

1	 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>STRIVING AGAINST WRONGDOINGS</b> 12 February 2016AD / 3 Jamadilawwal 1437H</p>
2	<p style="text-align: center;">الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي عَلَّمَ وَأَنْعَمَ، وَهَدَانَا بِالْقُرْآنِ لِلَّتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ،</p>
3	<p style="text-align: center;">قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">لُعِنَ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ بَنِي إِسْرَائِيلَ عَلَى لِسَانِ دَاوُدَ وَعِيسَى ابْنِ مَرْيَمَ ذَلِكَ بِمَا عَصَوْا وَكَانُوا يَعْتَدُونَ ﴿٧٨﴾ كَانُوا لَا يَتَنَاهَوْنَ عَنْ مُنْكَرٍ فَعَلُوهُ لَبِئْسَ مَا كَانُوا يَفْعَلُونَ ﴿٧٩﴾</p>
4	<p style="text-align: center;">أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ،</p>
5	<p style="text-align: center;">اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ، وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.</p>
6	<p style="text-align: center;">أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ وَطَاعَتِهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ، وَتَزَوَّدُوا فَإِنَّ خَيْرَ الزَّادِ التَّقْوَى، وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ يَا أُولِي الْأَلْبَابِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ.</p>
7	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, On this blessed day, let us together increase our conviction in Allah SWT by performing all His commands and abandoning all that He has prohibited, in the hopes of achieving good in this world and in the hereafter.</p>
8	<p>The world today is witnessing the viral spread of wrongdoing and evil in all aspects of human life. Whether we realise it or not, sooner or later, such wrongdoings invite calamity on the individual, family, community, country,</p>



	and even the world.
9	Thus, the <i>khatib</i> today shall deliver a sermon titled " <b>Striving Against Wrongdoings</b> ".
10	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, It is by nature that there are opposites to everything. The struggle between good and evil, right and wrong, has occurred since the creation of man. Munkar, or wrongdoing, generally involves all the things that are denied, forbidden, with the perpetrators being condemned by Allah SWT, whilst also included within that are all forms of disobedience, heresy and tyranny that invite the anger of Allah SWT. The effect of any wrongdoing is significant in public life, to the point that a reminder is given by Allah SWT to us, the people living at the end of times.
11	Let us ponder upon what was stated by Allah SWT at the beginning of this sermon, which are the seventy-eight (78 <sup>th</sup> ) and seventy-ninth (79 <sup>th</sup> ) verses of Surah al-Maidah:  Which means: " <i>Curses were pronounced on those among the Children of Israil who rejected faith, by the tongue of David and of Jesus, the son of Mary: because they disobeyed and persisted in excesses. Nor did they (usually) forbid one another the immoralities which they committed: evil indeed were the deeds which they did.</i> "
12	According to al-Maraghi, Allah SWT had cursed the unbelievers among the Children of Israil who went against the Book of Psalms and the Bible. They were cursed because of their attitude of continuously committing sin and going against the prohibitions of the religion. Moreover, it became a habit for them not to prevent those who did wrong, even if it was very dangerous and despicable.
13	Fighting or preventing wrongdoing is a step in preserving the sanctity of Islam and maintaining good morals from being influenced by negative elements. When the influence of religion fades from people's hearts, they



	will look down on the teachings Islam and will have the insolence to display their wrongdoings, encouraging others in the society to follow their lead in committing wrongdoings, which in turn will contribute to the decay and destruction within the society.
14	The verses above contains a threat against those who commit transgressions, through their undesirable behaviour, and then refusing to stop committing such acts. The verses teach us that Muslims should never follow such behaviour. Even worse, the oral advice of earlier Prophets, which were originally intended to save them, were changed to words that destroy them, due to their extreme refusal to stop performing wrongdoings.
15	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Humans are social beings who cannot live individually. The measure of a man is how his environment and society influences him. Thus, Islam emphasizes on the responsibility of each individual in developing and improving his society.
16	Muslims are not taught to ignore and simply observe the occurrence of evil around them. If they choose to close their eyes and do nothing to stop the wrongdoings, they are also threatened with retribution from Allah SWT.
17	As stated by Allah SWT in verse 25, Surah al-Anfal: <p style="text-align: center;">وَاتَّقُوا فِتْنَةً لَا تُصِيبَنَّ الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا مِنْكُمْ خَاصَّةً وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّ اللَّهَ شَدِيدُ الْعِقَابِ ﴿٢٥﴾</p> Which means: <i>“And beware of that temptation to evil which does not befall only those among you who are bent on denying the truth, to the exclusion of others; and know that God is severe in retribution”</i>
18	The verse is a warning to Believers and Muslims that tribulations and retribution from Allah SWT will come as a result of human actions that are wrong and unjust. However, retribution does not only happen to them, but also to the people around them who are ignorant in preventing the



