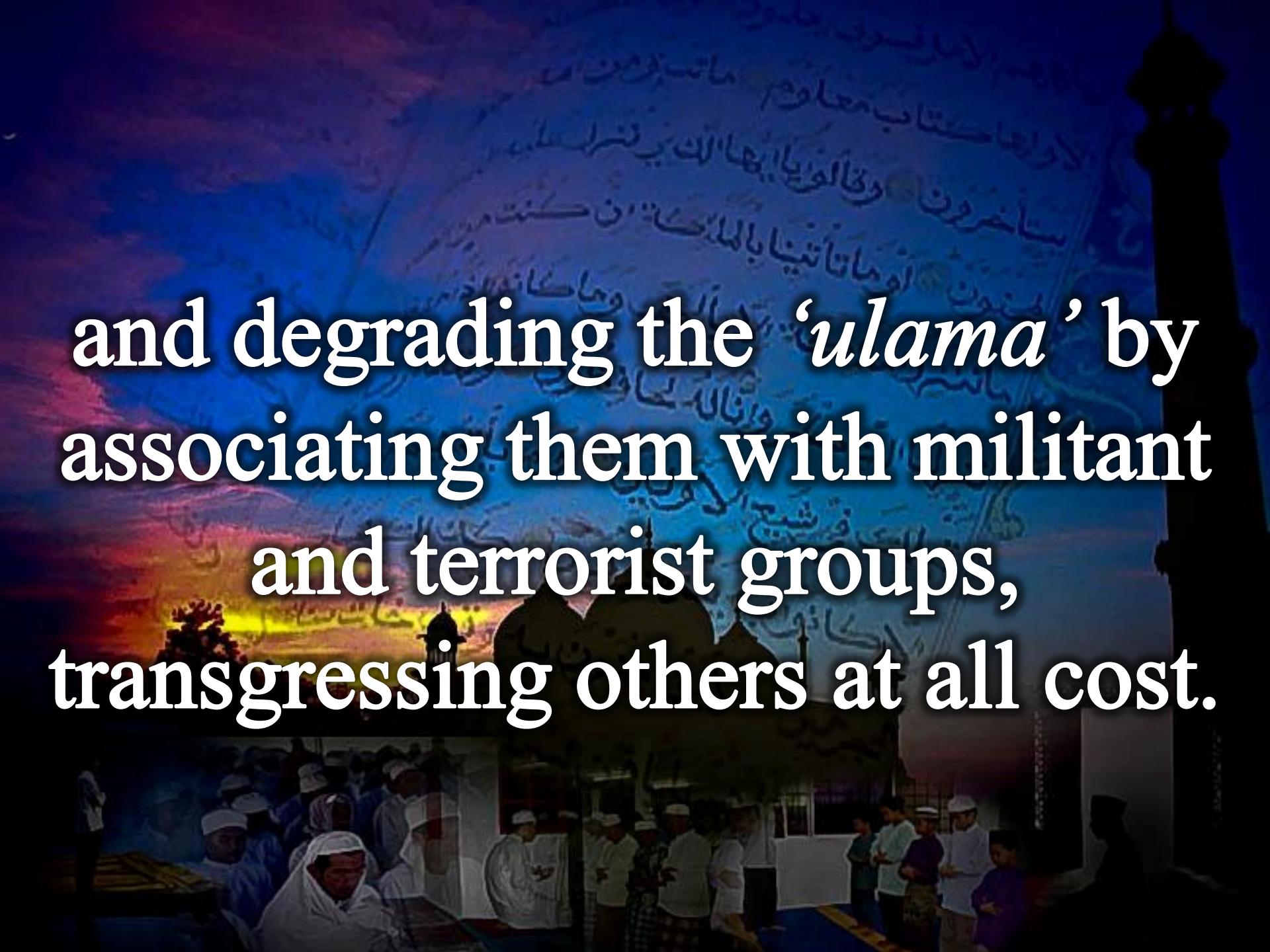


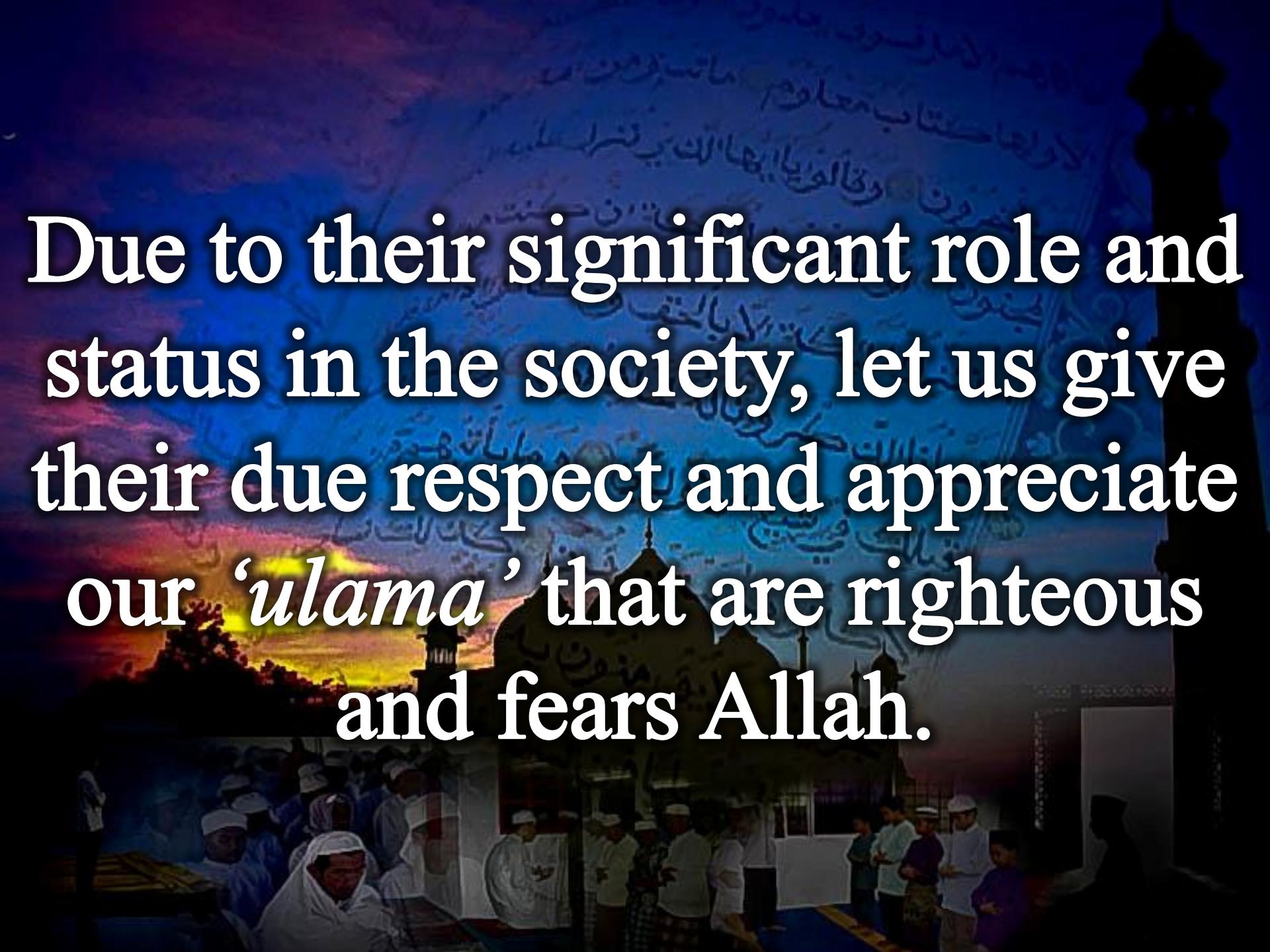
It is now clear to us on the significant position of the '*ulama*' and their roles in safeguarding the Muslim *ummah* from ignorance and distorted '*aqeedah*.

