NUZUL AL-QURAN 14 MARCH 2025 | 13 RAMADAN 1446H

آيِ شَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ الَّذِى أُنزِلَ فِيهِ الْقُرْءَانُ هُدِّى لِّلتَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَاتُ مِّنَ الْهُدَىٰ وَالْفُرْقَان : 'اَلْحَمْدُ لِلهِ الْقَائِل . أَشْهَدُ أَنْ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُه . أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُه اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لاَ شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُه اللهُ وَمَعْدِنَ اللهُ مَعْدِنَ اللهُ مَعْدَ، الله عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى اللهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَقَدْ فَازَ اللهُ وَأُو صِيكُمْ وَإِيَّاىَ بَتَقْوَى الله، 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,

The Holy Quran, consisting of 114 chapters and 6,236 verses, was revealed in the month of *Ramadan*. Imam Ibn Kathir and Imam As-Suyuti (may Allah have mercy on him) explained that the revelation of the Quran occurred all at once from the *Luh Al-Mahfuz* to the Worldly Heaven (*Baitul Izzah*) in the month of *Ramadan*. Then the verses were revealed to the Prophet (Peace be upon him [PBUH]) gradually within 23 years; some were revealed based on events. Allah the Almighty chose the month of *Ramadan* over other months to emphasize the glory and significance of the month of *Ramadan*. Allah says in the Quran in Chapter 2 (*Surah Al-Baqarah*) verse (*ayat*) 185:

أَعُوْذُ بِاللهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيْمِ شَهَرُ رَمَضَانَ ٱلَّذِيَ أُنزِلَ فِيهِ ٱلْقُرَّءَانُ هُذَى لِّلنَّاسِ وَبَيِّنَٰتٍ مِّنَ ٱلَّهُدَىٰ وَٱلْفُرَقَانَْ

Which means: "It was in the month of Ramadan that the Quran was revealed as guidance for mankind, clear messages giving guidance and distinguishing between right and wrong..."

This verse explains that the Quran, which was revealed in the holy month of *Ramadan*, is a guide for mankind. The Quran guides people by showing the difference between what is right and what is wrong.

Muslims around the world celebrate *Nuzul Al-Quran* (the revelation of the Quran) on the 17th day of the month of *Ramadan*, which is also known as the month of the Quran. Many of us strive to finish reading the Quran, or reading more of it during the month of *Ramadan* than in other months. All this is done with the belief that the reader of the Quran receives abundant rewards. The Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam At-Tirmizi: "Whoever recites a letter from the Book of Allah, he will be credited with a good deed, and a good deed gets a ten-fold reward. I do not say that Alif-Lam-Mim is one letter, but Alif is a letter, Lam is a letter and Mim is a letter."

This *hadith* illustrates the great reward of reading the Quran. Our motivation to read the Quran is further strengthened by the promise of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Muslim:

اقْرَءُوا الْقُرْ آنَ فَإِنَّهُ يَأْتِي يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ شَفِيعًا لأَصْحَابِهِ

Which means: "Recite the Quran, for on the day of resurrection it will come as an intercessor for those who recite it."

With today's technological sophistication, we can download various Quran applications or Quran interpretations on our mobile phones. We can read the Quran or study its interpretations anywhere, whether at home, at the office, in a vehicle, etc.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We must realize the importance of nurturing our future generations with a love for the Quran from childhood. We must provide adequate guidance for them to read the Quran fluently. We are worried that if they cannot even recognize the Arabic alphabet, they won't be able to read the Quran let alone to make the Quran a guide for life.

Although the practice of reciting the Quran has been present among our children through public or private classes, the practice of understanding the Quran is still at a moderate level among our children, especially with the influence of social media and entertainment. Therefore, parents should not be stingy about spending money to send their children to learn to read and understand the Quran.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us act according to the teachings of the Quran. Do not let the Quran simply be a decoration on the shelf at home, but extract the lessons in its contents with the belief that this holy book is the rule and guide for our lives, in all aspects including worship, social life, economics and community relations. It includes guidance on faith, jurisprudence (*sharia*), morality, the history of previous nations and messengers, scientific facts, advice and warnings for all of us. The Prophet (PBUH) said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Malik (may Allah have mercy on him):

Which means: "I have left two matters with you. As long as you hold onto them, you will not go the wrong way. They are the Book of Allah (Quran) and the Sunnah of His Prophet."

This *hadith* clearly illustrates that the key to strength and salvation for Muslims from misguidance is to hold fast to the Quran and *Sunnah* by following authoritative interpretations. This is even realized by the enemies of Islam who are always trying to distance Muslims from the Quran through the culture of hedonism (unlimited extreme entertainment).

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

To conclude the *khutbah* (sermon), let us emphasize that:

First, the Quran is a holy book that was revealed to be a guide for all aspects of our lives.

Second, let us increase our reading of the Quran to gain multiple rewards from Allah during the month of *Ramadan*.

Third, educate our children and youth to love the Quran so that they are able to read the Quran well, appreciate it and practice its wisdom in life.

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِى وَلَكُمْ فِى القُرْءَانِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعنِى وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُم تِلاَوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِى هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِى وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُوْمِنِينَ وَالمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.