
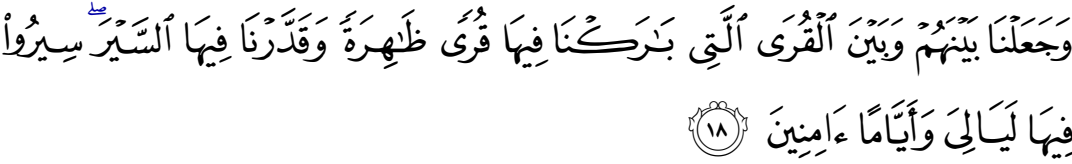




1	 <p style="text-align: center;">PLEASANT CITY PROSPEROUS CITIZENS <i>IN CONJUNCTION WITH FEDERAL TERRITORIES DAY</i> 3 February 2017AD / 6 Jamadilawal 1438H</p>
2	<p>إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ، نَحْمَدُهُ وَنُسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَنَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَسَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا، مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَهُوَ الْمُهْتَدِ وَمَنْ يُضِلَّهُ فَلَنْ تَجِدَ لَهُ وِليًا مُرْشِدًا.</p>
3	<p>أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ،</p>
4	<p>اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى نَبِيِّنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ دَعَا بِدَعْوَتِهِ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.</p>
5	<p>أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَنَفْسِي بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ وَطَاعَتِهِ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَقْلِحُونَ.</p>
6	<p>قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ لَقَدْ كَانَ لِسَبَإٍ فِي مَسْكِنِهِمْ آيَةٌ جَنَّتَانِ عَنْ يَمِينٍ وَشِمَالٍ كُلُوا مِنْ رِزْقِ رَبِّكُمْ وَأَشْكُرُوا لَهُ. بَلَدَةٌ طَيِّبَةٌ وَرَبُّ غَفُورٌ</p>
7	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, On this auspicious day, let us together nurture the faith and conviction within us by carrying out the commands of Allah SWT, and by casting aside what He has prohibited. Indeed, the best provisions for us for our journey to the Hereafter is a good supply of conviction and faith.</p> <p>The 1st of February in each year has been chosen as Federal Territories Day, to commemorate the formation of the Federal Territory 43 years ago.</p>



8	Accordingly, the sermon today will touch on the topic, “ Pleasant City, Properous Citizens ”.
9	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</p> <p>As citizens of Malaysia, we must surely dream of achieving prosperity and security in this nation. But we wonder, what are the types of auspicious elements which should exist within a nation? What are the characteristics associated with them?</p>
10	<p>A description of the auspicious elements of a nation and its residents have been explained by Allah SWT in Sura Saba ', verse 18:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  </p>
11	<p>Which means: “Between them and the Cities on which We had poured our blessings, We had placed Cities in prominent positions, and between them We had appointed stages of journey in due proportion: "Travel therein, secure, by night and by day."</p>
12	<p>According to Ibnu Kathir <i>rahimahullah</i>, this verse tells what the residents of a city receives in the form of pleasure, luxury, peace and prosperity as well as the towns nearby where the plants and fruits are in abundance, so that travellers can rest and stay in such prosperous city. Praise be to Allah SWT, for if we realise, most of these favours and blessings of Allah SWT have already been received by us today.</p>
13	<p>Therefore, we should be thankful to Allah SWT and at the same time request that these favours be maintained, or even increased, in the future. Of course, the best displays of gratitude should be followed by observations of practices and supplications to Allah SWT, which includes making efforts to maintain peace and harmony by following the guidance given by Allah SWT.</p>
14	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</p> <p>A city or a town is a place with a high number of people, as well as containing central administrative institutions and economic activities, and Islam</p>



	<p>encourages for such city or town to be developed. City life should be based on the al-Quran and as-Sunnah. With that, Muslims shall be able to produce a variety of political, economic and social institutions which could help them to become a civil society.</p>
15	<p>A noble and good leadership is also a key element in securing the prosperity of a nation. In the Federal Territories, for example, we are grateful and fortunate enough to be blessed with able leaders, especially His Majesty the Yang DiPertuan Agong, who shoulders the responsibility of being the head of religious affairs of our nation. With His Majesty's excellent personal morals, affinity to the people and magnanimity, he should be a good example for every citizen to emulate. A leader with strong religious soul and heart is a precious gift from Allah SWT to the people.</p>
16	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, In an effort to strengthen and develop the city and the nation we love, there are some fundamental matters that form the basic requirements that we must pay attention to. One important issue to note is the inability to own an affordable houses and the difficulty of finding a place to stay. This happens especially among the younger generation who have just begun their careers and are in the early stages of married life.</p>
17	<p>Financial constraints with various commitments contributes to making the situation worse. As a result, there is an uneven distribution of population with the existence of illegal squatters and slums, the spread of epidemics, uncleanness and unhygienic conditions, and so on. This should not be taken lightly and must be solved immediately.</p>
18	<p>In fact, efforts towards solving problems that exist within the city have been carried out from time to time. To address the issue of citizens unable to afford houses of their own, for example, the Federal Territories Ministry has taken the initiative to build affordable houses under the Federal Territories Affordable Homes ((RUMAWIP) programme. This would ensure low and middle income citizens can afford to own a house. What remains to be seen is our sensitivity to volunteer assisting the authorities in addressing this matter.</p>



