

## LEADERSHIP IN ISLAM

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ

سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

وَأَشْهَدُ 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،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ أَوْصِيَكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

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

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Muslims in Malaysia are on the point of having the General Election. Indeed, elections are one of the ways to ensure that the country's leadership is elected legally and constitutionally. The fact is that the existence of any government in this world is determined by Allah the Almighty. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 3 (surah Ali Imran) verse 26:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

قُلِ اللَّهُمَّ مَالِكِ الْمُلْكِ تُؤْتِي الْمُلْكَ مَنْ تَشَاءُ وَتَنْزِعُ الْمُلْكَ مِمَّنْ تَشَاءُ وَتُعِزُّ مَنْ تَشَاءُ وَتُذِلُّ مَنْ تَشَاءُ إِنَّكَ عَلَىٰ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيرٌ

**Which means:** *Say, O Prophet, “O Allah! Lord over all authorities! You give authority to whoever You please and remove it from who You please; You honour whoever You please and disgrace who You please—all good is in Your Hands. Surely You alone are Most Capable of everything.*

The history of the struggles of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) proves the great importance of government that commands sovereign of a religion. The Prophet’s (pbuh) migration from the city of Makkah to the city of Medina, among other things, was aimed to ensure that the religion could be established through a strong and sovereign government.

This understanding was presevered by the generation of companions, who immediately after the death of the Prophet (pbuh); did not allow the people to live without leadership that dignified religion. Discussions were immediately held at

Saqifah Bani Sa'idah which led to the appointment of Sayyidina Abu Bakar as the first caliph. Eversince then, the religion and its people have always been free from external control when led by a leadership that dignifies religion.

Imam al-Ghazali reminds us in the book of Ihya':

وَالْمُلْكُ وَالِدِينُ تَوْأَمَانِ فَالِدِينِ أَصْلٌ وَالسُّلْطَانُ حَارِسٌ،  
وَمَا لَا أَصْلَ لَهُ فَمَهْدُومٌ وَمَا لَا حَارِسَ لَهُ فَضَائِعٌ

**Which means:** *State and religion are twin brothers. Religion is the basis, while the state is the guardian. Something without foundation will collapse, and the ground without guardians will disappear.*

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

According to statistics, there are 7.8 million new voters who will be involved in the 15<sup>th</sup> General Election. 3.8 million voters are young people aged 18 years old. This means, 3 out of every 10 voters are new voters.

Remember that the responsibility of voting is one of our religious obligations. Muslims who do not care about politics and the importance of electing leaders through elections, are actually paving the way to the destruction of religion and the country. If this attitude of indifference and carelessness towards the responsibility of choosing a leader is allowed to go on; remember then that our country will be managed by people who do not believe in Allah the Almighty, do not defend religion and Muslims, especially the Malay race, do not respect royal

institutions and that His Majesty Tuanku is the head of the religion. In a narration of Ibnu Majah, the Prophet (pbuh) warned that:

سَيَأْتِي عَلَى النَّاسِ سَنَوَاتٌ خَدَاعَاتٌ يُصَدَّقُ فِيهَا الْكَاذِبُ وَيُكذَّبُ فِيهَا  
الصَّادِقُ وَيُؤْتَمَنُ فِيهَا الْخَائِنُ وَيُخَوَّنُ فِيهَا الْأَمِينُ وَيَنْطِقُ فِيهَا الرُّوَيْبِضَةُ قِيلَ وَمَا  
الرُّوَيْبِضَةُ قَالَ الرَّجُلُ التَّافَهُ فِي أَمْرِ الْعَامَّةِ

**Which means:** “There will come to the people years of treachery, when the liar will be regarded as honest, and the honest man will be regarded as a liar; the traitor will be regarded as faithful, and the faithful man will be regarded as a traitor; and the Ruwaibidah will decide matters.’ It was said: ‘Who are the Ruwaibidah?’ He said: ‘Vile and base men who control the affairs of the people.’”

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Remember, our real enemy is not a brother of the same faith who sits with us in the house of Allah the Almighty. Our real enemies are those out there who are always working hard to change the identity of Malaysia; who want to change Islam as the established federal religion and harmony in a pluralistic society to a secular and liberal country, which lives under the guidance of the new colonialism. Let us not support them and not be a traitor. So, let us take the responsibility to vote seriously, by choosing a candidate who is pious, authoritative, trustworthy, upholds religion in life, rejects corrupt practices, and is always dynamic in developing a pluralistic society in an atmosphere of peace and harmony.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 17 (Surah Al-Isra’) verse 16:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَإِذَا أَرَدْنَا أَنْ نُهْلِكَ قَرْيَةً أَمَرْنَا مُتْرَفِيهَا فَفَسَقُوا فِيهَا فَحَقَّ عَلَيْهَا الْقَوْلُ  
فَدَمَّرْنَاَهَا تَدْمِيرًا

**Which means:** *Whenever We intend to destroy a society, We command its elite to obey Allah but they act rebelliously in it. So the decree of punishment is justified, and We destroy it utterly.*

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