

PREPARATIONS FOR BARZAKH (LIFE IN THE GRAVE)

16 SYAWAL 1442H / MAY 28, 2021

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

وَأَشْهَدُ 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 all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As Muslims who believe in the Qur'an and *Hadith*, we must believe in *barzakh* (life in the grave).

Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 4 (*Surah An-Nisa*), verse (*ayat*) 78:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

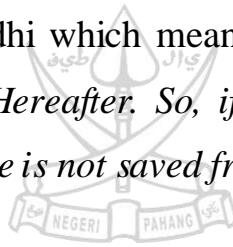
أَيُّنَمَا تَكُونُوا يُدْرِكُكُمُ الْمَوْتُ وَلَوْ كُنْتُمْ فِي بُرُوجٍ مُشِيدَةٍ ... 

Which means: “*Death will overtake you no matter where you may be, even inside high towers...*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The transition from this world to the world of *barzakh* starts when the soul separates from the body before everyone is resurrected in the field of *mahsyar*, the plains where all human souls will be gathered.

Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam al-Tirmidhi which means: “*Indeed, the grave is the first stage among the stages of the Hereafter. So, if one is saved from it, then what comes after it is easier. And if one is not saved from it, then what comes after it will be much worse.*”



When a person’s corpse is placed in a grave, two angels—Munkar and Nakir—will come to him and ask him a few questions. Whoever succeeds in this test will be safe.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

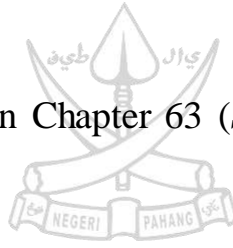
Blessings and punishments of *barzakh* will certainly be experienced by humans. Therefore, as believers, we must have faith in its existence and be prepared

with the deeds that can help us to obtain the blessings of the grave and avoid its punishment.

Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said in a *Hadith* which was narrated by Imam al-Bukhari from Anas ibn Malik (may Allah be pleased with him)

Which means: *“Three things follow a dead man. Two of them come back and one stays with him: the members of his family, wealth and his good deeds. The members of his family and wealth come back and the deeds alone are left with him.”*

Allah the Almighty mentioned in Chapter 63 (*Surah al-Munafiqun*) verse (*ayat*) 10:



أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَأَنْفِقُوا مِنْ مَّا رَزَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ قَبْلِ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ أَحَدَكُمُ الْمَوْتُ فَيَقُولَ رَبِّ

لَوْلَا أَخَّرْتَنِي إِلَىٰ أَجَلٍ قَرِيبٍ فَأَصَّدَّقَ وَأَكُن مِنَ الصَّالِحِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

Which means: *“Give out of what We have provided for you, before death comes to one of you and he says, ‘My Lord, if You would only reprieve me for a little while, I would give in charity and become one of the righteous.’”*

بَارِكْ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعْنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ آيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ،

وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي

وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ

الرَّحِيمُ.

