



SERMON TEXT
STATE OF PAHANG

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PURE FAITH IS THE SOURCE OF STRENGTH

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. 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 عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّاي بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness towards Allah the Almighty by carrying out all His commands and abandoning all His prohibitions. May we attain forgiveness and well-being in this life and in the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Faith (*Akidah*) is the firm belief and conviction in the heart towards Allah the Almighty, His angels, His scriptures, His messengers, the Day of Judgment, and divine decree (*qada' and qadar*). True faith will give rise to a tranquil soul, a strong heart, and a steadfast stance that does not waver easily when facing the challenges of life. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 14 (Surah Ibrahim) verse 27:

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يُنَبِّتُ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا بِالْقَوْلِ الثَّابِتِ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ وَيُضِلُّ اللَّهُ الظَّالِمِينَ وَيَفْعَلُ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ ۚ ٢٧

Which means: “Allah makes the believers steadfast with the firm Word of faith in this worldly life and the Hereafter. And Allah leaves the wrongdoers to stray. For Allah does what He wills.”



This verse explains that strong faith becomes a source of steadfastness when facing life's trials such as poverty, illness, emotional stress, as well as intellectual and moral challenges.

Dear blessed brothers and sisters,

Pure faith must be built upon a firm foundation, as mentioned in the hadith narrated by Imam Muslim:

قَالَ: فَأَخْبِرْنِي عَنِ الْإِيمَانِ، قَالَ: أَنْ تُؤْمِنَ بِاللَّهِ، وَمَلَائِكَتِهِ، وَكُتُبِهِ وَرُسُلِهِ، وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ، وَتُؤْمِنَ بِالْقَدَرِ خَيْرِهِ وَشَرِّهِ قَالَ: صَدَقْتَ،

Which means: *“He (the angel Jibril, appearing in the form of a man) then said: ‘Explain to me about faith (iman).’ The Prophet (pbuh) replied: ‘Faith is that you believe in Allah, His angels, His scriptures, His messengers, the Last Day, and that you believe in divine decree, both the good and the bad of it.’ He said: ‘You have spoken the truth.’”*

This hadith explains that the six pillars of faith must be instilled in every Muslim individual, namely belief in Allah the Almighty, belief in His angels, His scriptures, His messengers, the Day of Judgment, and belief in divine decree (*qada and qadar*).

What is meant by believing in Allah the Almighty is to have true conviction that Allah the Almighty is Self-sufficient and All-Powerful, and that mankind depends entirely upon Him. Likewise, believing in the angels means having firm certainty that the angels are sent by Allah the Almighty to carry out all His commands, to worship Him, and to obey Him faithfully. We must also have sincere belief in the scriptures revealed to the messengers, and in the sending of the



prophets and messengers to humankind to guide humans to the right path. We must also have firm belief in the existence of the Day of Judgment, which is the place where good and bad deeds will be recompensed. Likewise, conviction in divine decree, both good and bad (*qada and qadar*), is an essential foundation that must be held with certainty. Therefore, everything that occurs in human life has already been known, determined, and takes place by the will of Allah the Almighty.

Dear blessed brothers and sisters,

Pure faith, founded upon belief in divine decree (*qada and qadar*), will make Muslims not easily fall into despair, because they are certain that every trial comes from Allah the Almighty. They do not depend on created beings, for only Allah the Almighty is the One to rely upon, and they will not fear the challenges of life nor give up when afflicted with hardship. The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam Muslim:

عَجَبًا لِأَمْرِ الْمُؤْمِنِ، إِنَّ أَمْرَهُ كُلَّهُ خَيْرٌ

Which means: “*Strange are the ways of a believer for there is good in every affair of his.*”

This hadith shows that every matter for the believer is good, whether in times of ease or hardship. However, faith will not remain pure if it is not preserved. It can be corrupted by superstitious beliefs, reliance on others besides Allah the Almighty, deviant ideologies, rejecting the laws of Allah the Almighty, and adopting a misguided lifestyle that distances oneself from religion. In fact, incidents of suicide reflect a crisis of faith in divine decree (*qada and qadar*), namely the belief in both the good and the bad determined by Allah the Almighty.



Indeed, true faith must be inculcated by remembering Allah the Almighty, so that it produces a tranquil heart. Allah, the Almighty, says in chapter 13 (Surah al-Ra'd) verse 28:

الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَتَطْمَئِنُّ قُلُوبُهُمْ بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ أَلَا بِذِكْرِ اللَّهِ تَطْمَئِنُّ الْقُلُوبُ ٢٨

Which means: “Those who believe and whose hearts find comfort in the remembrance of Allah. Surely in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find comfort.”

Dear blessed brothers and sisters,

The lesson from today’s sermon is:

First, faith (*akidah*) is the firm conviction (*jazam*) in Allah the Almighty, His angels, His scriptures, His messengers, the Hereafter, and divine decree (*qada’ and qadar*).

Second, true faith produces individuals who can face life’s challenges and trials, possessing a tranquil soul and strong resolve.

Third, faith must be proven through righteous deeds and noble character, while avoiding matters that can nullify belief.



أَعُوذُ بِاللّٰهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا وَلَمْ يَلْبِسُوا إِيمَانَهُمْ بِظُلْمٍ أُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمُ الْآمَنُ وَهُمْ مُّهْتَدُونَ ٨٢

بَارَكَ اللهُ 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 اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَانِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.