

THE BIRTHDAY OF HIS MAJESTY THE SULTAN OF PAHANG

“THE KING AND HIS SUBJECTS ARE ONE”

25 JULY 2025/29 MUHARRAM 1447H

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ عَلَى إِحْسَانِهِ، وَالشُّكْرُ لَهُ عَلَى عِظَمِ نِعَمِهِ وَامْتِنَانِهِ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا.
مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

أَشْهَدُ 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 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 blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, the final Friday of July, the state of Pahang celebrates the Birthday of His Majesty the Sultan of Pahang. In conjunction with this celebration, let us express our gratitude and appreciate in today's *khutbah* (sermon) entitled “The King and his subjects are one”.

By the wisdom of Allah, humankind was created in the world as a caliph to manage and preserve the earth. Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 2 (*Surah Al-Baqarah*) Verse (*ayat*) 30:

...وَإِذْ قَالَ رَبُّكَ لِلْمَلَائِكَةِ إِنِّي جَاعِلٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ خَلِيفَةً

Which means: “[Prophet], when your Lord told the angels, ‘I am putting a successor on earth,’...”

According to Imam Al-Qurtubi, this verse is the basis of the obligation to appoint a respected leader who can unite the people and enforce the law.

As Muslims, we need to understand that the sultanate is one of the most important components for the perfection of life and religion in the world. Especially in the context of our country that adopts a constitutional monarchy system, the King is responsible for the improvement of the world as an *amanah* (trust) from Allah the Almighty.

In the Book of Al-Ahkam As-Sultaniyyah, Imam Mawardi (may Allah be pleased with him) states that:

الإِمَامَةُ مَوْضُوعَةٌ لِخِلَافَةِ النَّبُوءَةِ فِي حِرَاسَةِ الدِّينِ وَسِيَاسَةِ الدُّنْيَا

Which means: “Imamate is prescribed to succeed Prophethood as a means of protecting the religion (Deen), and managing the affairs of this world.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the history of Malaya, the royal reign has long existed as the core of our nation. It is the continuation of the previous Islamic government. The king or sultan, who is the supreme leader, is assisted by the nobles responsible for the state’s affairs,

while the people uphold every order or command for prosperity. History also provides clear evidence that the people in Malaya became Muslims after the king received knowledge of Islam brought by Muslim scholars who came to the palace and then spread it to the people as *Ad-Deen* (the way of life and religion).

This practice is still the core of our country to this day. In the context of the state of Pahang, this is enshrined in The Laws of the State Constitution, which says that His Majesty the Sultan of Pahang is the state's head of religion.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

His Majesty the Sultan of Pahang As-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah is the sixth king of Pahang's Modern Sultanate. The people are grateful to Allah the Almighty for living under the rule of the Sultan, who often assists the poor and victims of disasters. To preserve the well-being of young people as future leaders, His Majesty is strictly against drug abuse, including the use of vapes and electronic cigarettes. The people are also grateful for the Sultan's firmness against the illegal invasion of state lands for commercial purposes.

In the context of Islamic affairs, His Majesty has successfully upgraded religious governance in the state of Pahang. The *zakat* and *waqf* institutions have been increasingly strengthened so that many more *zakat* recipients (*asnaf*) have received help to the extent that some have become *zakat* payers themselves. His Majesty's perseverance in praying at the mosque and studying religious studies in the palace with scholars should be followed. The people are encouraged to enliven the mosques and attend knowledge gatherings. His Majesty is also concerned about the preservation of the Quran, to the point of successfully establishing state-owned

Quran *Hafazan* Centers for memorizing the Quran: from kindergarten to university level. His Majesty is also firm in eradicating deviant teachings from the state of Pahang.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Indeed, the expression “the king and subjects are one” is not just a slogan. Fudhayl bin ‘Iyadh once said: “*If I had one supplication to be answered, I would make it for no one but the ruler*”. He said that if he was praying for himself, it was only useful to him but if he prayed for the leader, the people and the country would benefit. Therefore, let us pray to Allah the Almighty to bestow honor, guidance, and good health to His Majesty the Sultan in honor of his birthday. It is also in line with the message of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him [PBUH]) in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Muslim:

خَيْرُ أَيْمَانِكُمُ الَّذِينَ تُحِبُّونَهُمْ وَيُحِبُّونَكُمْ، وَتُصَلُّونَ عَلَيْهِمْ وَيُصَلُّونَ عَلَيْكُمْ

Which means: “*The best of your rulers are those whom you love and who love you, and those who supplicate Allah in your favor and you supplicate Allah in their favor.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

To end this *khutbah* (sermon), let us ponder upon the words of Allah the Almighty in the Quran in Chapter 4 (*Surah An-Nisa*) Verse (*ayat*) 59:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ ۖ ...

Which means: “*You who believe, obey Allah and the Messenger, and those in authority among you...*”

From the above verse, let us, his subjects, stay loyal to His Majesty the Sultan of Pahang as the king and leader as well as the protector of Islam in the state of Pahang Darul Makmur. Let us also remember that the royal institution helps to perfect our religion and worldly life. Let us pray that the Sultan remains *qarar* (stable) in ruling, be given good health to bring good to the people, be guided by the light of truth, and be accompanied by the guidance of Allah the Almighty.

الَّذِينَ إِنْ مَكَانَهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ أَقَامُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَآتَوُا الزَّكَاةَ وَأَمَرُوا بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَنَهَوْا عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ ۗ وَلِلَّهِ عَاقِبَةُ الْأُمُورِ

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.