



Let us remind ourselves that this worldly life is only temporary. We are merely travelers on a long journey to the Hereafter. We are on a transit stop in this world to endure the trials of life. Then, we will resume our long and daunting journey to al-akhirah.

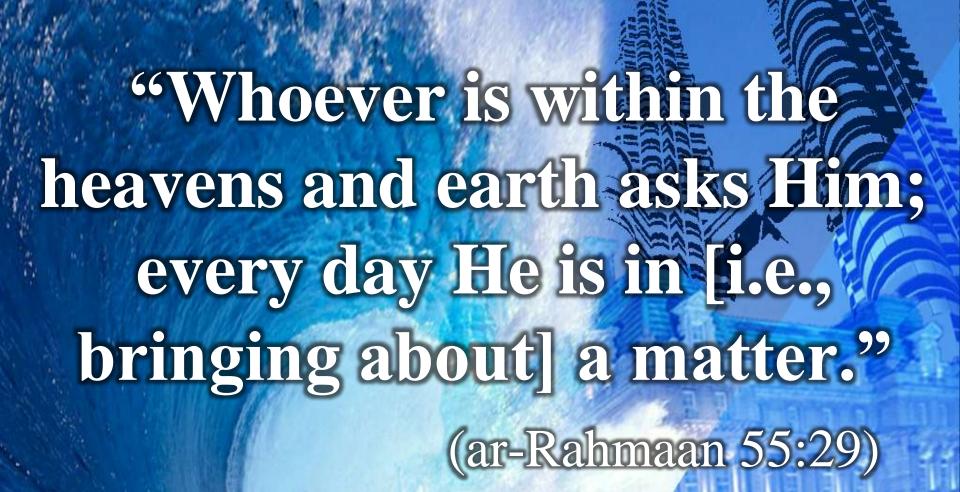
In reality, there are among those subscribing to the secular views that do not deny the existence of Allah. However, they only regard Allah as having no role in the development of the universe and human lives.

According to them, Allah had created the universe with His Will and Power, but then left it alone to run on its own natural system. It is then for mankind to administer the universe and endure all the possible challenges that may arise,

from its natural system. This includes the explanation for every calamity that strike, which is deemed as having no relationship with human behavior or the Wrath of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala.

Such distorted view is not from Islam. Allah is the Creator of all things. He is The One that administers and controls the universe. Among His Beautiful Names and Attributes are ar-Rageeb (The Watchful) and





Similarly with human being, which are created and will not be left wandering without guidance from The Creator. Furthermore, Allah has provided for them a comprehensive guideline that covers every aspect of their lives.

However, Allah also putsmankind through trials and tribulations. Mankind is tested in distinguishing those having righteous deeds. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"[He] who created death and life to test you [as to] which of you is best in deed—and He is the Exalted in Might, the

Forgiving."

(al-Mulk 67:2)

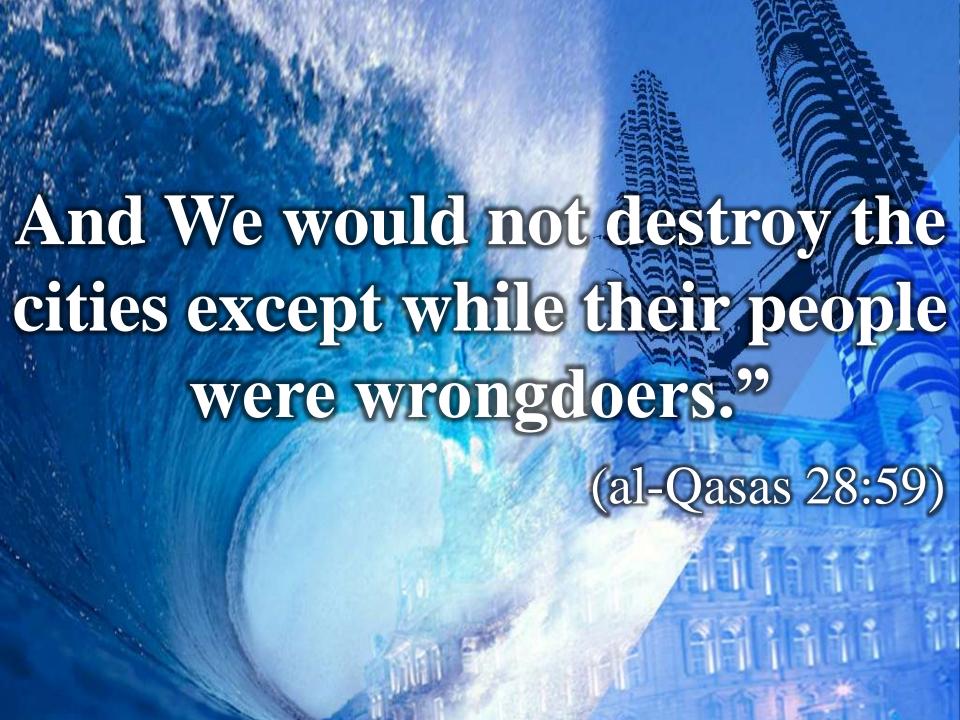
Let us contemplate on a few verses from al-Qur'an that expounds the reality of calamities and disasters upon mankind. Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an:

"What would Allah do with [i.e., gain from] your punishment if you are grateful and believe? And ever is Allah Appreciative and Knowing."