Thus, the ‘*ulama*’ are abhorred by the enemies of Islam and those against the Islamic way of life. There exist now efforts to defame Islam by discrediting al-Qur’an, the credibility of Rasulullah *sallAllaahu ‘alayhi wasallam*, and even his heirs,

meaning the ‘*ulama*’. Through this devilish act, they began to burn al-Qur’ān, drawing cartoons depicting Prophet Muhammad *sallAllaahu ‘alayhi wasallam* as a terrorist,

and degrading the ‘ulama’ by
associating them with militant
and terrorist groups,
transgressing others at all cost.





Due to their significant role and status in the society, let us give their due respect and appreciate our ‘ulama’ that are righteous and fears Allah.

Let us befriend the ‘*ulama*’ and benefit from their precious knowledge. This is a sign of our exalting and glorifying Allah.

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

“That [is so]. And whoever honors the symbols of Allah – indeed, it is from the piety of hearts.”

(al-Hajj 22:32)

Let us facilitate in providing prominent educational system that will produce erudite Muslim scholars from among our children, the new generation, to ensure the continuity of the legacy of Rasulullah *sallAllaahu 'alayhi wasallam*.

Let us give full support and cooperation to the ‘ulama’ in upholding the Islamic symbols through *da‘wah* and Islamic causes.

Verily, the high stature of the ‘*ulama*’ symbolizes the greatness of Islam. Degradation and debasement of the ‘*ulama*’ will only amount to the humiliation of Islam. The ‘*ulama*’ are the successors of the Messengers in guiding the *ummah*.

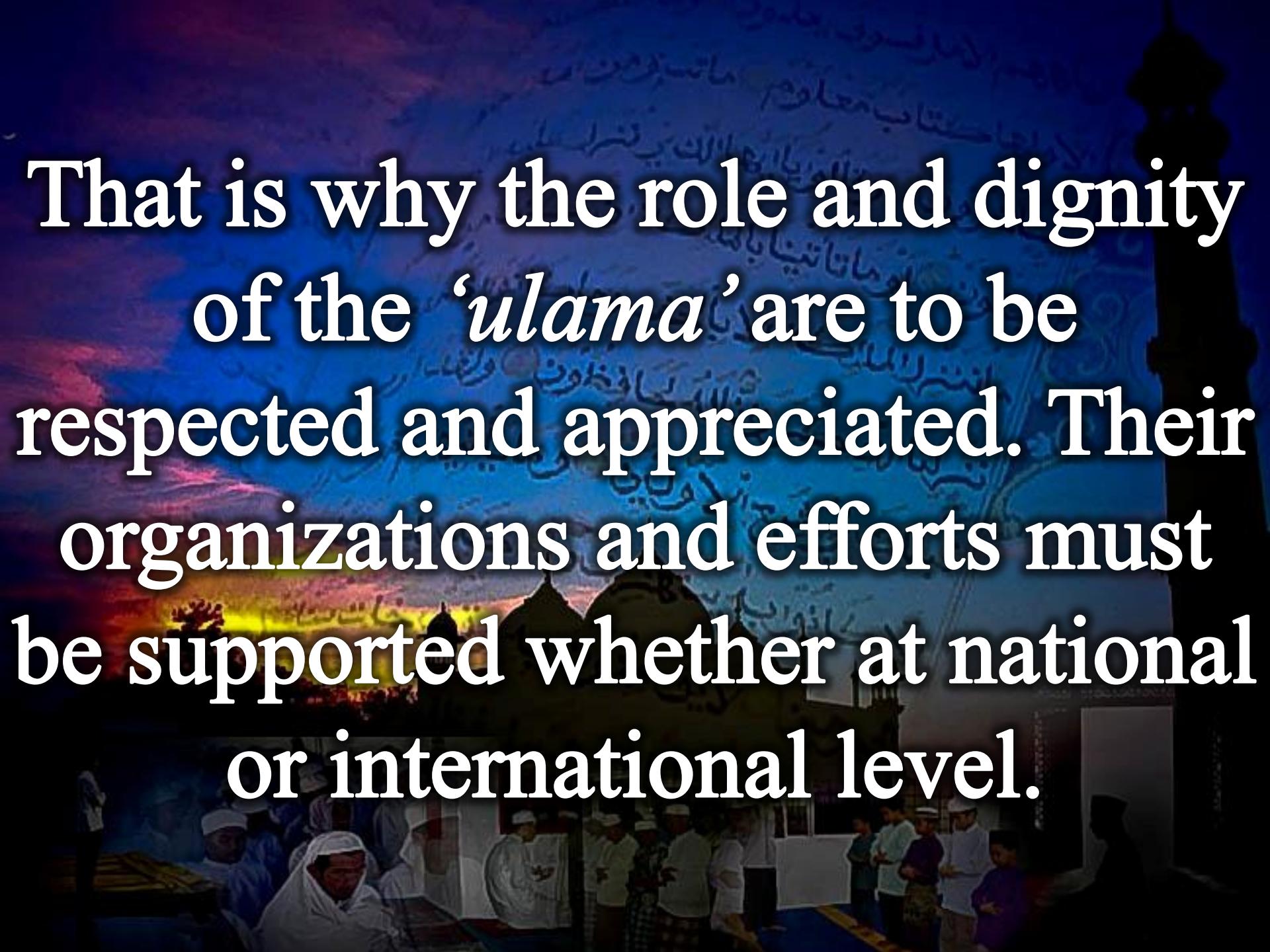
They revive the *sunnah* of Rasulullah *sallAllaahu 'alayhi wasallam* that have long been abandoned. For this, Allah has commanded that they be respected and dignified.

