



**SERMON TEXT**  
**STATE OF PAHANG**

**MARCH 2026**

## PREPARATION FOR SYAWAL

20 MARCH 2026M | 30 RAMADAN 1447H

أَلْحَمْدُ 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  
عَبْدَهُ وَرَسُولَهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَىٰ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ  
آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَىٰ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ  
مُسْلِمُونَ.

Let us strive to increase our faith and piety towards Allah the Almighty by carrying out all His commands and avoiding all His prohibitions. May we obtain forgiveness in this world and the Hereafter.

**Dear beloved brothers and sisters**

Today is the last Friday of Ramadan. Ramadan is not merely a seasonal month of worship or an annual tradition, but rather a process of shaping the personality of a believer who is obedient, disciplined, and submissive to the commands of Allah the Almighty. Throughout Ramadan, we are trained with acts

of worship that nurture our soul and build piety. The important question we should reflect upon is whether the values and impact of Ramadan continue to live within us as we step into the month of Syawal.

Allah the Almighty says in chapter 2 (surah al-Baqarah) verse 183:

بِشَايِئِهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا كُتِبَ عَلَيْكُمُ الصِّيَامُ كَمَا كُتِبَ عَلَى الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَتَّقُونَ

**Which means:** *“O believers! Fasting is prescribed for you, as it was for those before you, so perhaps you will become mindful of Allah.”*

This verse explains that the main objective of fasting is to build a person who is pious. Therefore, the preparation for welcoming Syawal does not lie merely in new clothings, special dishes, or festive celebrations, but rather in the continuous effort to maintain the piety that has been nurtured throughout Ramadan, whether in worship, character, or relationships with fellow human beings.

**Dear beloved brothers and sisters,**

Ramadan has taught us to correct our intentions, control our desires, and draw us closer to Allah than Almighty through worship. Fasting trains patience in enduring hunger and thirst, nurtures honesty in worship, and cultivates sincerity in obedience to Allah the Almighty. Imam al-Ghazali stated:

الصَّوْمُ تَرْبِيَةٌ لِلنَّفْسِ وَكَسْرٌ لِلشَّهْوَةِ وَطَرِيقٌ إِلَى صَفَاءِ الْقَلْبِ

**Which means:** *“Fasting is an education for the soul, a breaker of desires, and a path towards purity of the heart.”*

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Among the signs that a deed is accepted is when a person is able to maintain the continuity of his worship even after Ramadan has passed. Acts such as prayer, reciting the Qur’an, giving charity, guarding the tongue, and preserving good character should not cease simply because the month of Ramadan has ended. These practices ought to become the way of life for a Muslim. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 15 (Surah al-Hijr) verse 99, which means:

*“and worship your Lord until the inevitable comes your way.”*

Hasan al\_Basri said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَمْ يَجْعَلْ لِعَمَلِ الْمُؤْمِنِ أَجَلًا دُونَ الْمَوْتِ

**Which means:** *“Indeed, Allah has not set any fixed time for the deeds of the believers except death.”*

The preparation for welcoming Syawal is also not complete without fulfilling the obligation of zakat al-fitr. Zakat al-fitr is a duty upon every capable Muslim as a purification of oneself from negligence during fasting, and as assistance to the poor and needy so that they too may share in the joy of celebrating Syawal. In a hadith narrated by Imam Abu Dawud, which means:

*The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) made zakat al-fitr obligatory as a purification for the fasting person from idle deeds and vile speech, and as provision for the poor.*

Islam celebrates joy and gratitude, but such joy must remain within the Shariah. Avoid wastefulness, free mixing, and excessive entertainment that may lead to sin and distract the heart from remembering Allah the Almighty. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 7 (Surah al-A'raf) verse 31:

وَكُلُوا وَاشْرَبُوا وَلَا تُسْرِفُوا إِنَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ

**Which means:** *“O Children of Adam! Dress properly whenever you are at worship. Eat and drink, but do not waste. Surely He does not like the wasteful.”*

**Dear beloved brothers and sisters,**

Syawal is a month of forgiveness and unity. Strengthen the bonds of kinship, visit your parents, family, and relatives. Mend any strained relationships if there are any, for therein lies the blessing of life. The Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Bukhari and Muslim, which means:

*“Whoever wishes that his provision be expanded and his life be prolonged, let him maintain the ties of kinship.”*

Imam an-Nawawi said that maintaining kinship is a cause for great reward, blessings in life, and abundance in provision.

As a conclusion to this sermon, let us take note of a few important lessons:

**First,** Ramadan is a school of spiritual training that nurtures piety, and Syawal becomes the field to prove the continuity of that piety.

**Second,** worship and righteous deeds must be continued with steadfastness throughout life.

**Third**, the joy of Syawal should be accompanied by gratitude, moderation, the fulfillment of zakat, and the strengthening of kinship.

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وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَيُقِيمُوا الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ ۚ وَذَلِكَ دِينُ الْقِيَمَةِ  
بَارِكْ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي  
وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَانِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ  
وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