	wrongdoings. It is like a homeowner who does not take any action when termites consume the foundations of his house.
19	It will come to a point in time when the damage is beyond repair, and the foundations are weakened, the house will ultimately collapse even if there are bottles of termite poison placed underneath. Accordingly, if a man is willing to commit evil and injustice brazenly, then what is the reason for us, in front of Allah SWT, not to prevent and stop such person? It is impossible to expect wrongdoings and evil to disappear by itself without any effort to prevent and stop them.
20	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Many ancient stories remind us, especially with regards to the attitude and character of the <i>Bani Israil</i> , or Children of Israil. The Al-Quran describes them as a people who often disobeyed Allah SWT and continuously go against the Prophets. In addition, only a small group of them make the effort to prevent wrongdoings.
21	The Children of Israil were commanded by Allah SWT to make Saturday a special day of worship for Allah SWT. On that day, Allah SWT forbade them from doing certain things, such as fishing and eating fish. However, the instruction was violated by the residents of a village near the sea of Madyan.
22	One resident deceitfully caught fish on Saturday and his actions were followed by other villagers. Warnings and advice given by a small group of residents were ignored by them, and eventually actions violating the commandments of Allah SWT became rampant. Finally, Allah SWT brought upon them divine retribution by turning them into apes.
23	This incident is told by Allah SWT, in Surah Al-Baqarah, verse 65:  وَلَقَدْ عَلِمْتُمُ الَّذِينَ اعْتَدَوْا مِنْكُمْ فِي السَّبْتِ فَقُلْنَا لَهُمْ كُونُوا قِرَدَةً خَاسِئِينَ



	<p>Which means: “<i>And you well knew those amongst you who transgressed in the matter of the Sabbath; We said to them: "Become apes, despised and rejected."</i></p>
24	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Our ambition is to achieve a country, society, family and self who are free from any disobedience towards Allah SWT. We are not willing to let our morals and our culture, our sports, our industry, our economy, our laws to be unjust. We cannot expect transgressions, be it in the social, political, education and other realms to be removed without any effort to prevent them. All these responsibilities are not only responsibilities of certain parties and authorities, it is also the obligation and responsibility of every man who claims to have faith in Allah SWT and His Messenger.</p>
25	<p>The <i>Mimbar</i> takes this opportunity to invite today’s congregation to be steadfast in upholding the good and rejecting evil, or <i>amar ma’ruf nahi munkar</i>, for the sake of ensuring the country's Muslims are protected from Allah SWT’s punishment. Hopefully, with such efforts, we shall create an Islamic society that shall eventually ensure our beloved Malaysia will always be peaceful, prosperous and safe. Let us maintain our social harmony and avoid any act or wrongdoing that can cause chaos in our society.</p>
26	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, To end today’s sermon, let us together reflect on these conclusions as a reminder and to secure rewards in the Hereafter:</p> <p><b>First:</b> A society that does nothing to prevent evil or wrongdoing from happening around them invites censure and punishment from Allah SWT.</p> <p><b>Second:</b> The threat of censure and punishment from Allah SWT equally involves those who are indifferent or refuses to help prevent any</p>



	wrongdoing. <b>Third:</b> Efforts to eradicate evil or wrongdoings begin with each individual, family, as well as the society.
27	As stated by Allah SWT in verse 21, Surah al-Nur: <p style="text-align: right;">أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p> <p>يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ وَمَنْ يَتَّبِعْ خُطُوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ فَإِنَّهُ يَأْمُرُ بِالْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَلَوْلَا فَضْلُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَرَحْمَتُهُ مَا زَكَا مِنْكُمْ مِنْ أَحَدٍ أَبَدًا وَلَكِنَّ اللَّهَ يُزَكِّي مَنْ يَشَاءُ وَاللَّهُ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢١﴾</p>
28	Which means: "O, you who believe! Follow not Satan's footsteps: if any will follow the footsteps of Satan he will (but) command what is shameful and wrong: and were it not for the grace and mercy of Allah on you not one of you would ever have been pure: but Allah does purify whom He pleases: and Allah is One Who hears and knows (all things)".
29	<p>بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ بِالْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلَ هَذَا وَاسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمُ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، بِرَحْمَتِكَ يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ. فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ .</p>