

INVITING NON-MUSLIMS TO 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 يُضِلِّهِ 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 a religion of '*rahmatan lil alamin*' which literally means 'mercy to the universe.' Islam was revealed to all of mankind regardless of race, descent, skin color or status. We should be grateful for the great blessing of being Muslims. This blessing from Allah the Almighty to us needs to be shared with every human being, especially our friends who have not yet embraced Islam. That is why, in Islam there is a concept of *da'wah*, which is calling others to Islam.

In the context of Malaysia as a multi-racial and multi-religious country, with a population consisting of Malays, Chinese, Indians, Sikhs, aborigines, Sabah and Sarawak natives and others, all of us Muslims have the duty to give *da'wah* to the non-Muslims. We must be the best Muslims to set an example for non-Muslims so that they are interested in Islam and we must be responsible for conveying the message of Islam to people. Allah the Almighty mentions in the Quran in Chapter 3 (*Surah Ali Imran*) verse (*ayat*) 110:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

كُنْتُمْ خَيْرَ أُمَّةٍ أُخْرِجَتْ لِلنَّاسِ تَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَتَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ
وَتُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ

Which means: “[Believers], you are the best community singled out for people: you order what is right, forbid what is wrong, and believe in Allah...”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Muslims need to socialize, befriend and treat non-Muslims politely as well as show good morals and examples. One of the reasons why non-Muslims reject Islam is because of bad attitudes and behavior shown by some Muslims such as laziness, drug addiction, stealing, etc. That is why the

Prophet (peace be upon him [PBUH]) recommended that we always maintain good morals.

A famous scholar, Al-Sheikh Said Ramadhan al-Buty told the story of a Jewish woman named Zainab binti Harith who tried to kill the Prophet by putting poison in his dish of mutton. When the meat was in his mouth, the meat miraculously said that it had been poisoned. The Prophet (PBUH) called Zainab and Zainab confessed her heinous act wanting revenge after her husband was killed in the Battle of Khaibar. With noble character, the Prophet (PBUH) forgave Zainab and she embraced Islam at that moment in front of him. This *da'wah* by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) is full of wisdom in accordance with the words of Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 16 (*Surah An-Nahl*) verse (*ayat*) 125:

أَدْعُ إِلَى سَبِيلِ رَبِّكَ بِالْحُكْمَةِ وَالْمَوْعِظَةِ الْحَسَنَةِ وَجَادِلْهُمْ بِالَّتِي هِيَ
أَحْسَنُ

Which means: “[Prophet], call [people] to the way of your Lord with wisdom and good teaching. Argue with them in the most courteous way...”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Prophet (PBUH) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari:

بَلِّغُوا عَنِّي وَلَوْ آيَةً

Which means: “*Pass on information from me, even if it is only a verse of the Qur’an*”

This *hadith* encourages us to convey and spread the teachings of the Prophet (PBUH) to others, even if it is a little. The Muslim community, whether ordinary people or leaders, should play their respective roles in calling their non-Muslim friends to Islam through the various available channels. Today we can perform *da’wah* using social media and email emulating the Prophet (PBUH) who sent letters to the rulers of Rome, Persia, Abyssinia, Yemen and others as a call to Islam.

The mosque can be used as a *da’wah* center by providing facilities for non-Muslims to learn about Islam or for them to get help when they are in trouble. The mosque committees and the public can donate basic necessities for the poor including non-Muslims. The Pahang Council of Islamic Religion and Malay Customs has long implemented the *Dapur Zakat* (similar to soup kitchen) program in every mosque throughout the state of Pahang. Anyone among the *asnaf* (the categories qualified to receive charity) who needs it can come and take the food at any time. The mosque also needs to make it easier to distribute the *Dapur Zakat* items to those in need.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The act of *da’wah* has a great reward in the eyes of Allah the Almighty as He said in the Quran in Chapter 41 (*Surah Al-Fussilat*) verse (*ayat*) 33:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمَنْ أَحْسَنُ قَوْلًا مِمَّن دَعَا إِلَى اللَّهِ وَعَمِلَ صَالِحًا وَقَالَ إِنِّي مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ ﴿٣٣﴾

Which means: “Who speaks better than someone who calls people to Allah, does what is right, and says, ‘I am one of those devoted to Allah’?”

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي 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 لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،

وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.