



SERMON TEXT
STATE OF PAHANG
JULY 2026



BIRTHDAY OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS

THE SULTAN OF PAHANG

31 JULY 2026M | 16 SAFAR 1447H

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 وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Let us increase our righteousness towards Allah the Almighty by carrying out all His commands and forsaking all His prohibitions. May we be blessed by Allah the Almighty in this world and the Hereafter.

Dear blessed brothers and sisters,

Let us be grateful for the blessings of peace, prosperity, stability, and well-being bestowed by Allah the Almighty upon our state of Pahang Darul Makmur under the reign of His Royal Highness the Sultan of Pahang, Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah Ibni Almarhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah. Truly, Islam teaches its followers to respect and obey a just ruler (*Ulul Amri*). Allah the Almighty says in chapter 4 (Surah al-Nisa') verse 59:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ فَإِنْ تَنَزَّعْتُمْ فِي شَيْءٍ فَرُدُّوهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ
وَالرَّسُولِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَحْسَنُ تَأْوِيلًا ٥٩

Which means: *O believers! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. Should you disagree on anything, then refer it to Allah and His Messenger, if you truly believe in Allah and the Last Day. This is the best and fairest resolution.*”

Likewise, the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon him) emphasized obedience to leaders in matters that are not sinful, as mentioned in the hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari and Imam Muslim:

عَلَى الْمَرْءِ الْمُسْلِمِ السَّمْعُ وَالطَّاعَةُ فِيمَا أَحَبَّ وَكَرِهَ، إِلَّا أَنْ يُؤْمَرَ بِمَعْصِيَةٍ، فَإِنْ أُمِرَ بِمَعْصِيَةٍ، فَلَا
سَمْعَ وَلَا طَاعَةَ

Which means: “It is obligatory for every Muslim to obey and follow (the leader) in what he likes and dislikes, as long as he is not commanded to commit sin. If he is commanded to commit sin, then there is no longer any obligation to obey and follow.”

Dear brothers and sisters,

In the Federal Constitution, the Malay Rulers are the Heads of State, the Heads of Islam, and the guardians of Malay customs in their respective states. The institution of the sultanate in our country is a symbol of unity, stability, and a protector of Islam. Therefore, His Royal Highness the Sultan is also the Head of Islam, who serves as the protector and is responsible for



preserving the sanctity of the religion, strengthening the propagation of Islam, and safeguarding the welfare of the people. This matter is in line with the *maqasid shariah*, which requires that religion always be preserved and defended against any threats.

In history, the institution of the Sultanate has played a major role in spreading Islam and preserving the identity of the nation. In fact, the palace was the earliest place in history to receive the arrival of Islam in the Malay Peninsula. When the Malay rulers embraced Islam, all their subjects also embraced Islam. Without the rulers, the history and identity of the Malay Muslim nation would certainly be different. Therefore, safeguarding the sovereignty of the Sultanate means preserving one of the fortresses of religion and nation in this country.

In the context of the state of Pahang, His Royal Highness the Sultan of Pahang is a ruler who is careful and patient in making decisions. He plays a significant role in safeguarding Islam and ensuring the unity of his people. For example, His Majesty often commands the people of this state to perform congregational prayers in mosques, to always preserve their faith, and to be cautious of various threats from deviant teachings. His Majesty also frequently calls upon the people to remain united by setting aside political differences. He is attentive to the welfare of his people, especially those affected by disasters such as floods, fires, accidents, and so on.

His Majesty is known as a ruler who works diligently, especially by humbling himself to visit districts and remote villages just to be close to the



people from all walks of life. It is therefore not surprising that His Majesty and the royal family are deeply loved by all the citizens.

Dear beloved brothers and sisters,

Islam forbids its followers from engaging in rebellion, incitement, and actions that could undermine the stability of a legitimate government. The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari and Imam Muslim, which means:

“Whoever obeys me has indeed obeyed Allah. Whoever disobeys me has indeed disobeyed Allah. And whoever obeys the leader has indeed obeyed me, and whoever disobeys the leader has indeed disobeyed me.”

Recently, we have seen attempts to insult or belittle the royal institution among social media users or certain groups. Some mock the royal decrees on certain issues that do not align with the preferences of some parties. Others post offensive remarks and even edit images of the Malay rulers in degrading ways merely to express anger or dissatisfaction. Such actions if committed by a citizen are highly inappropriate. Those involved should rightly face strict punishment, including the revocation of citizenship, as they have violated one of the principles of the Rukun Negara, namely “Loyalty to the King and Country.”

Dear blessed brothers and sisters,

In conjunction with the birthday anniversary of His Royal Highness the Sultan of Pahang, let us all pray that our beloved state will always be

blessed with prosperity and peace under the umbrella of a just ruler. May His Royal Highness the Sultan of Pahang and His Royal Highness the Crown Prince of Pahang always receive Allah's guidance, blessings, and direction in carrying out their duties to develop and protect this cherished state of Pahang.

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قُلِ اَللّٰهُمَّ مُلْكُ الْمَلِكِ تُؤْتِي الْمَلِكَ مَنْ تَشَاءُ وَتَنْزِعُ الْمَلِكَ مِمَّنْ تَشَاءُ وَتُعِزُّ مَنْ تَشَاءُ وَتُذِلُّ مَنْ تَشَاءُ بِيَدِكَ
الْخَيْرُ اِنَّكَ عَلٰى كُلِّ شَيْءٍ قَدِيْرٌ ۲۶

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْءَانِ الْعَظِيْمِ، وَنَفَعَنِيْ وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيْهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيْمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّيْ
وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيْعُ الْعَلِيْمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِيْ هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيْمَ لِيْ وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَانِ
الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوْهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُوْرُ الرَّحِيْمُ.