

FIRE PREVENTION

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلَّ 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 أَوْصِيكُمْ وَآيَايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has commanded and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In conjunction with the Fire Day Celebration on May 4 each year, let us together remember the hearbreaking tragedies that have hit the country and the sacrifices of the firefighters in preserving public safety and order. Undoubtedly, there have been many cases of major emergencies and fires in our country and one of the unforgettable incidences was the arson of the *Tahfiz Darul Quran Ittifaqiyah* Center which killed 21 students and 2 instructors last year. Such tragedies demand all of us to play our role in the prevention of fire. Thus, let us pray that the victims are counted as martyrs (*syuhada'*) in the hereafter as mentioned by Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Abu Daud:

Which means: “*There are seven kinds of martyrs besides those who die for the cause of Allah: A person who is killed in a cholera epidemic, a person who is drowned, a person who dies due to difficulty in breathing, a person who dies of a stomach disease, a person who dies in a fire, a person who dies under falling debris [in a disaster], and a woman who dies during pregnancy or while giving birth.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Fire and Rescue Department of Malaysia has always encouraged the involvement of the community in joining the Firefighters Community and MyBomba Fire teams in disseminating information on fire prevention within a residential area. Consequently, the strong partnership between Fire Departments and the local communities helps in preventing fires and emergencies in both city and rural areas.

We also need to show concern, be responsible and appreciate fire safety facilities such as fire extinguishers, fire hose reels, emergency bells, etc which are installed at different premises. We must ensure that these facilities are not vandalized or misused by irresponsible parties. Such irresponsible acts are detested by Allah the Almighty as mentioned in Chapter 7 (Surah Al-A'raf), verse (*ayat*) 56:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَلَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ بَعْدَ إِصْلَاحِهَا وَادْعُوهُ خَوْفًا وَطَمَعًا إِنَّ رَحْمَتَ
اللَّهِ قَرِيبٌ مِّنَ الْمُحْسِنِينَ ﴿٥٦﴾

Which means: *"Do no mischief on the earth, after it hath been set in order, but call on Him with fear and longing (in your hearts): for the Mercy of Allah is (always) near to those who do good."*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us pray to Allah the Almighty that all peace loving Malaysians are protected from all disasters. Each resident is also encouraged to install a fire extinguisher in his home. In addition to having fire extinguishing equipment, Muslims must also believe in Allah's power to save us by reciting prayers as mentioned by the Prophet (peace be upon him) in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam Nasa'i:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ التَّرْدِيِّ وَالْهَدْمِ وَالْغَرَقِ وَالْحَرِيقِ

Which means: “O Allah, I seek refuge with You from being thrown from a high place or crushed beneath a falling wall, or drowning or being burned.”

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) taught us to prevent fire as mentioned in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam al-Bukhari:

Which means: "When night falls (or when it is evening), stop your children from going out, for the devils spread out at that time. But when an hour of the night has passed, release them and close the doors and mention Allah's Name, for Satan does not open a closed door. Tie the mouth of your waterskin and mention Allah's Name; cover your containers and utensils and mention Allah's Name. Cover them even by placing something across it, and extinguish your lamps. "

Not only that we have to protect ourselves from fire in this world but most importantly we have to protect ourselves and our family members from the torture of the hell fire as warned by Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 66 (Surah At-Tahrim), verse (ayat) 6:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا قَوًّا أَنفُسِكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ عَلَيْهَا مَلَائِكَةٌ غِلَاظٌ

شِدَادٌ لَا يَعْصُونَ اللَّهَ مَا أَمَرَهُمْ وَيَفْعَلُونَ مَا يُؤْمَرُونَ ﴿٦﴾

Which means: ”O ye who believe! Save yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is Men and Stones, over which are (appointed) angels stern (and) severe, who flinch not (from executing) the Commands they receive from Allah, but do (precisely) what they are commanded.”

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيْمِ، وَنَفَعَنِيْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ،
وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّيْ وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ،
وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِيْنَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ
التَّائِبِيْنَ.