








1	 <p style="text-align: center;">COMBATANTS MAY FALL, BUT THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES <i>In Conjunction with Warrior's Day 2017</i> 28 July 2017AD / 4 Zulkaedah 1438H</p>
2	<p>إِنَّ الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ، مُحَمَّدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينَهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَتَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ 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 تُفْلِحُونَ.</p>
6	<p>قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ يَتَأْتِيهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِذَا لَقِيْتُمْ فِئَةً فَاثْبُتُوا وَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا لَعَلَّكُمْ تُفْلِحُونَ ﴿٤٥﴾</p>
7	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, On this auspicious day, let us take the opportunity to increase the level of our conviction in Allah SWT. Fulfil all His commands and instructions, and avoid all that He has prohibited and disallowed. May we be raised among the righteous ones on the Day of Judgement.</p>
8	<p>Warriors Day in our country is celebrated every 31st of July. This is to commemorate the services and sacrifices of all our security personnel. This celebration is also in line with the Islamic practice which requires us to always offer thanks and appreciate all the services and sacrifices performed by others, as a sign of our gratitude to Allah SWT. With regards to this, today's</p>



	sermon shall discuss the topic, “Combatants May Fall, But The Struggle Continues”.
9	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Every stable nation will definitely focus on the security and peace of its people by establishing security forces such as the police and the military.
10	They become the main defender of the nation in protecting the security and peace of the nation from intrusions and harassments.
11	History has proven the struggles and the sacrifices made by our security forces in defending our nation’s sovereignty, maintaining peace, combating terrorism, and so on.
12	It began long before we gained our independence, and has continued right up to this day. The efforts were neither simple nor insignificant. In fact, it involved bloodshed and the loss of lives.
13	In Islam, warriors and heroes are those who struggle to defend, uphold and exalt the religion of Allah SWT.
14	Imam al-Bukhari Rahimahullah recorded a hadith narrated by Abu Musa al-Asy'ari RA, where it was reported as follows: جَاءَ رَجُلٌ إِلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَ: الرَّجُلُ يُقَاتِلُ حِمِيَّةً وَيُقَاتِلُ شَجَاعَةً وَيُقَاتِلُ رِيَاءً، فَأَيُّ ذَلِكَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: مَنْ قَاتَلَ لِتَكُونَ كَلِمَةُ اللَّهِ هِيَ الْعُلْيَا، فَهُوَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ. (رواه البخاري)
15	Which means: “A man came to Rasulallah SAW and said: ‘There are men who fight for fanaticism, as well as those who fight for fame, and also those who fight to show off. Which of these is fighting in Allah’s Cause (fi sabilillah)?’ The Prophet SAW replied: ‘He who fights so that Allah’s Word (Islam) becomes superior then he is the one fighting in Allah’s Cause.’ ”
16	Therefore, Allah SWT glorifies the warriors who die solely in their quest to further the commands of Allah SWT
17	As confirmed in Surah al-Baqarah, verse 154:

	<p style="text-align: center;">  وَلَا نَقُولُوا لِمَنْ يُقْتَلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ أَمُوتَ بَلْ أَحْيَاءٌ وَلَكِنْ لَا تَشْعُرُونَ </p> <p>Which means: “And do not say about those who are killed in the way of Allah, “They are dead.” Rather, they are alive, but you perceive [it] not.”</p>
18	<p>Imam Ibn Kathir Rahimahullah stated that through this verse, Allah SWT is telling us that the martyrs in the realm of the dead (<i>Barzakh</i>) are in a state of living, in which they are continuously provided the graces of Allah SWT.</p>
19	<p>This verse is also a tribute to them, honouring and glorifying their standing. Therefore, if Allah SWT Himself honours them,</p>
20	<p>Then there is no reason whatsoever for us to ignore the services and sacrifices of the warriors and heroes. Should we not assume and continue with the struggle?</p>
21	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, The spirit and ideals of the previous generation's struggles must be sustained and carried on. We must become a society that respects and values the services and sacrifices of our security personnel.</p>
22	<p>Without them, we would definitely not be able to savour the safety and prosperity that we are enjoying now. Naturally, the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the nation is also a religious commitment. In fact, these warriors will receive a great reward from Allah SWT.</p>
23	<p>Let us reflect upon the words of Allah SWT in Surah Muhammad, verses 7 to 9:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">  يَتَأَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِن نُّصِرُوا اللَّهُ يَنْصُرْكُمْ وَيُثَبِّتْ أَقْدَامَكُمْ </p> <p style="text-align: center;">  وَأَضَلَّ أَعْمَالَهُمْ </p> <p style="text-align: center;">  ذَلِكَ بِأَنَّهُمْ كَرِهُوا مَا أَنْزَلَ اللَّهُ فَأَحْبَطَ أَعْمَالَهُمْ </p>
24	<p>Which means: “O, you who believe! If you will aid (the cause of) Allah, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly. But those who reject (Allah), for them is destruction, and (Allah) will render their deeds astray (from their mark). That</p>



