

BEWARE OF DEVIANT TEACHINGS

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ، أَشْهَدُ أَنْ
لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا
مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

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,

Deviant teachings that spread among Muslims need to be taken seriously. The Department of Islamic Development Malaysia (JAKIM) defines deviant teachings as “Any teachings or practices introduced by Muslims or non-Muslims, who claim that the teachings or practices are Islamic teachings or are based on Islamic teachings, when in fact, the teachings and practices are contrary to Islamic teachings based on the Quran and *Sunnah* and also contrary to the teachings of *Ahlus Sunnah Wal Jamaah*”.

Deviant teachings are not new in Islam. There have been individuals who claimed to be prophets since the time of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him [PBUH]) such as Al-Aswad Al-Unsi, Musaylimah Al-Kazzab and Tulayhah Ibn Khuwaylid. Then, during the reign of Caliph Abu Bakr As-Siddiq (may Allah be pleased with him), there were seven individuals who

claimed to be prophets. This continued during the time of Caliph Umar Al-Khattab (may Allah be pleased with him). To this day, there are still people who claim to be prophets or who introduce deviant teachings.

The existence of inventors of deviant teachings is mentioned many times in the Quran. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 14 (*Surah Ibrahim*) verse (*ayat*) 3:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
الَّذِينَ يَسْتَحِبُّونَ الْحَيَاةَ الدُّنْيَا عَلَى الْآخِرَةِ وَيَصُدُّونَ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَيَبْغُونَهَا عِوَجًا أُولَئِكَ فِي ضَلَالٍ
بَعِيدٍ ۝۳

Which means: “those who prefer the life of this world over the life to come, who turn others from Allah’s way, trying to make it crooked: such people have gone far astray.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Deviant teachings are a threat to Islam. They not only deviate from the teachings of the Quran and *Sunnah*, but they also introduce radical and extreme ideas. If not contained, it is feared that their followers will kill, cause chaos and threaten national security such as attacking police stations and the like. That is why Muslims must be knowledgeable in order to recognize the characteristics of deviant teachings and avoid being influenced by these groups.

Among the characteristics of deviant teachings is the existence of individuals who claim to be God, a prophet or *Imam Mahdi*. Some claim that they have

various gifts such as the power to cure diseases, the ability to stop heavy rain, the ability to talk to ants and so on. According to Imam Ibn Kathir, at the end of the Abbasid period, there was a group of people who glorified individuals who were considered to have extraordinary powers and the ability to perform miracles. There were also those who abuse the permissibility of visiting graves by performing acts of worship and invoking evil spirit to get lottery numbers.

Deviant teachings can also be identified if there are characteristics such as claiming that praying five times a day is not obligatory, mocking or perverting the contents of Quranic verses, equating Islam with other religions, criticizing the companions or wives of the Prophet (PBUH), handing over one's honor or property to the leader of a misguided group, modifying Islamic law at will, practicing certain mantras, practicing rituals that have elements of superstition or polytheism etc.

Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 39 (*Surah Az-Zumar*) verse (*ayat*) 65:

وَلَقَدْ أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ وَإِلَى الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِكَ لَئِنْ أَشْرَكْتَ لَيَحْبَطَنَّ عَمَلُكَ
وَلَتَكُونَنَّ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ ٦٥

Which means: “*It has already been revealed to you [Prophet] and to those before you: ‘If you ascribe any partner to Allah, all your work will come to nothing: you will be one of the losers.’*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Our country has been tainted with various deviant teachings such as Shia, Musyabbihah, Mujassimah, Qadiyani, Bahai, Nasrul Haq, Ayah Pin, Tuhan Harun, Ajaran Si Hulk, Millah Abraham and so on, as listed on the Pahang Mufti Department website.

Recently, a deviant teaching known as the ‘Ahmadi Religion’ has spread. It is led by an individual who claims to be the assistant of *Imam Mahdi*. This group is actively spreading their propaganda on social media. They claim to have other scriptures, a *qibla* towards Petra, Jordan and want to legalize LGBT. This teaching is against the main teachings of Islam and can damage the faith and *Sharia* of Muslims.

Shallowness of knowledge and looking for an easy way to heaven are among the influences that cause people to follow deviant teachings, making them easily deceived by the promises of the leaders of deviant teachings. If we have a solid understanding of the fundamentals of faith, *sharia*, and *akhlak* (morals), follow many religious classes and learn from certified religious scholars, God willing, we can protect ourselves from being easily deceived by deviant teachings. If we are aware that deviant teachings are being practiced in our area, we must report it immediately to the nearest District Islamic Religious Office.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As the conclusion of today's sermon, deviant teachings are teachings and practices that are contrary to Islam which is based on the Quran and *Sunnah*. We must follow the teachings of *Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jamaah* based on the explanation of Ashairah and Maturidiyah through the study of the 20 major attributes of Allah for creed, the Shafie School in the practice of *fiqh* and the explanation of Imam Ghazali on Sufism and morals. We must strengthen our knowledge and understand the characteristics of the true Islamic belief so that we do not get involved with any deviant teachings.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
يُرِيدُونَ أَنْ يُطْفِئُوا نُورَ اللَّهِ بِأَفْوَاهِهِمْ وَيَأْبَى اللَّهُ إِلَّا أَنْ يُنِيمَ نُورَهُ
وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْكَافِرُونَ ٣٢

Which means: *They try to extinguish Allah's light with their mouths, but Allah insists on bringing His light to its fullness, even if the disbelievers hate it. (At-Tawbah 9:32)*

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 الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.