



1	 <p style="text-align: center;">AL-QURAN: THE DIVINE REVELATION 17 June 2016AD / 12 Ramadhan 1437H</p>
2	<p>أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي ضَاعَفَ الْأَجْرَ بِتِلَاوَةِ الْقُرْآنِ، وَأَسْعَدَ مَنْ فِي الْقُبُورِ بِقِرَاءَةِ الْقُرْآنِ، وَأَسْكَنَ صُدُورَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ بِتِلَاوَةِ الْقُرْآنِ، وَيُشْفَعُ يَوْمَ الْحَشْرِ مَنْ قَرَأَ الْقُرْآنَ.</p>
3	<p>قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ فِي رَيْبٍ مِمَّا نَزَّلْنَا عَلَىٰ عَبْدِنَا فَأْتُوا بِسُورَةٍ مِثْلِهِ وَادْعُوا شُهَدَاءَكُمْ مِنْ دُونِ اللَّهِ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ صَادِقِينَ ﴿٢٣﴾</p>
4	<p>أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدَهُ وَرَسُولَهُ،</p>
5	<p>اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَىٰ سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.</p>
6	<p>أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.</p>
7	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Be thankful that at this moment in time we are still given the opportunity by Allah SWT to continue to enjoy our life in faith, and to continue living in peace, while many among our Muslim brothers and sisters who still live in miserable and appalling conditions. Therefore, let us all affirm our thanks and gratefulness to ensure our continuous conviction to Allah SWT with the truest of convictions. Do what He has commanded and avoid all that He has</p>



	prohibited, for the sake of our faith in Allah the Almighty.
8	We are all fortunate indeed to be the <i>ummah</i> of Rasulullah SAW, who are not only provided with the Sunnah of Rasulullah SAW as a guide to life, but are also supplied with <i>Al-Quran-ul-Karim</i> as a book of guidance that we can see, read, understand and reflect upon in our pursuit of rewards and blessings from Allah SWT.
9	Thus, in conjunction with the upcoming <i>Nuzul Quran</i> , let us reflect upon the sermon today entitled: " <i>Al-Quran: The Divine Revelation</i> ".
10	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Let us look out, and see the problems and disasters that are affecting us today. Moral decadence among the Muslim community, the emergence of various religious ideologies and distorted beliefs, the crime of rape, incest and adultery, have almost become mandatory headlines in the media on an everyday basis. Similarly, drug abuse, abuse of power, corruption and so on, are becoming rampant. All of them are like a virus that is progressively growing, like a cancer in our society. If we continue to neglect and to stray into the currents of these evil and wrongdoings, then just wait for the punishment from Allah SWT.
11	Allah SWT has created nature and mankind in perfect form. The creation of man as vicegerent on this earth is accompanied by examples and instructions. Prophets have been sent time and again to groups of people over the course of history, to guide them, bringing to them books of revelations that are complete with guidelines and references to assist and help the followers. We are the people of the Holy Prophet Muhammad SAW who had brought with him <i>Al Quran-ul-Karim</i> .
12	With their presence, we should be capable of being faithful servants of Allah SWT, as indicated in Surah Al-Baqarah verses 1-3: الرَّ ۝۱ ذَٰلِكَ الْكِتَٰبُ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ هُدًى لِّلْمُتَّقِينَ ۝۲ الَّذِينَ يُؤْمِنُونَ بِالْغَيْبِ



	 وَيَقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَمِمَّا رَزَقْنَاهُمْ يُنْفِقُونَ
13	<p>Which means: <i>“Alif, Lam, Meem. This is the Book; in it is guidance sure, without doubt, to those who fear Allah; Who believe in the unseen, establish prayer, and spend out of what We have provided for them.”</i></p>
14	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</p> <p>The culture of appreciating and reflecting upon the contents of the Al-Quran flourishes in our society today. Many organised official events begin with the recital of verses from the Al-Quran and its translation. This practice should be commended and encouraged to continue, especially in mosques. Of course, the recitation of the Al-Qur'an, and the classes on <i>tajwid</i> and interpretation of the Al-Quran are like <i>‘peas in a pod’</i> that cannot be separated.</p>
15	<p>Even more so when it is in the month of Ramadan. There are those among us who have not touched the Al-Quran in the other 11 months, but suddenly seek to find solace in the Al-Quran during the month of Ramadan. It is as if only in this month alone the Al-Quran should be read.</p>
16	<p>But, many questions arise, such as: are the existence of a variety of appreciative efforts enough to make us faithful servants who are full of conviction towards Allah SWT? Is this seasonal appreciation able to act as a vaccine to overcome the virus that is festering in our society?</p>
17	<p>Imagine that we are served with a variety of delicious and nutritious food. But, it is only served for us to view, but not to touch or to consume. It is impossible for the body to absorb nutrients and benefits of the food by just looking at it! Instead, a meal should be eaten and digested to receive all its benefit.</p>
18	<p>So too is the case with the appreciation of the Al-Quran. We cannot only read and listen to the Al-Quran alone, but it must be accompanied by an understanding of the contents. Next, we must ponder, reflect and practice what is learnt, continuously, rather than seasonally.</p>



