"ROAD SAFETY ENFORCEMENT: A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY" 9 MAY 2025

ٱلْحَمْدُ لِلّهِ نَحَمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَغِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللهِ مِنْ شُرُورٍ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّنَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَن يَهْدِهِ اللهُ فَلاَ مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَن يُضِلِّلْ فَلاَ هَادِيَ لَهُ.

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لا إِلَهَ إِلاَّ اللهُ وَحْدَهُ لا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.

ٱللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

أُمَّا يَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ الله، ، اِتَّقُوْا اللهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللهِ، 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 we will discuss the topic "Road Safety Enforcement: A Shared Responsibility."

"Road safety enforcement is a shared responsibility" means that road safety does not only lie with the Road Transport Department (RTD) authorities and other enforcement agencies, but also involves every individual who uses the road, including drivers, cyclists, pedestrians and other users. We need to play a role in ensuring road safety by obeying traffic rules, driving safely, and being responsible.

Authorities have the responsibility of monitoring and ensuring that regulations are followed and taking action when laws are violated. However, the public also needs to be alert and try to reduce the risk of accidents.

Current media reports that road accidents are one of the biggest causes of death. The attitude of road users who ignore road laws is a major contributor to the increase in fatal accident rates throughout the year.

Based on data from the Traffic Investigation and Enforcement Department (TIED) of the Royal Malaysian Police (RMP), a total of 5,939 deaths were recorded from January to November 2024 out of more than half a million accidents that occurred.

Road users have a great responsibility to always obey traffic rules at all times and should not rely solely on enforcement agencies to enforce the law.

It is a joint effort involving law enforcement, awareness, and a responsible attitude from each individual to ensure that the roads are safe and accident-free.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

One of the principles of *Maqasid Syariah* is "preserving life" which is taken very seriously in Islam. Therefore, we as servants of Allah are obliged to protect and preserve life wherever we are, especially on the road.

Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 5 (Surah Al-Ma'idah) Verse (ayat) 32:

مِنْ أَجۡلِ ذَٰلِكَ كَتَبۡنَا عَلَىٰ بَنِيٓ إِسۡرَٰءِيلَ أَنَّهُ مَن قَتَلَ نَفۡسَٰا بِغَيۡرِ نَفۡسٍ أَوۡ فَسَادٖ فِي ٱلۡأَرۡضِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَتَلَ ٱلنَّاسَ جَمِيعُا ۚ جَمِيعُا وَمَنۡ أَحۡيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَاۤ أَحۡيَا ٱلنَّاسَ جَمِيعُاۤ

Which means: "That is why We ordained for the Children of Israel that whoever takes a life—unless as a punishment for murder or mischief in the land—it will be as if they killed all of humanity; and whoever saves a life, it will be as if they saved all of humanity..."

This verse reminds us that human life is precious. In the context of road safety, it reminds us to always drive carefully and responsibly, because any careless action we take can endanger the lives of others.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In conjunction with the 79th Anniversary of the Malaysian Road Transport Department (MRTD) Day, let us pray for all employees of MRTD to be blessed with health and safety while carrying out their duties. May they be able to carry out their duties with full integrity and trust (*amanah*). Such enforcement tasks are a pillar of *hisbah* (enforcement) in a country.

Everyone is also reminded to respect enforcement officers and to cooperate with the MRTD and other enforcement agencies to improve road safety by following these recommendations:

First: Let us all appreciate life given by Allah the Almighty by refraining from doing things that can threaten safety and harm us.

Second: Be civilized and polite when on the road by obeying the traffic laws and regulations.

Third: Do not be selfish when using the road, but rather respect and tolerate other users.

Fourth: We are advised to always seek protection from Allah the Almighty when driving by reciting the following supplication:

Which means: "Glory is to Him Who has provided this for us though we could never have had it by our efforts. Surely, unto our Lord we are returning."

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We should all strive to lower the risk of road accidents and reduce the number of accidents and deaths. Indeed, taking care of our own safety and that of others when driving is a responsibility in Islam.

The Prophet (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Ibnu Majah:

Which means: "There should be neither harming nor reciprocating harm."

This *hadith* teaches us to avoid all forms of dangerous actions that can harm ourselves or others. In the context of road safety, it refers to the importance of obeying the rules of the road and prioritizing safety in every action we take when driving or on the road.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Concluding today's *khutbah* (sermon), let us all ensure the following:

First, all parties are obliged to play a role in ensuring safety when on the road.

Second, remember that preserving life is one of the greatest purposes of Islamic law.

Third, enforcement responsibilities must be carried out with integrity and trust (*amanah*) as it is an important national task. We must respect enforcement officers.

Fourth, make sure that we do not act dangerously, or commit acts that are harmful to ourselves or others.

Let us be reminded of the Verse (*ayat*) in the Quran in Chapter 2 (*Surah Al-Baqarah*) Verse 195:

Which means: "Spend in Allah's cause: do not contribute to your destruction with your own hands, but do good, for Allah loves those who do good."

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِى وَلَكُمْ فِى القُرْءَانِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِى وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُم تِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّى وَمِنْكُم تِلاَوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِى هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِى وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُو الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.