


1	 <p style="text-align: center;">BEING RESPECTFUL IN THE HOUSE OF ALLAH 7 April 2017AD / 10 Rejab 1438H</p>
2	<p>إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ، مُحَمَّدُهُ وَنُسْتَعِينَهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَنَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَسَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا، مَنْ يَهْدِ اللَّهُ فَهُوَ الْمُهْتَدِ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ فَلَنْ تَجِدَ لَهُ وَلِيًّا 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 تَفْلِحُونَ.</p>
6	<p>قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ وَقَضَى رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا إِمَّا يَبُلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا أَلْفٌ وَلَا نَنْهَرُهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا ﴿٢٣﴾</p>
7	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Let us together increase the level of our conviction in Allah SWT by performing all His commandments and staying away from all that He has forbade us from pursuing. May we attain success and happiness in this world and in the Hereafter.</p>



8	The topic for the sermon today is, “ While We Are Still Alive ”.
9	Before we conclude the sermon today, the <i>mimbar</i> would like to take the opportunity, in conjunction with the Silver Jubilee of Baitulmal Professional Institute of the Federal Territories Islamic Religious Council (MAIWP) which shall be celebrated on 23 rd of April 2017, to ask for everyone to provide their utmost support and prayers so that the said education institution shall continue to be progressive and provide the best education to our community, based on <i>Maqasid Syar’iyyah</i> ,in the Federal Territories and in Malaysia.
10	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, When was the last time we saw the faces of our parents? Do we still remember the last words they said to us? Today, we may turn out to be a successful entrepreneur, a great lecturer, a respected leader of the community, a dedicated worker, or a stellar student.
11	Alhamdulillah, all such blessings are from Allah SWT. But, what we must realise is that the greatest obligation for a servant of Allah SWT, after obeying Him and His Prophet, is the obligation of fulfilling the rights of parents.
12	Allah SWT declared in surah al-Nisaa’, verse 36, as follows: <p style="text-align: center;">وَأَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا^ط وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا</p> Which means: “Serve Allah, and join not any partners with Him; and do good to parents...”



13	<p>In that verse, Allah SWT explained the obligation of a child to serve his parents, after it has been demonstrated how great their sacrifices and deeds were, especially the mother who went through all sorts of difficulty through her pregnancy and labour. Therefore, a wise person would not forget the good deeds others have done to him, even more so the deeds his own of parents to whom he should owe his very own existence.</p>
14	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Rasulullah SAW mentioned the great importance of serving our parents. In fact, it is greater than performing jihad for Allah SWT.</p>
15	<p>This was recorded by Imam al-Bukhari from Abdullah Ibn Mas`ud RA, where Rasulullah SAW was reported to have said:</p> <p>سَأَلْتُ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ: أَيُّ الْعَمَلِ أَحَبُّ إِلَى اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى وَقْتِهَا. قَالَ: ثُمَّ أَيُّ؟ قَالَ: ثُمَّ بِرُّ الْوَالِدَيْنِ. قَالَ: ثُمَّ أَيُّ؟ قَالَ: الْجِهَادُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ.</p>
16	<p>Which means: <i>“I asked the Prophet SAW, “What deed is most loved by Allah SWT?” He answered, “Performing Solat on time.” I asked further, “And what else after that?” He answered, “Serving your parents.” I asked again, “And what else after that?” He answered, “And after that, performing for the sake of Allah.”</i></p>
17	<p>The obligation to serve our parents is not limited by time and place, or during times of ease or difficulty. In fact, Allah SWT commanded His servants to serve and perform good deeds for parents even if, say for example, the parents are still not Muslims yet, for as long</p>



