

NUZUL QURAN

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ. اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ
أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَنَفْسِي بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ وَطَاعَتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ
تُفْلِحُونَ.

Let us all increase our obedience towards Allah the Almighty by doing everything that He prescribes and avoiding all that He prohibits. Only by obeying Him will we be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Among the significant events that occurred during the month of Ramadhan is *Nuzul Quran* (the Revelation of Quran) and the Battle of Badr. As Muslims we are aware that the Quran is the glorious book revealed by Allah the Almighty as a blessing to the world. The Quran was revealed for many reasons: to lead people to the right path, to guide, to remind, to bring glad tidings, to heal illnesses, and to bring mercy to those who believe in Islam. Allah the Almighty stated in the Quran in Chapter 10 (Surah Yunus), verse (ayat) 57:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

يَأْتِيهَا النَّاسُ قَدْ جَاءَتْكُمْ مَوْعِظَةٌ مِنْ رَبِّكُمْ وَشِفَاءٌ لِمَا فِي الصُّدُورِ وَهُدًى وَرَحْمَةٌ لِّلْمُؤْمِنِينَ

Which means: *O mankind, there has to come to you instruction from your Lord and healing for what is in the breasts and guidance and mercy for the believers.*

The Quran, which was revealed gradually over 23 years, is the greatest miracle of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him). It is entrusted to humans to learn and to practice everything that is contained in it.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Family is the primary institution for developing a generation who loves the Quran. Parents need to establish a systematic method and to allocate time to learn and appreciate the Quran with family members. Later, this habit of inculcating the love for Quran must be continued by teachers at school. This righteous effort deserves the support of the community and the government in terms of providing funds for activities which are related to Quranic appreciation. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) reminded us of the advantages of studying the Quran in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam al-Bukhari:

خَيْرُكُمْ مَنْ تَعَلَّمَ الْقُرْآنَ وَعَلَّمَهُ

Which means: *The best of you are those who learn the Qur'an and teach it.*

Another issue that needs to be addressed in today's Muslim community is the misconceptions about the implementation of the *Sharia* Law which is commanded in the Quran. It is unfortunate that every time the term *Sharia* is mentioned, some people start to envision punishments such as amputations, strokes, retribution, stoning to death, etc. In truth, punishment is only a small part

of the *Sharia* criminal penalties. As believers we must accept the implementation of Islamic law. Allah the Almighty has reminded us in the Quran in Chapter 33 (Surah al-Ahzab), verse (ayat) 36:

وَمَا كَانَ لِمُؤْمِنٍ وَلَا مُؤْمِنَةٍ إِذَا قَضَى اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَمْرًا أَنْ يَكُونَ لَهُمُ الْخِيَرَةُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِمْ وَمَنْ يَعْصِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلَالًا مُّبِينًا

Which means: *It is not fitting for a Believer, man or woman, when a matter has been decided by Allah and His Messenger to have any option about their decision: if any one disobeys Allah and His Messenger, he is indeed on a clearly wrong Path.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On this occasion, let us remember the Grand Battle of Badr (Badr al Kubra) which also occurred in the month of *Ramadhan*. The Grand Battle of Badr was the first war that happened in the history of Islam and its victory lifted the image of Islam as a new emerging society. The total number of Muslim soldiers and their equipment was small compared to their enemy, but they were armed with courage, determination, hard work, unity, obedience, and patience. They also believed in Allah the Almighty who sent down angels to help them and that was the deciding factor in the victory of the Muslims. This was stated by Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 8 (Sura al-Anfal), verse (ayat) 9:

إِذْ تَسْتَغِيثُونَ رَبَّكُمْ فَاسْتَجَابَ لَكُمْ أَنِّي مُمِدُّكُم بِأَلْفٍ مِنَ الْمَلَائِكَةِ مُرَدِّفِينَ

Which means: *[Remember] when you asked help of your Lord, and He answered you: "Indeed, I will reinforce you with a thousand from the angels, following one another."*

Let us together take a lesson from these two major events that occurred during Ramadan. Let us make the Qur'an a book that we often read and put into practice. Let us be inspired by the spirit of solidarity shown by the armies of Badr to unite so that any attempt to undermine the

position of Islam and its institutions in this country can be thwarted. Let us pray that we are always on the true path because Allah the Almighty is always with those who are on the true path as confirmed by Him in the Quran in Chapter 3 (Surah Ali-Imran), verse (ayat) 160:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

إِنْ يَنْصُرْكُمُ اللَّهُ فَلَا غَالِبَ لَكُمْ وَإِنْ يَخْذُلْكُمْ فَمَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَنْصُرُكُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ
الْمُؤْمِنُونَ

Which means: *If Allah helps you, none can overcome you: If He forsakes you, who is there, other than Him, that can help you? In Allah, then, let believers put their trust.*

لَبِيكَ اللَّهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.