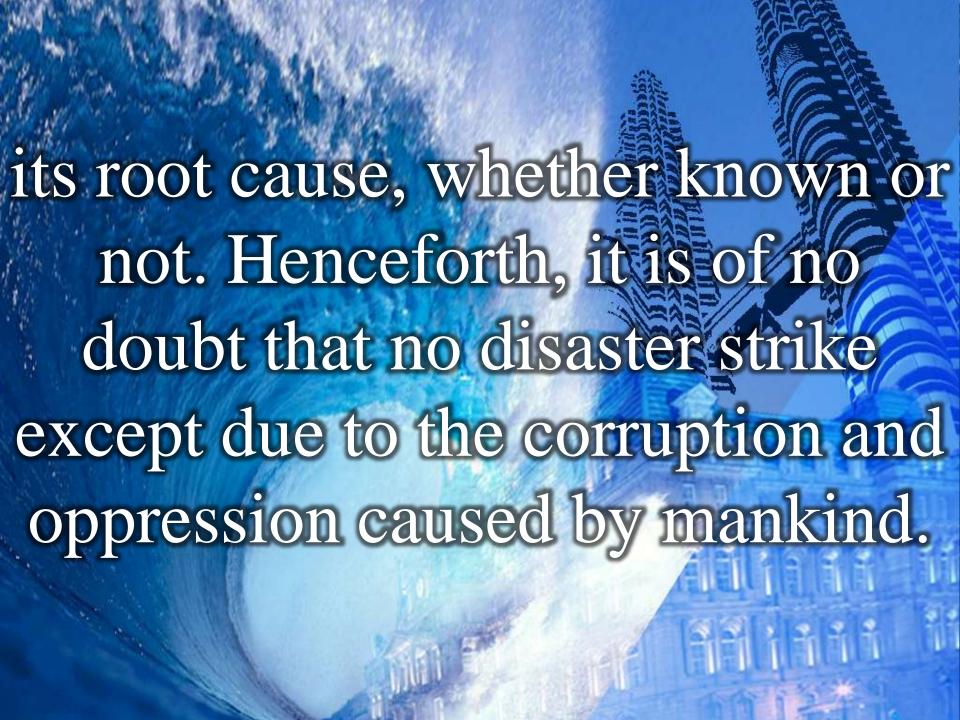
(an-Nisaa' 4:147)

And in another verse:

"And never would your Lord have destroyed the cities until He had sent to their mother [i.e., principal city] a messenger reciting to them Our verses.



These verses explain how we are under constant watch of The One that created us. If we are truly faithful and grateful to Him, then there should be no reason for Allah to punish us. Therefore, any calamity that befalls mankind must have



We as mankind must always self-evaluate and look deep within our inner selves. Be in constant muhaasabah and increase our taqwa of Allah Subhaanahu Wata'aala, The Ultimate Creator of every creation.

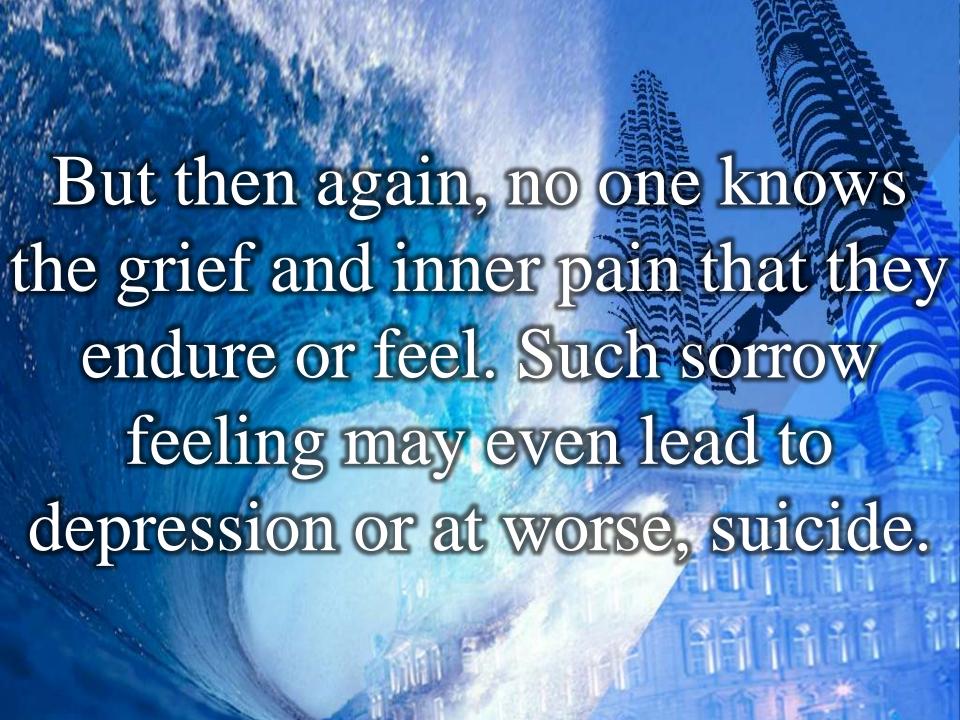
We must examine our own selves and contemplate on the effort that has been put forth by the Muslim ummah in propagating the risaalah of this deen unto mankind. Japan also known as the Land of the Rising Sun is located in the

Far East and had once colonized our nation. Yet, its people are devoid and unexposed to the beautiful teachings of Islam. Not many Japanese have reverted to Islam.

