

THE PRIVILEGES OF ISLAM AND ITS FOLLOWERS

FEBRUARY 11, 2022 | 9 REJAB 1443H

أَحْمَدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ
سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

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

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Islam is the only religion accepted by Allah the Almighty. Other religions whether they are revealed religions that have been corrupted or human-made religions are rejected. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 3 (*Surah Ali Imran*) verse (*ayat*) 85:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمَنْ يَبْتَغِ غَيْرَ الْإِسْلَامِ دِينًا فَلَنْ يُقْبَلَ مِنْهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ

الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴿٨٥﴾

Which means: *“If anyone seeks a religion other than Islam, it will not be accepted from him: he will be one of the losers in the Hereafter.”*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Islam is the religion of our country. It has special status in the constitution and is enshrined in the Provisions of Article 3 and Article 11 of the Federal Constitution. The Federal and State Governments can spend the government’s money to maintain Islamic-related institutions but cannot financially support other religions. Even in a state of emergency, laws that interfere with the position of Islam in the Constitution cannot be made. The Malay Rulers are the heads of Islam in a state under the Constitutional Rulers system. In Article 153 of the Federal Constitution, the *Yang Dipertuan Agong* (the King) is given the responsibility to safeguard the privileges of the Malays.

Unfortunately, there are dissenting voices among Malaysians and certain organizations that question the privileges of Islam and the Malay Rulers. Even more unfortunate, some of those who are vocal are among the Malay Muslims themselves. Some have suggested that the privileges of Islam and the *bumiputera* be abolished and some want other religions to be given similar privileges.

As Muslims, we must safeguard and defend these privileges. What else do we have if these rights are taken from us? If Islam and Muslims are not given such privileges, sooner or later Islam will be lost for future

generations. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 47 (*Surah Muhammad*) verse (*ayat*) 7:

يٰۤاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ ءَامَنُوْا اِنْ نَّصُرُوْا اللّٰهَ يَنْصُرْكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتْ اَقْدَامَكُمْ ﴿٧﴾

Which means: “*You who believe! If you help Allah, He will help you and make you stand firm.*”

This verse explains that Allah the Almighty will take care of us when we take care of the religion of Allah the Almighty [Islam]. So let us not worry when defending our rights and the religion of Islam.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Rest assured that Islam is a comprehensive, complete, special, balanced and the greatest religion. We should be grateful because we are in a country that regards Islam highly in the constitution and demands the highest leader of the country to be Muslim under the auspices of the Malay Rulers who are Muslims. This is our weapon to ensure that the people and the religion of Islam continue to be preserved in our country/homeland. Make sure that our religion is not belittled by others. Let us together defend the leadership in our country so that it is led by Muslims and not under the leadership of the unbelievers. Let us take heed of Allah the Almighty’s warning in the Quran in Chapter 4 (*Surah An-Nisa’*) verse (*ayat*) 144:

اَعُوْذُ بِاللّٰهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطٰنِ الرَّجِيْمِ

يٰۤاَيُّهَا الَّذِيْنَ ءَامَنُوْا لَا تَتَّخِذُوْا الْكَافِرِيْنَ اَوْلِيَاءَ مِنْ دُوْنِ الْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ ؕ

اَتُرِيْدُوْنَ اَنْ تَجْعَلُوْا لِلّٰهِ عَلَيْكُمْ سُلْطٰنًا مُّبِيْنًا ﴿١٤٤﴾

Which means: “*You who believe, do not take the disbelievers as allies and protectors instead of the believers: do you want to offer Allah clear proof against you?*”

بَارَكَ اللهُ 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 اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ،
وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ،
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.