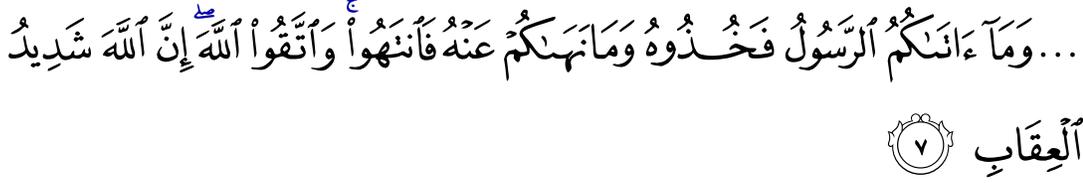


1	 <p style="text-align: center;">LOVING RASULULLAH, OBSERVING HIS SUNNAH IN CONJUNCTION WITH MAULIDURRASUL 1439H 1 December 2017AD / 12 Rabiulawal 1439H</p>
2	<p>إِن الْحَمْدَ لِلَّهِ، نَحْمَدُهُ وَنُسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ وَنَتُوبُ إِلَيْهِ، وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ 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 تَفْلِحُونَ.</p>
6	<p>قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ لَقَدْ جَاءَكُمْ رَسُولٌ مِّنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ عَزِيزٌ عَلَيْهِ مَا عَنِتُّمْ حَرِيصٌ عَلَيْكُمْ بِالْمُؤْمِنِينَ رَءُوفٌ رَّحِيمٌ ﴿١٢٨﴾ فَإِنْ تَوَلَّوْا فَقُلْ حَسْبِيَ اللَّهُ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا هُوَ عَلَيْهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ وَهُوَ رَبُّ الْعَرْشِ الْعَظِيمِ ﴿١٢٩﴾</p>
7	<p>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, On this blessed day, let us together increase the level of our conviction in Allah SWT. Be determined to perform all that He has commanded and abandon all that He has prohibited.</p>
8	<p>May we belong in the band of people who shall be rewarded with success in this world and in the hereafter.</p>
9	<p>Allah SWT is Most Loving and Most Merciful to all His creatures, especially humans. Evidence that Allah SWT is Most Compassionate is that He sent</p>



	Prophet Muhammad SAW to lead mankind on the path of truth. Therefore, in conjunction with <i>Maulidurrasul</i> 1439H today, the <i>mimbar</i> shall deliver a sermon entitled: " Loving Rasulullah, Observing His Sunnah ".
10	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, <i>Maulidurrasul</i> celebration is held every year, to remind us of the birth of the greatest human being, who was named Muhammad SAW.
11	In addition, we can also instil affection and love for the Prophet SAW in the society, especially among the youth.
12	Basically, the professing of love and affection for Rasulullah SAW requires a continuous effort in all aspects of life, not only in the month of Rabiulawal, but also in other months as well.
13	It is human nature to have feelings of love. Love for Rasulullah SAW is an obligation in Islam. This love is a reflection of the love for Allah SWT,
14	Which is clearly stated in verse 31 of Surah Ali 'Imran: <p style="text-align: center;">قُلْ إِنْ كُنْتُمْ تُحِبُّونَ اللَّهَ فَاتَّبِعُونِي يُحِبُّكُمْ اللَّهُ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ وَاللَّهُ غَفُورٌ رَحِيمٌ</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p>
15	Which means: "Say (O, Muhammad): "If you do love Allah, Follow me: Allah will love you and forgive you your sins: For Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful."
16	Imam Ibn Kathir explained that the verse provides an assessment of those who claim to love Allah SWT but do not follow the teachings brought by Rasulullah SAW. Such behaviour is a clear and obvious lie.
17	Rasulullah SAW also asserts this in a hadith recorded by Imam Muslim Rahimahullah, which was narrated by Saidatina 'Aisyah R.A: <p style="text-align: center;">مَنْ عَمِلَ عَمَلًا لَيْسَ عَلَيْهِ أَمْرُنَا فَهُوَ رَدٌّ</p> Which means: "Anyone who performs a practice that is not in accordance with our religious orders, then it is rejected."



