



SERMON TEXT

STATE OF PAHANG

NOVEMBER 2025



ENLIVENING THE MOSQUE

07 NOVEMBER 2025 | 16 JAMADILAWAL 1447H

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَى الدِّينِ كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ،
 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 وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.
 أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. Indeed, *taqwa* (piety or God-consciousness) is the best provision for our happiness in this life and the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

The mosque is a symbol of the glory of Islam in a country. It serves as a central place where Muslims gather to perform acts of worship, especially the obligatory congregational prayers. Allah the Almighty has emphasized the special status and importance of enlivening the mosque in chapter 9 (Surah At-Tawbah) verse 18:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
 إِنَّمَا يَعْمُرُ مَسْجِدَ اللَّهِ مَنْ ءَامَنَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَأَقَامَ الصَّلَاةَ وَءَاتَى الزَّكَاةَ وَلَمْ يَحْشَ إِلَّا اللَّهَ فَعَسَىٰ
 أُولَٰئِكَ أَنْ يَكُونُوا مِنَ الْمُهْتَدِينَ ١٨

Which means: “*The mosques of Allah should only be maintained by those who believe in Allah and the Last Day, establish prayer, pay*



alms-tax, and fear none but Allah. It is right to hope that they will be among the truly guided.”

Alhamdulillah, in our country, many beautiful and grand mosques have been built to facilitate the worship of Muslims, while also serving as symbols and landmarks of their respective places. The facilities in these mosques are continuously being improved for greater comfort. Numerous new mosques have also been constructed by the government, costing millions of ringgit, with impressive designs and architectural elements. However, all of this holds little meaning if the Muslim community does not make full use of these facilities, in other words, if Muslims do not enliven the mosque.

It is rather disheartening that in some places, the mosques are spacious and comfortable, yet the number of congregants attending prayers remains low. This situation can be observed both in villages and cities. Where does the problem lie? Management of mosques should identify the reasons why their mosque is not vibrant, and subsequently plan improvements whether through programs or promotional efforts to encourage more members of the community to come and perform congregational prayers at the mosque.

Dear brothers and sisters,

We are well aware that performing prayer in congregation is more virtuous than praying alone. Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) highlighted the merits of those who come to the mosque



for congregational prayer, as mentioned in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Tirmidhi:

إِذَا رَأَيْتُمُ الرَّجُلَ يَعْتَادُ الْمَسْجِدَ فَاشْهَدُوا لَهُ بِالْإِيمَانِ

Which means: “If you see a man committed to the mosque then bear witness to his faith.”

In a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari, Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) listed seven groups of people who will be granted the shade of Allah the Almighty on the Day of Judgment. One of them is:

“A man whose heart is attached to the mosque” (وَرَجُلٌ قَلْبُهُ مُعَلَّقٌ فِي الْمَسَاجِدِ).

This hadith clearly illustrates how Islam greatly honors those who consistently devote their time to being present in the mosque.

Dear blessed muslims,

Those responsible for managing and administering the mosque must take a proactive role in enhancing and elevating the mosque’s reputation in the eyes of the community. The funds collected in the mosque’s account should be utilized to organize high-quality activities and programs that benefit the public. Mosques should regularly invite qualified religious speakers to deliver structured lessons based on classical texts in key areas such as tauhid (the oneness of God), fiqh (jurisprudence), and tasawwuf (spiritual purification), as well as Qur’an recitation and tajwid (pronunciation rules) to enhance the community’s understanding of essential religious obligations (fardhu ain). Occasionally, mosques can organize carnivals featuring activities like sales booths, religious talks, traditional



games, or similar events to make the mosques more connected and beloved by the people.

In addition, surroundings of mosques and the cleanliness of their restrooms must not be taken lightly. Management of mosques should have a proper plan to ensure that the facilities are always clean and comfortable for users, including travelers who use the mosques as a place to rest. Let us work together to maintain the amenities of mosques so that they remain clean and well-maintained at all times.

Promotional strategies highlighting the virtues of congregational prayer at the mosque can be carried out through social media platforms such as the mosque's official Facebook page, neighborhood WhatsApp groups, and the distribution of pamphlets to spread the message to the community. This aligns with the prophetic method of da'wah by the Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him), which emphasized "giving glad tidings" to motivate Muslims toward righteous deeds. The Prophet (peace be upon him) said in a hadith narrated by Imam Abu Dawud:

بَشِّرِ الْمَشَّائِينَ فِي الظُّلَمِ إِلَى الْمَسَاجِدِ بِالنُّورِ النَّامِ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ

Which means: *“Convey glad tidings to those who walk to the mosque in the darkness. For they will be given full light on the Day of Resurrection.”*



Dear blessed muslims,

The sermon delivered today opens our eyes to the reality that:

1. Management of mosques and the local community must work together to raise awareness about the importance of performing congregational prayers and enlivening the mosque.
2. Management of mosques should utilize mosque funds to organize engaging religious gatherings and suitable activities that attract the community to attend the mosque.
3. The mosque is a center of worship and community life for Muslims, and it is our collective responsibility to enliven and uphold it.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَأَنَّ الْمَسْجِدَ لِلَّهِ فَلَا تَدْعُوا مَعَ اللَّهِ أَحَدًا ۝ ١٨١

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.