	<p><i>is because they hate the Revelation of Allah; so He has made their deeds fruitless.”</i></p>
25	<p>Imam Muslim Rahimahullah recorded a hadith narrated by Salman al-Farisi RA, where Rasulullah SAW was reported to have said:</p> <p>رَبَّاطُ يَوْمٍ وَلَيْلَةٍ خَيْرٌ مِنْ صِيَامِ شَهْرٍ وَقِيَامِهِ وَإِنْ مَاتَ جَرَى عَلَيْهِ عَمَلُهُ الَّذِي كَانَ يَعْمَلُهُ وَأُجْرِي عَلَيْهِ رِزْقُهُ وَأَمِنَ الْفِتَانَ. (رواه مسلم)</p>
26	<p>Which means: "Preparing day and night (for the cause of Allah) is better than fasting and performing night worship for a month. If he dies then the practices (the rewards) continues to flow to him, his provisions continue to be channelled to him and he is given security from the torment of the grave and the Day of Judgment."</p>
27	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</p> <p>Generally, the local communities play an enormous role in maintaining and defending national security. Such responsibilities are not to be solely placed upon the security personnel. We are also the supporters of truth, defenders of the law, promoters of unity of the <i>ummah</i>.</p>
28	<p>In our effort to safeguard our nation's peace and security, the <i>mimbar</i> would also like to remind the congregation to protect ourselves and our families from being influenced and deceived by militant groups who are always trying to provoke and incite violence and undermine the peace of the nation. It is evidently clear that their struggles have fallen far from the true guidance of Islamic law.</p>
29	<p>Remember that violence is a sign of a non-religious person. Remember also the advice of Rasulullah SAW, as stated in a hadith recorded by Imam Ibn Majah and narrated by Ibn 'Abbas RA:</p> <p>يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ، إِيَّاكُمْ وَالْغُلُوفِ فِي الدِّينِ، فَإِنَّهُ أَهْلَكَ مَنْ كَانَ قَبْلَكُمْ الْغُلُوفِ فِي الدِّينِ. (رواه ابن ماجه)</p>



30	Which means: "O, people, beware of extremism in religion, for it is such attitude that has destroyed the people before you."
31	The misunderstanding with regards to the concept of <i>jihad</i> has caused some us to be easily influenced by extremist doctrines forwarded by deviationist groups, such as DAESH. They have caused confusion among the public on the concept of <i>jihad</i> .
32	Naturally, those who are less knowledgeable in their understanding of <i>jihad</i> will easily be affected and swayed towards involvement with terrorist activities. Remember, true Islam cares for harmony among mankind and rejects violence.
33	Thus, the <i>mimbar</i> would like to invite the congregation to join forces with the nations' warriors and become a solid fortress in defending the peace and prosperity of this beloved nation of ours.
34	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, To end the sermon today, the <i>khatib</i> would like to present the following conclusions for everyone to reflect and ponder upon: First: The sacrifices of the nation's heroes and warriors, from the past up to the present, are meant to ensure the perpetual safety and independence of this country. Second: The services and sacrifices of the nations' heroes and warriors should be appreciated by every citizen through efforts in maintaining the harmony of this country. Third: Avoid any activity that could threaten the security of the country, such as acts of extremism and militancy. May our beloved nation always be blessed with the graces and blessings of Allah SWT.
35	As stated by Allah SWT in Surah Ali 'Imran, verse 160: <p style="text-align: right;">أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p>



	<p>إِنْ يَنْصُرْكُمْ اللَّهُ فَلَا غَالِبَ لَكُمْ وَإِنْ يَخْذُلْكُمْ فَمَنْ ذَا الَّذِي يَنْصُرْكُمْ مِنْ بَعْدِهِ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ فَلْيَتَوَكَّلِ الْمُؤْمِنُونَ ﴿١٦٠﴾</p>
36	<p>Which means: "If Allah should aid you, no one can overcome you; but if He should forsake you, who is there that can aid you after Him? And upon Allah let the believers rely."</p>
37	<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>