19	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</p> <p>The next thing that should be considered is the efforts to unite the people, especially Muslims. Disunity and divisions in the Muslim community should be avoided, especially in our quest to create a prosperous Federal Territory. These efforts require a continuous process of education and the role largely played by institutions such as mosques.</p>
20	<p>Therefore, Muslims are urged to be level-headed, by avoiding the practice of partisan politics in mosques. The mosque is actually an institution to unite the people, and not otherwise. Any <i>da'wah</i> effort that adopts an astute approach will increase the number of visitors and add to the congregation.</p>
21	<p>Similarly, outside the mosque, people should adopt a moderate, wise and level-headed attitude towards politics. Being too extreme or blindly following others would lead to a fragmented society as well as exposing the immaturity of its citizens. In order to avoid discord, dissent or political differences, Muslims need to adopt a tolerant attitude and respect for others.</p>
22	<p>This recommendation comes from Allah SWT, through Surah al-Nur, verse 22.</p> <p>وَلَا يَأْتَلِ أُولُو الْفَضْلِ مِنْكُمْ وَالسَّعَةِ أَنْ يُؤْتُوا أُولِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْمُهَاجِرِينَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَلْيَعْفُوا وَلْيَصْفَحُوا أَلَا تُحِبُّونَ أَنْ يَغْفِرَ اللَّهُ لَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ</p>
23	<p>Which means: “Let not those among you who are endowed with grace and amplitude of means resolve by oath against helping their kinsmen, those in want, and those who have left their homes in Allah's cause: let them forgive and overlook, do you not wish that Allah should forgive you? For Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.”</p>
24	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</p> <p>Inviting towards good and preventing evil is a religious obligation, either by an individual or a leader. Disobedience and vice among citizens should be prevented from continuing to spread. Thus, citizens of the Federal Territories should cooperate in the Operation to Curb Illegal Activities (or OPS BAH) run</p>



	by the government. The effort aims to combat vice activities, gambling and so on.
25	Another factor that should be brought to the attention of the citizens is the issue of homeless people. Society should play its role in helping the homeless through proper channels. Additionally, they should be given encouragement and be made aware of more comfortable and proper accommodations, such as the Homeless Transit Centre.
26	Similarly, begging and vagrancy activities which are prevalent around eateries is unhealthy and is becoming prevalent in recent years. It has given a bad image to our country. Accordingly, the general public must also play its role in eradicating such begging activities. This awareness must be spread to all so that the Federal Territory shall remain cheerful and pleasant for everyone.
27	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, The main issue that should be addressed together by all inhabitants of the Federal Territories is the issue of cleanliness of the cities and also the towns surrounding them. Among the areas of focus are food stalls, night markets, farmers' markets, daily markets and so on. It implicitly reflects the level of consciousness, thinking, attitude and culture of the inhabitants.
28	Thus, appropriate action should be taken by every citizen to ensure that the Federal Territories are clean and prosperous. Isn't maintaining cleanliness and purity a religious requirement?
29	Imam al-Bukhari <i>rahimahullah</i> recorded a narration by 'Alqamah bin Abdillah RA, where Rasulullah SAW was reported to have said: <p style="text-align: center;">حَيِّ عَلَى الطَّهْرِ الْمُبَارَكِ وَالْبِرِّكَةِ مِنَ اللَّهِ</p> Which means: "Come towards cleanliness with all the blessings and the blessings come (only) from Allah"
30	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, To end today's sermon, the <i>khatib</i> would like to present some conclusions for us to reflect upon, and to use as provisions for our journey to the Hereafter:



	<p>First: The prosperity and tranquillity of the Federal Territories are graces and blessings from Allah SWT.</p> <p>Second: The basics of urban development is to invite people towards good and to prevent what is wrong.</p> <p>Third: The community and the authorities should be united in efforts to maintain peace and harmony in the Federal Territories.</p>
31	<p>Allah SWT declared in Surah al-Nahl, verse 112:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p> <p>وَضَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا قَرْيَةً كَانَتْ ءَامِنَةً مُطْمَئِنَّةً يَأْتِيهَا رِزْقُهَا رَغَدًا مِنْ كُلِّ مَكَانٍ فَكَفَرَتْ بِأَنْعُمِ اللَّهِ فَأَذَقَهَا اللَّهُ لِبَاسَ الْجُوعِ وَالْخَوْفِ بِمَا كَانُوا يَصْنَعُونَ ﴿١١٢﴾</p>
32	<p>Which means: “Allah sets forth a Parable: a city enjoying security and quiet, abundantly supplied with sustenance from every place: Yet was it ungrateful for the favours of Allah: so Allah made it taste of hunger and terror (in extremes) (closing in on it) like a garment (from every side), because of the (evil) which (its people) wrought.”</p>
33	<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 مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.</p>