Furthermore, in appreciating their very role in various disciplines and sciences, Hasan al-Basri once emphasized: The demise of an '*aalim*' is a huge loss that will be difficult to replace throughout time.

Moreover, in a weak narration
but with a sound meaning:

“The death of an ‘aalim is a
calamity that is irreplaceable
and a gap that is difficult to
fill.”

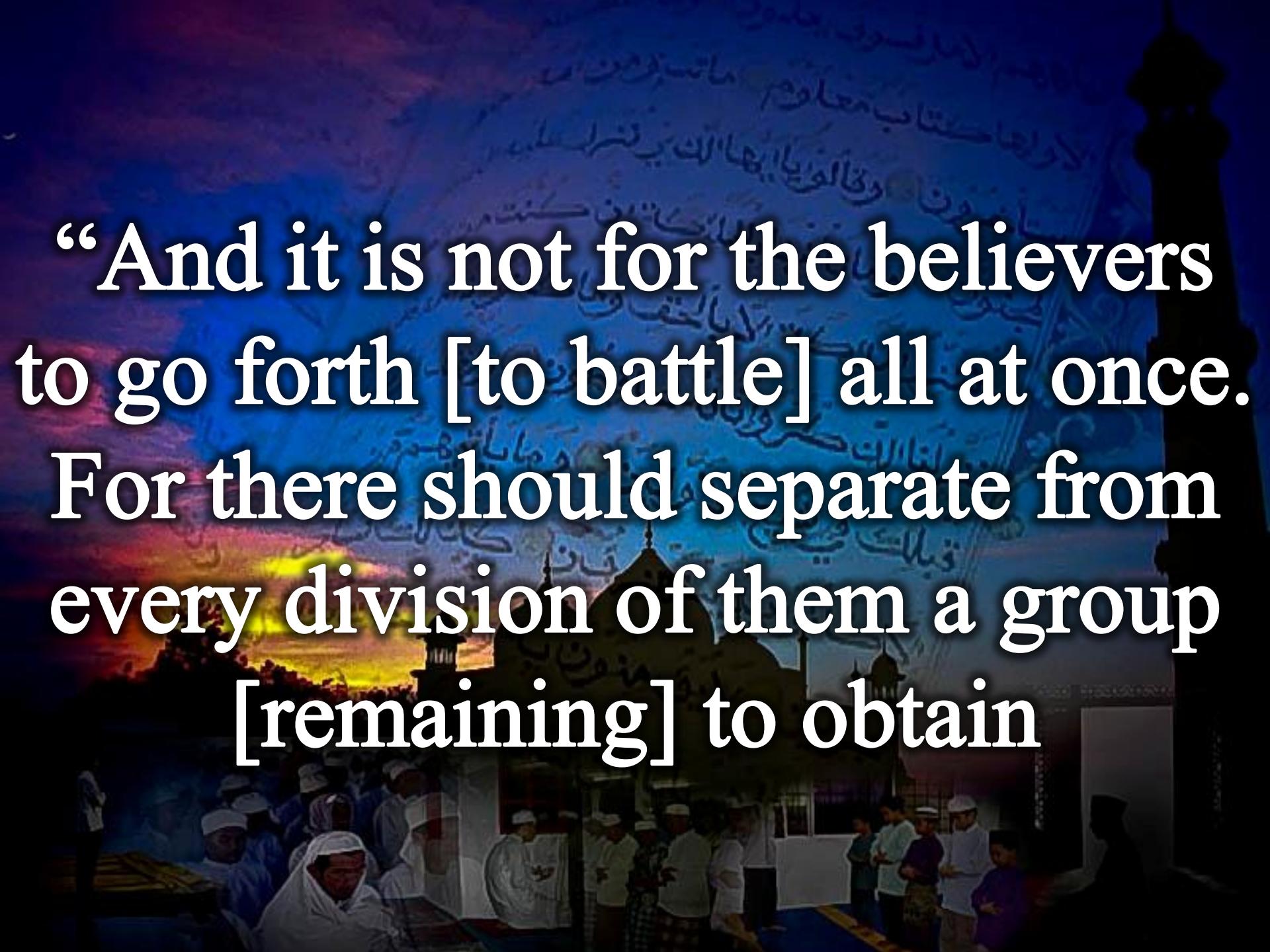
(ad-Daarimi and at-
Tabraani: *da‘eef jiddan*)



That is why the role and dignity of the ‘ulama’ are to be respected and appreciated. Their organizations and efforts must be supported whether at national or international level.

Their activities should be assisted and strengthened for the betterment of the Muslim *ummah*, and mankind in general. Their honor and name are to be protected for it is the very duty of every Muslim that proclaims loving Islam.

“And it is not for the believers
to go forth [to battle] all at once.
For there should separate from
every division of them a group
[remaining] to obtain



understanding in the religion
and warn their people when
they return to them that they
might be cautious.”

(at-Tawbah 9:122)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ وَنَفَعْنَى وَإِيَّاكمْ
بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْأَيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ
تِلَاقَتْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا
وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ
وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَخْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ
وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ
إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

