

PROTECTING NATIONAL SECURITY AND HARMONY

(06 Julai 2018/22 Syawal 1439)

Muslims blessed by Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*,

Let us increase our *taqwa* (piety) towards Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* with a full confidence and sincerity in doing all that He commands and abandoning all that He prohibits. Hopefully, we would be part of the people of faith and righteousness and be safe in this world and in the hereafter.

Muslims blessed by Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*,

Alhamdulillah, we are grateful to Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* that Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* has blessed us to live in a peaceful, safe and harmonious country. This blessing is due to the fact that we continue to adhere to the teachings of Islam and live in unity. Islam is a very noble, complete and perfect religion. Islam brings us out of the darkness into the illuminated light, from the falsehood to the truth, and leads us to the true path that Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* is pleased (*redha*). Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* says in surah Ali-Imran 3:19.

Intepretation:

"Verily the true religion of Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* is Islam"

Islam has long been practiced in Brunei Darussalam with Al-Qur'an and As-Sunah, according to the understanding of the As-Syafie Mazhab of the Sunnah Wal Jamaah, as our guidance. The implementation of this practice has been able to unify the people of Brunei Darussalam as a result of which, the people and their inhabitants are safe, live in peace and harmony. Therefore, we should be grateful to Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* because during this era of globalization which is full of competition and turmoil, the well-being of the people and the sovereignty of our nation is always preserved, peaceful and prosperous under the care and concern of the king. The king, who cares for the welfare, harmony and the well-being of the state and the society, always incorporate the teachings of Islam and the laws of Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* in the formulation of administrative policies and laws of the nation.

Muslims blessed by Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*,

In order to maintain peace, harmony and prosperity in this country, it is necessary to strengthen the faith (*iman*) and understanding of the true teachings of Islam as a mean of protection from the influence and misunderstanding of Islam that could disquiet the peace of family, society and state. Therefore, we should take utmost care not to fall easily under the influence of extremist groups and movements, which are misguided, misunderstood. They used the name of Islam to invite or to join their group. Therefore, we should not be easily influenced by them and to follow their misleading teachings or beliefs as it is a trap for Muslims especially those who have less understanding about the teachings of Islam.

Indeed, Islam is the religion that loves peace and prohibits its people from doing destructive activities, evil, violent, and tyranny. Islam rejects any extremist movements that use violence, murder and unnecessary warfare that disrupt the security and harmony of the country. Rasulullah *Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam* said in a hadith which was narrated by Imam Bohari *Rahmatullah alaih*:

Meaning: "From Abdullah ibn Umar *Radhiaallahu anhuma*, from Rasulullah *Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam* said: a Muslim is a brother of another Muslim, so he should not oppress him nor should he hand over to an oppressor to be mistreated."

As we know through the media that there are individuals who have firmed confidence to the unreasonable and misguided thoughts and devote themselves to swear allegiance (*bai'ah*) to the outrageous and astry group leader. The individual is also deceived by the concept of *jihad* and martyrdom that is spreading to the extend that he and his family wish to migrate to the so call "strive (*jihad*) activities" under the false "**Islamic Caliphate**" which was created overseas. We should be aware that if there is such individuals exist in this country, then they will be subject to the Detention Order under Chapter 3 (1) (a) of the Internal Security Act Chapter 133 on the involvement with activities related to terrorism and extreme ideology.

Indeed, the action that is taken against such individuals is a precautionary measure in order to avoid further occurrences of any threats to national security and on the Government's policy of non-tolerance to any of the elements associated with excessive terrorism and misguided activities. The Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam continuously strives to ensure that Brunei Darussalam is free from any threats or elements that may interfere with the peace, harmony and security of the nation.

Using the slogan of striving (*jihad*), a group of misguided or outrageous thoughts has succeeded in influencing and attracting young Muslims worldwide. Many who are affected by this group may be attracted by the false reward that is the promise of entering the heaven to those who are martyred for fighting in the way of Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*. This group is easily influenced by persuasion and promise even though it is only communicating through social media.

Muslims blessed by Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*,

We should be aware that the word *jihad* has a broad meaning. *Jihad* is a diligent and earnest effort and does not necessarily lead to war or violence. This is because, the stive in the path of Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* (*Fisabilillah*) can be done in a peaceful and safe manners, and thoughtful way instead of violence and tyranny. Indeed Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* does not require the *jihad* of war even if the Muslims are oppressed by the enemy. There are times when Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* ordered to wage war and there are also time when Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* ordered to be patient. Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* says in surah An-Nahl verse 125:

Interpretation:

“Invite to the path of your Lord with wisdom and good instruction and defy or disobey them in a way that is best. Indeed, your Lord is most knowing of who has strayed from His path, and He most knowing of who is [rightly] guided.”

Indeed, *jihad* requires knowledge that is very broad and transparent from the Qur'an and Hadith. Therefore, the spirit of fighting alone is not sufficient to pursue such pure ideals because without proper Islamic knowledge, it could induce violence and extremism. The use of superficial meaning of the Qur'anic verses and without reference to the description from the hadith and the interpretation of the authourised scholars is not acceptable in Islam. Rasulullah *Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam* said in a hadith which is narrated by Imam Tirmidzi *Rahmatullah alaih*, from Ibn Abbas *Radhiaallahu anhu*, Rasulullah *Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam* said:

Meaning: “Anyone who understands the Qur'anic verse simply by his opinion or for reasons he does not know, then he place himself in hell.”

Muslimin yang dirahmati Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*.

Muslims in this country are advised not to be easily influenced and obsessed (*taksub*) (excessive beliefs) by any group or organization, especially if they obtained the knowledge through the internet and the news media. This is because through the internet and the news media one may get information that is incorrect or inaccurate for any particular matter in Islam and the knowledge may not come from the authentic sources of the Quran and the Hadith.

Therefore, it is the responsibility of every individual, family and community to monitor their individuals and not easily influenced by the so call *jihadist* struggle. Finally, let us thank and pray that the people of Brunei Darussalam will continue to experience all the blessings of peace, harmony, unity and prosperity that Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* has bestowed upon us. *Amin ya rabbal alamin*.

Interpretation:

" O you who believe! When you go to the Path of Allah *Subhanahu Wataala*, investigate (in any case), and do not rush to say to those who greet: 'You are not a believer,' (then you killed him) for the purpose of obtaining the wealth for the life in this world because with Allah *Subhanahu Wataala* there is abundance of bounty. "

Al Quraan verse: Surat An-Nisa, verse:94