

**CELEBRATION OF WORLD FORESTRY DAY  
PAHANG STATE LEVEL 2018**

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

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَإِذَا قِيلَ لَهُمْ لَا تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ قَالُوا إِنَّمَا نَحْنُ مُصْلِحُونَ ﴿١١﴾ أَلَا إِنَّهُمْ هُمُ

الْمُفْسِدُونَ وَلَكِنْ لَا يَشْعُرُونَ ﴿١٢﴾

Let us increase our righteousness and obedience to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. May we achieve success in this life and the hereafter.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

The environment is created by Allah the Almighty for the pleasure and survival of life in this world. Forests, mountains, hills, rivers and seas have specific function in relevance to their creation. It is undeniable that forests are our important heritage that have great value to us. Forests give various positive

impact to our society and country. Without forests, we would not be able to enjoy panoramic views of nature that we are able to see and relish today.

Islam prohibits its followers from doing any kind of damage on this earth, including destruction of lives, property and environment. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 27 (surah Al-Naml) verse 60:

أَمَّنْ خَلَقَ السَّمَوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضَ وَأَنْزَلَ لَكُمْ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً فَأَنْبَتْنَا بِهِ حَدَائِقَ ذَاتَ بَهْجَةٍ

مَا كَانَتْ لَكُمْ أَنْ تَنْبِتُوا شَجَرَهَا أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِعَلِيمًا غَلِيظَ الْعِقَابِ ۚ ﴿٦٠﴾

Which means: *[More precisely], is He [not best] who created the heavens and the earth and sent down for you rain from the sky, causing to grow thereby gardens of joyful beauty which you could not [otherwise] have grown the trees thereof? Is there a deity with Allah ? [No], but they are a people who ascribe equals [to Him].*

Let it be known that destruction of forests today is due to human greed which will invite the wrath of Allah the Almighty. Let us conserve our forest treasures so that they are not illegally encroached for example illegal and indiscriminate logging activities that destroy forests and create barren hills. The consequences of these activities are flash floods, landslides and pollution. Just look at the polluted rivers in Pahang where the water has become silty and threatens marine life. The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Abu Daud:

مَنْ قَطَعَ سِدْرَةً فِي فَلَاةٍ يَسْتِظِلُّ بِهَا ابْنُ السَّبِيلِ وَالْبَهَائِمُ عَيْثًا وَظُلْمًا بغيرِ حَقٍّ يَكُونُ

لَهُ فِيهَا صَوَّبَ اللَّهُ رَأْسَهُ فِي النَّارِ

Which means: *whoever cuts down a tree in the open desert that wayfarers and animals use for shade, merely for sport and to wrong others unlawfully, then Allah will throw him headfirst into Hellfire.*

The Department of Forestry has initiated many programs to ensure that natural resources and forests are conserved and rehabilitated effectively. The World Forestry Day is celebrated throughout the world to create awareness of the importance of forests. Forests are dwellings for wildlife; but sadly, it is being destroyed by human greed. This selfish act will cause the poor animals to encroach and disturb nearby villages and housing estates.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Let us be reminded that it is the obligation of all parties to ensure that the environment is well-preserved. Any plans and proposals for development projects should be reviewed and evaluated for any effect on the environment. This is to ensure the maintenance of our life system and to monitor socio-economic activities of surrounding communities.

We must avoid illegal forest exploration activities, open burning, and indiscriminate rubbish disposal. Strive to comply with rules and regulations set by the authorities so that we can avoid destruction which will incur the wrath of Allah the Almighty. Remember that everything that we have in this world is a loan from Allah the Almighty, and as His servants, we must carry out our duties diligently, ethically and honestly. Let us fight against all activities that lead to destruction of forests and the environment.

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Forests need to be preserved because they are natural barriers to reduce erosion during heavy rainfall. Currently, many natural disasters have occurred. We should take this as a warning from Allah the Almighty. Massive floods, long periods of droughts, forest fires, haze, pollution of water resources and so on are disasters that have occurred because environmental resources are not properly managed, maintained and preserved.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 30 (surah al-Rum) verse 41:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

ظَهَرَ الْفَسَادُ فِي الْبَرِّ وَالْبَحْرِ بِمَا كَسَبَتْ أَيْدِي النَّاسِ لِيُذِيقَهُمْ بَعْضَ الَّذِي عَمِلُوا لَعَلَّهُمْ يَرْجِعُونَ ﴿٤١﴾

Which means: *Corruption has appeared throughout the land and sea by [reason of] what the hands of people have earned so He may let them taste part of [the consequence of] what they have done that perhaps they will return [to righteousness].*

بَارَكَ 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 فَيَا فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.