18	The fact is, our love for Rasulullah SAW is clear proof of us, his followers, who are grateful for, and are reciprocating, what Rasulullah SAW has done and felt for us.
19	Rasulullah SAW risked his entire life to convey the teachings of Islam to mankind. He was persecuted, humiliated and was even stoned by the people of Ta'if until his blood flowed.
20	Although he was offered the luxury of the world and was threatened with execution if he did not stop spreading Islam, all that did not stop Rasulullah SAW from continuing his mission of spreading the message of Islam.
21	Observe that, with Islam, we receive guidance and begin to know Allah SWT. It takes us from living under the darkness into the light, from ignorance to guidance, from falsehood to truth, and from error to path of triumph.
22	More than that, Islam is a guarantee of our own happiness, the happiness of our family and society, in this world until the hereafter.
23	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, The <i>Sunnah</i> is basically matters that are related to Rasulullah SAW, be it the words, deeds or declarations of Rasulullah SAW. In fact, it also covers all areas of human life such as worship, law, clothing, food, drink,
24	Financial transactions, administration, legislation, education, social relations, morals and so forth. Therefore, the <i>Sunnah</i> is in fact the teachings of Islam itself.
25	Allah SWT declared in Surah al-Hasyr, verse 7:  العِقَابِ ٧
26	Which means: “....so take what the Messenger assigns to you, and deny yourselves that which he withholds from you. And fear Allah; for Allah is strict in Punishment.”



27	Through this verse, Allah SWT has indicated that performing the teachings brought by Rasulullah SAW, and abandoning all that are prohibited, is very closely related to conviction and faith.
28	For those who truly keep their faith in Allah SWT, this verse surely leaves a profound impression in their souls. They will not take lightly any instructions or prohibitions conveyed by Rasulullah SAW.
29	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, Emulating Rasulullah SAW and adhering to his <i>Sunnah</i> are to be performed diligently. It is not only by how we look on the outside,
30	In the form of clothing, such as wearing a robe, a headdress or others. But, more than that, the <i>Sunnah</i> must fully cover all aspects of community life and life as a nation. It is the sincerest of love for Rasulullah SAW.
31	Consider the hadith recorded by Imam al-Bukhari and narrated by Anas bin Malik R.A, where Rasulullah SAW was reported to have said: لَا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّىٰ أَكُونَ أَحَبَّ إِلَيْهِ مِنْ وَالِدِهِ وَوَلَدِهِ وَالنَّاسِ أَجْمَعِينَ
32	Which means: "No one's faith is complete unless the love for me is more than the love for his father, his son and the rest of the people."
33	Hence, our love for Rasulullah SAW is measured by the level of our commitment in studying and practicing the <i>Sunnah</i> of Rasulullah SAW. The more love is felt for Rasulullah SAW, the more intensely we will seek to learn and enliven the <i>Sunnah</i> of Rasulullah SAW.
34	Similarly, upon reaching a certain level, we will be able to sacrifice what we possess in order to maintain the sanctity of Rasulullah SAWs' teachings. This was exemplified by the early generations of Islam,
35	As a guide for all of us. May we belong to those who fight and defend Islam.
36	Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah, The conclusions that can be drawn from today's sermon are as follows: First: The love for Rasulullah SAW is an obligation and is evidence of faith in Allah SWT.



	<p>Second: Increase the pronouncement of <i>salawat</i>, or invocations, upon Rasulullah SAW as a sign of love and affection for him. May we receive the blessings of Rasulullah SAW in the Hereafter.</p> <p>Third: People who love their prophet do not just profess it through mere words. They would be willing to sacrifice their wealth and their life to continue the mission of Rasullulah SAW.</p>
37	<p>Let us all reflect upon the words of Allah SWT in Surah al-Ahzab, verse 21:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">قَالَ تَعَالَى: أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">لَقَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ فِي رَسُولِ اللَّهِ أُسْوَةٌ حَسَنَةٌ لِمَن كَانَ يَرْجُوا اللَّهَ وَالْيَوْمَ الْآخِرَ وَذَكَرَ اللَّهَ كَثِيرًا</p>
38	<p>Which means: “You have indeed in Rasulullah SAW a beautiful pattern (of conduct) for any one whose hope is in Allah and the Final Day, and who engages much in the Praise of Allah.”</p>
39	<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>