	as they do not force the Muslim child to commit <i>syirk</i> , namely to associate partners with Allah SWT.
18	Verse 15 of Surah Luqman explains this: وَإِنْ جَاهَدَاكَ عَلَىٰ أَنْ تُشْرِكَ بِي مَا لَيْسَ لَكَ بِهِ عِلْمٌ فَلَا تُطِعْهُمَا وَصَاحِبُهُمَا فِي الدُّنْيَا مَعْرُوفًا
19	Which means: <i>“But if they strive to make you join in worship with Me things of which you have no knowledge, obey them not; yet bear them company in this life with justice (and consideration)...”</i>
20	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Actually, we can serve our parents in many ways. How wonderful indeed if we are able to lighten the burden of our parents by helping them to finish household chores or to provide whatever they require, to speak to them in the best possible way which would ease their hearts. We could also ask for their blessings before embarking on a task and would look at them in the best possible way and give them our best expression.
21	Serving our parents is also not limited to when they are both alive, but may also extend to after they have passed on, as we may still continue the good deeds done by our parents by continuing their acts of charity, helping those in need and supplicating for them wholeheartedly.
22	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Let us together realise and assess ourselves with various happenings in the community lately. There are those among us who are willing to send parents who are already very old to charity



	homes and old folks' homes. The underlying reason for the ungrateful children to do such things is due to the so-called lack of time to take care of their parents, and being too busy managing their own careers and families.
23	We must remember! If speaking to our parents with a very harsh tone is already forbidden, certainly acting against the norms determined by our religion and customs would not be tolerated at all!
24	Remember the words of Allah SWT in Surah al-Isra', verse 23: إِمَّا يَبْلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا أُفٍّ وَلَا نَهْرَهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا ﴿٢٣﴾
25	Which means: "Your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you be kind to parents. Whether one or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of contempt, nor repel them, but address them in terms of honour."
26	The <i>mimbar</i> would like to share the story of a very pious man named Juraij who lived during the time of Bani Israil, who acted in a way that pained his mother. Abu Hurairah RA recorded Rasulullah SAW as saying that one day Juraij's mother had come to his place of worship and called him many times in the hope that Juraij would come out to see her and talk to her. But, Juraij still wanted to continue with his solat and did not heed his mother's calls.



27	One day, an adulterous woman accused Juraij of being the father of her baby which was born out of wedlock. And so, many people wanted to catch Juraij and punish him. Finally, Juraij put his hands on the baby's head and asked, " <i>O, child, who is your father?</i> " The baby replied, " <i>My father is the goad herder!</i> "
28	Juraij was saved by the will of Allah SWT, but his house was destroyed and his name was somewhat smeared due to the allegation of adultery. The hadith was recorded by al-Bukhari and Muslim.
29	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Remember that one of the keys to Paradise is by serving our parents and to never be insolent with them. Never ever cause them to feel slighted even for a bit.
30	Indeed, our parents could care for ten children with great patience and forbearance until we are all adults and achieve successes. But, those same ten children cannot guarantee that they can take care of their parents with patience and forbearance.
31	Have we perhaps made our parents feel sad and miserable? Have we performed their wishes? Have we ever told them untruths?
32	Let us quickly ask for forgiveness from them, especially while they are now still alive. Supplicate for them at all possible times. Remember, Allah SWT's acceptance of us depends on the acceptance of our parents.
33	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, The takeaways from the <i>mimbar</i> this Friday are as follows: First: Islam holds in high regard the position of parents.



	<p>Second: It is an obligation for a child to take care, and to respect, parents, especially those parents who are sick and frail.</p> <p>Third: Guard our words, our acts and our attitude towards our parents, for Allah SWT's acceptance of us depends on our parents' acceptance.</p>
34	<p>Allah SWT decreed in Surah Luqman, verse 14:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِوَالِدَيْهِ حَمَلَتْهُ أُمُّهُ وَهْنًا عَلَى وَهْنٍ وَفِصَالُهُ فِي عَامَيْنِ أَنْ أَشْكُرَ لِي وَلِوَالِدَيْكَ إِلَى الْمَصِيرِ ﴿١٤﴾</p>
35	<p>Which means: "And We have enjoined on man (to be good) to his parents: in travail upon travail did his mother bear him, and in years twain was his weaning: (hear the command), "Show gratitude to Me and to your parents: to Me is (your final) Goal."</p>
36	<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>