19	<p>Only then shall we achieve what is promised by Allah SWT in Surah Al-Ankabut verse 45:</p> <p>أَتْلُ مَا أُوحِيَ إِلَيْكَ مِنَ الْكِتَابِ وَأَقِمِ الصَّلَاةَ لِابْتِغَاءِ الصَّلَاةِ تَنْهَى عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَصْنَعُونَ ﴿٤٥﴾</p>
20	<p>Which means: “Recite, [O Muhammad], what has been revealed to you of the Al-Quran and establish prayer. Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater. And Allah knows that which you do.”</p>
21	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, The revelation of the Al-Quran, adds value and builds quality human capital through a person’s better appreciation and understanding of the Al-Quran. It will place such person among the ‘Al-Muhsinin’ or among “those who love to do good deeds”.</p>
22	<p>In addition to calls to appreciate the values contained in the Al-Qur’an, there are also calls for the verses of the Al-Quran to be studied and examined, as the knowledge and understanding gathered from the contents would be able to produce awareness and intelligence, known as ‘Ulul Albab’ (people of wisdom). This has been proven by Muslim scientists and scholars who had created and found new discoveries, in fields such as astronomy, medicine, chemistry, mathematics and so on.</p>
23	<p>Similarly, there are also Muslim scholars and scientists who study plants, the animal kingdom, languages, and many others. Muslim scientists such as Ibn Rushd, Ibn Sina, Ibn Khaldun, al-Khawarizmi, al-Kindi and others, are towering names in the history of Islamic excellence.</p>
24	<p>But, the brilliance and civilized society pioneered by Muslims in the past is now only a distant memory. There is no continuity that can be inherited by Muslims today. Everything needs be studied again through the progress and</p>



	<p>modernity of the West. This fact cannot be denied and the reason for it is because it is Muslims who continuously entangle themselves in conflicts and disputes, following tribal mentality, lacking the spirit of unity which render them weak, uncompetitive, devoid of strength, and finally becoming conquered by others.</p>
25	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, On this blessed day let us now ponder and reflect for a moment. Have we placed the Al-Quran at the level it deserves? We are blessed and provided with 24 hours a day in our lives. How many minutes of that time do we assign and spend to read and to appreciate the <i>Al-Quran-ul-Kareem</i>?</p>
26	<p>Do we allocate enough time to be with it and to appreciate it, or are we spending more time checking Facebook updates, Twitter, Instagram and other social media applications that deceive and expose us to slander and defamation that is more rampant and prevalent now? If we read the Al-Quran, do we understand the meaning of the verses? If it is understood, do we obey and reflect on the essence of the verses?</p>
27	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, We, as followers of Prophet Muhammad SAW, a Prophet who was sent to us together with the Al-Qur'an as a guide, should not confine or limit the use of the Al-Quran only as a decoration on our walls or cabinets, or only to be read seasonally. It should be a catalyst for excellence in the community, as enjoyed by Muslims in the past. The glory achieved by Muslims back then was due to them embracing the teachings of the Al-Quran in their daily lives.</p>
28	<p>Therefore, to restore the goals and real objectives of the Al-Quran that was revealed to mankind, let us reflect upon the conclusions that can be drawn from the sermon on this blessed day:</p> <p>First: The Al-Quran, which is the words of Allah SWT, is the greatest gift bestowed upon us as guidance and reference in our pursuit of His blessings and rewards;</p>



	<p>Second: Appreciating the contents of the Al-Quran should be done with sincerity and perseverance in order to obtain His mercy and blessings; and</p> <p>Third: The Al-Quran is not just to be merely read and understood, but more importantly, it is for us to comply with the orders contained within it and to make it as a guide and rule of life.</p>
29	<p>Allah SWT declared in Surah Al-Isra', verse 9:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p> <p>إِنَّ هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ يَهْدِي لِلَّتِي هِيَ أَقْوَمُ وَيُبَشِّرُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ الَّذِينَ يَعْمَلُونَ الصَّالِحَاتِ أَنَّ لَهُمْ أَجْرًا كَبِيرًا ﴿٩﴾</p>
30	<p>Which means: “Verily this Al-Qur'an does guide to that which is most right (or stable) of Islam, and given the Glad Tidings to the Believers who work deeds of righteousness, that they shall have a magnificent reward.”</p>
31	<p>بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ بِالْقُرْآنِ 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 الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُنَّ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.</p>