



PAHANG STATE SERMON TEXT

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THE ADVANTAGE OF ZIKIR

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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.

أَشْهَدُ 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 وَأَوْصِيكُمْ 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 Allah the Almighty in this life and the hereafter.



Dear brothers and sisters,

The practice of zikir to Allah the Almighty is an act of worship that seems simple but has great value in the eyes of Allah Azzawajalla because when we perform zikir we are glorifying and magnifying Allah with our tongue and heart. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 33 (surah al-Ahzab) verse 41:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ ذِكْرًا كَثِيرًا وَسَبِّحُوهُ بُكْرَةً
وَأَصِيلًا

Which means: *“O believers! Always remember Allah often, and glorify Him morning and evening.”*

The practice of zikir to Allah the Almighty is very important because we will gain many benefits, one of which is peace of mind. Allah Azzawajalla says in chapter 13 (surah Ar Ra'd) verse 28:

الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَتَطْمَئِنُّ قُلُوبُهُمْ بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ أَلَا بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ تَطْمَئِنُّ
الْقُلُوبُ

Which means: *“those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in the remembrance of Allah. Surely in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find comfort.”*



The greatest blessing for a person who recites zikir is that Allah Azzawajalla always remembers him. As said by Allah in chapter 2 (surah al-Baqarah) verse 152:

فَاذْكُرُونِي أَذْكَرْكُمْ

Which means: “remember Me; I will remember you. And thank Me, and never be ungrateful.”

The Prophet (pbuh) gave advice to a friend that the easiest practice for him to adhere to the religion of Allah is zikrullah as advised by the Prophet (pbuh) in a hadith narrated by Imam Ahmad which means,

“Keep your tongue moist with the remembrance of Allah Azza wa Jalla.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

There are some zikir that are encouraged to be practiced in our daily lives. The first is the zikir لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ as the said by the Prophet (pbuh) in a hadith narrated by Imam Al-Tirmizi,

أَفْضَلُ الذِّكْرِ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

Which means,

The best zikir is لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ

Indeed, those who take care of the practice of zikir obtain various benefits and happiness in life.



Secondly, we can recite the zikir after prayer with tasbih (*Glory be to Allah*), tahmid (*Praise be to Allah*) and takbir (*Allah is the Greatest*) hoping for forgiveness from Allah the Almighty as mentioned in a hadith of the Prophet (pbuh) as narrated by Imam Muslim which means,

“Whoever glorifies Allah (by saying Subhanallah) thirty-three times, and praises Allah (by saying Alhamdulillah) thirty-three times, and exalts Allah (by saying Allahu Akbar) thirty-three times after every Salat (prayer), his sins will be forgiven, even if they are as abundant as the foam of the sea.”

Take advantage of the opportunity to meditate with these zikir every time after the obligatory prayer, either in congregation or alone.

Thirdly, it is recommended to recite the zikir in the morning and evening according to a hadith narrated by Ibnu Majah which means,

“Whoever recites it three times in the morning will not be afflicted by any calamity before evening, and whoever recites it three times in the evening will not be overtaken by any calamity before morning.”

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الَّذِي لَا يَضُرُّ مَعَ اسْمِهِ شَيْءٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَلَا فِي
السَّمَاءِ، وَهُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ

Which means: *“In the Name of Allah, Who with His Name nothing can cause harm in the earth nor in the heavens, and He is the All-Hearing, the All-Knowing.”*



Among the benefits of reciting this is that Allah the Almighty will provide protection and safety from harm, calamity and disaster to every one of His servants who remember Him.

This is also the case with other zikir where not only will we get great reward from Allah the Almighty but He will also bestow various favors to us while while we are still in this world.

Dear brothers and sisters,

When we reminisce the life journey of the Prophet (pbuh); he often educates his companions and followers with the practice of zikir when facing challenges in life.

The Prophet (pbuh) once advised two companions who were in a state of anger until their faces turned red to recite zikir as narrated by Imam Muslim which means,

“If they say, *أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ*, indeed their anger will disappear.”

Similarly when Sayyidah Fatimah Radiallahu Anha came to the Prophet (pbuh) to ask for a helper (servant), He said to his beloved daughter as stated in the hadith narrated by Imam Muslim which means,

"May I inform you of something better than that? When you go to bed, recite 'Subhan Allah' thirty three times, 'Al hamduli l-lah' thirty three times, and 'Allahu Akbar' thirty four times."



We are encouraged on this Friday in particular to recite zikir and send blessings (*selawat*) to the Prophet (pbuh) as mentioned in a hadith by Imam al-Baihaqi in the book *al-Sunan al-Kubrā* that the Prophet *sallallahu'alaihi wasallam* said:

أَكْثَرُوا عَلَيَّ مِنْ الصَّلَاةِ فِي كُلِّ يَوْمٍ جُمُعَةٍ؛ فَإِنَّ صَلَاةَ أُمَّتِي تُعْرَضُ
عَلَيَّ فِي كُلِّ يَوْمٍ جُمُعَةٍ، فَمَنْ كَانَ أَكْثَرَهُمْ عَلَيَّ صَلَاةً كَانَ أَقْرَبَهُمْ
مَنِّي مَنزَلَةً

Which means: *“Increase the sending of blessings upon me on Friday, for the blessings of my followers are presented to me every Friday. Whoever sends the most blessings upon me is the closest to me in status.”*

In conclusion, zikir (remembrance) to Allah Azzawajalla is a great act of worship and is the basis of a Muslim's personal strength. Strive to always remember Allah the Almighty in our lives every day. Zikr will keep us away from negligence and bring us closer to Him and bring happiness in our lives.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا تُلْهِكُمْ أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ عَنْ ذِكْرِ
اللَّهِ وَمَنْ يَفْعَلْ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَئِكَ هُمُ الْخَاسِرُونَ



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