As a people they are very hard working but seem uninterested in discussing religion and spirituality. Muslims visiting Japan would find it difficult to find a masjid to perform prayers.

Hence, there must be wisdom and blessing in disguise with the recent calamity that shook the Land of the Rising Sun. There must be a reason that is unknown to us as to why Allah had willed such tragedy.

Even then, we are always optimistic and in hope for goodness from Him. Unlike the victims of the tsunami that struck an Asian country in 2004, the Japanese victims seemed calm and composed.



That is why Islam require the Muslims to have firm belief in the qadaa'and qadr of Allah, both its good and bad. Everything originates from Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala as a test for mankind.

Let us take heed and lessons from everything occurring around us which should always remind us of Allah. It should remind us of our weakness and shortcoming as human being.

Some of the lessons to be learned from the recent tsunami disaster are as follows: 1- However great humans are, they will never be able to surpass the knowledge and power of Allah.



2- In a time of confusion and sorrow, mankind must be patient and return to their Lord Almighty. More importantly, mankind must always be grateful and in remembrance of Allah at times of ease and prosperity.

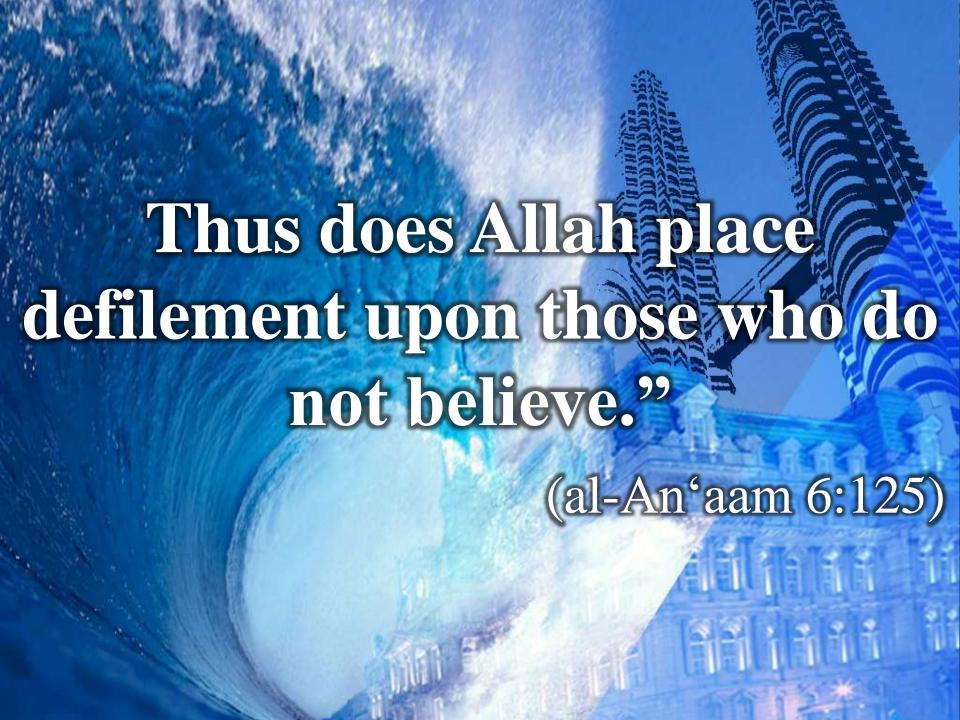
3- The work of da'wah must be carried out to all mankind, regardless of geographical location. It is only with the hidaayah of Islam that mankind will attain ultimate happiness, in this world and the Hereafter.

4- Mankind must train their hearts and inner selves to become content and pleased with the Will of Allah. Without this contentment, mankind will be in despair, hence suffering in this world and miserable in the Hereafter.

Such is the importance of religion, and the vital role of the Muslims. The effort of da'wah must be further intensified and enhanced. We truly hope that there will be among us with great initiative and dilligence in conveying

the risaalah of Islam to the victims there. We pray and hope that the Land of the Rising Sun will one day wake up with its entire people praying Fajr every single day, no longer worshipping the sun, Ameen...

"So whoever Allah wants to guide - He expands his breast to [contain] Islam; and whoever He wants to misguide - He makes his breast tight and constricted as though he were climbing into the sky.



بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الأَيَّاتِ وَالذَّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلْوَتُهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغُورُ اللهُ الْعَظِيْمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْبَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالأَمْوَاتَ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيْمُ

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

