



SERMON TEXT

STATE OF PAHANG

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MAULIDURRASUL SERMON

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ: وَمَا أَرْسَلْنَاكَ إِلَّا رَحْمَةً لِّلْعَالَمِينَ ١٠٧ قُلْ إِنَّمَا يُوحَىٰ إِلَيَّ أَنَّمَا إِلَهُكُمُ إِلَهُ وَحْدٌ فَهَلْ أَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ١٠٨

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 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,

Let us be grateful for still being able to live in the blessings of Faith and Islam. Today, the 12th of Rabiulawal, is a special day because, according to some scholars of Islamic history (sirah), it marks the birth of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him)—our beloved and revered leader—in the village of Bani Hashim, in Makkah al-Mukarramah, on a Monday morning in the Year of the Elephant.

In a hadith narrated by Imam Ahmad, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said:

“My mother (Aminah) saw in a dream my birth, and a light emerged from her body during my birth that illuminated the palaces of the city of Sham (Greater Syria).”

Such was the greatness of the moment of Prophet Muhammad’s (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) birth. As a result, scholars have designated the month of Rabiulawal as the time to celebrate Maulid, in order to nurture love and affection for Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), and to renew the commitment to follow his Sunnah. It is no surprise that some scholars also refer to this month as ar-Rabi’ al-Munawwar, which means “the radiant Rabiulawal.”

How could anyone deny the significance of this blessed month, when Allah the Almighty Himself encourages us to be grateful for the divine gift of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) being sent to the people of the end of time—who had lived for centuries in darkness due to the absence of revelation?

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 3 (Surah Ali Imran) verse 164:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
لَقَدْ مَنَّ اللَّهُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِذْ بَعَثَ فِيهِمْ رَسُولًا مِّنْ أَنفُسِهِمْ يَتْلُو عَلَيْهِمْ آيَاتِهِ وَيُزَكِّيهِمْ وَيُعَلِّمُهُمُ الْكِتَابَ وَالْحِكْمَةَ
وَإِنْ كَانُوا مِن قَبْلُ لَفِي ضَلَالٍ مُّبِينٍ

Which means: *“Indeed, Allah has done the believers a ‘great’ favour by raising a messenger from among them—reciting to them His revelations, purifying them, and teaching them the Book and wisdom. For indeed they had previously been clearly astray.”*

In addition, in a hadith narrated by Imam Muslim, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was once asked why he frequently fasted on Mondays. He replied, in meaning: “It was on that day that I was born and revelation was sent down to me.” Based on this, scholars have encouraged Muslims to observe the celebration of Maulid as a way to nurture and deepen our love for Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Even Imam al-Suyuti (may Allah have mercy on him), in his book *Al-Hawi lil Fatawa*, mentioned a hadith narrated by Imam al-Baihaqi stating that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) performed aqiqah for himself, despite another narration confirming that his grandfather, Abdul Muttalib, had already performed aqiqah for him at the age of seven. Imam al-Suyuti explained that the ruling of aqiqah is that it should not be repeated. Therefore, the Prophet’s action is understood as an expression of gratitude for his own birth—as a mercy to all creation.

According to Imam al-Suyuti (may Allah have mercy on him), the celebration of the Prophet's Maulid began to be organized on a grand scale in the early seventh century Hijrah by King al-Muzhaffar Abu Said Kukbari (كُوْكَبَرِي سَعِيْدُ اَبُو الْمُظَفَّر), who passed away in the year 630 Hijrah during the Ayyubid era, which was centered in Iraq. He was known as a wise and generous ruler.

Such a celebration is a reflection of the love of the Prophet's (pbuh) followers towards him, which is a condition for the perfection of faith. In a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said:

لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ، حَتَّى أَكُونَ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ وَالِدِهِ وَوَلَدِهِ وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ

Which means: *"None of you will have faith till he loves me more than his father, his children and all mankind."*

Dear brothers and sisters,

Allah the Almighty sent His Prophets (peace be upon them) to every nation of mankind with the same purpose i.e. to convey divine guidance and to educate humanity with true faith. Allah the Almighty bestowed many extraordinary miracles upon the previous prophets to prove their prophethood before their respective communities. These communities often witnessed khawariq al-'adah (events that

defy the norms of nature) when their prophets were challenged by adversaries during their time.

Although Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was also granted extraordinary miracles, his greatest miracle was the revelation of the Qur'an, which remains the most magnificent of all miracles and continues to serve as guidance and direction for humanity to this very day.

Thus, it is no wonder that the Prophet's coming was a moment that was awaited by all creatures in the heavens and on earth, even the previous prophets. In Surah al-Saf verse 6, Allah the Almighty records how Prophet Isa (peace be upon him) himself was very excited to bring the good news of the coming of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) after his time. Allah the Almighty says which means:

“And remember when Jesus, son of Mary, said, “O children of Israel! I am truly Allah’s messenger to you, confirming the Torah which came before me, and giving good news of a messenger after me whose name will be Ahmad.” Yet when the Prophet came to them with clear proofs, they said, “This is pure magic.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

In conjunction with this month of Mawlid, let us come together to:

1. Increase our determination to follow all the sunnahs left by the Prophet (pbuh), both in terms of faith, law, character and appearance.
2. Review and attend knowledge sessions on hadiths, biography, struggle and personality of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), through books such as Syama'il Muhammadiyah and sending blessings upon the Prophet (pbuh).
3. Thus, we must strive earnestly to continue the Prophet's mission of bringing peace and well-being to humanity in this world and the hereafter. Just imagine if the Prophet (pbuh) were with us today, witnessing the division and suffering of the Muslim ummah in Gaza, Palestine, who are being starved by the Zionist regime while the Islamic world merely watches. Perhaps we would be speechless, unable to utter a word in front of him.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحْبِبْكُمُ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ۗ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ

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.