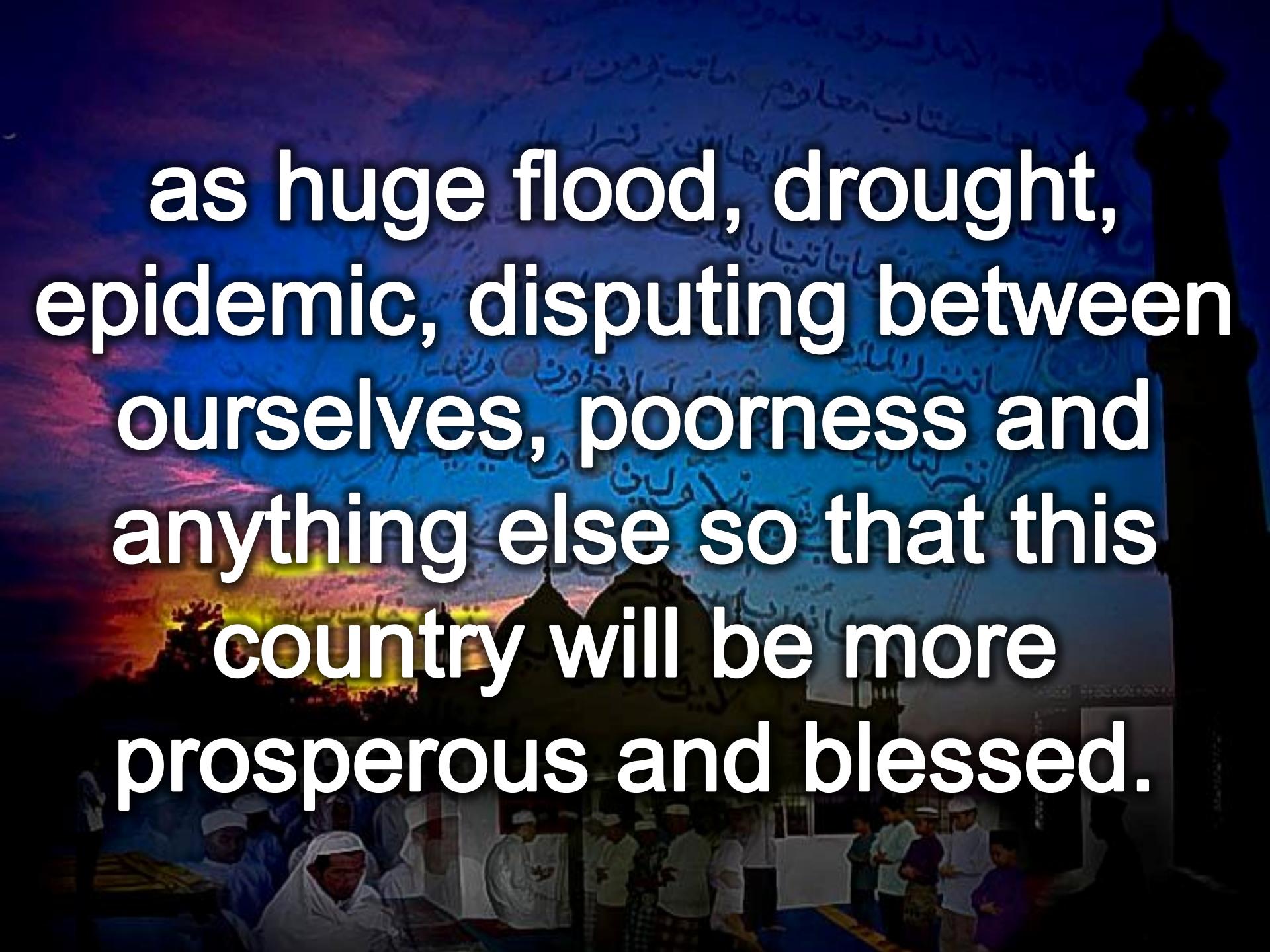


O Allah,

The most merciful god, we thank you for all the mercy and pleasure that you gave so that we can enhance and strengthen our Islamic country especially Selangor as a developed and peaceful country.

O Allah,

We beg you to increase our practice, brace up our unity, give us prosperous life, make us rich with good knowledge, flourish our soul with noble character, bring back our youngsters to the right path, save us from your biggest test such

A composite image featuring a landscape with a mosque and people in traditional attire. The top half shows a mosque with minarets against a blue sky with Arabic calligraphy. The bottom half shows a group of people, likely pilgrims, walking in a procession at night or in low light.

as huge flood, drought,
epidemic, disputing between
ourselves, poor ness and
anything else so that this
country will be more
prosperous and blessed.



DI SEDIAKAN OLEH:
UNIT KHUTBAH,
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR

ILLUSTRASI OLEH:
UNIT TEKNOLOGI MAKLUMAT
JABATAN AGAMA ISLAM SELANGOR