

## Summarised Friday Sermon

6 JULY 2007

### Organ Donation – An Act of Compassion

- Continual act is an act where the rewards for the donor are accrued even after his/her death as long as there are those who benefit from it in whatever form. Let us continually invest for our hereafter by performing continual acts of kindness, such as wakaf, donating, teaching, inculcating good values in our children so that they are amongst those who are guided.
- Health is an important part of our lives and anyone who is ill cannot enjoy his life fully. Thus Islam has made health a *maqasid syariah* that is an objective of the Syari'ah that must be observed. Therefore we cannot do harmful things that will affect our health.
- In our country there are many efforts to raise awareness of the importance of helping such patients. Blood donation drives, promotion of cord blood donation, and others, are actively pursued here. In spite of all these efforts our Muslim community is still beset by a serious illness that requires immediate treatment.
- Almost 600 Singaporeans, 21 percent of whom are Muslims, are currently waiting for an organ transplant, because they have failing organs due to various illnesses. A majority are waiting for kidney transplants. This is a serious situation; every year as many as 24 patients die while waiting for an organ.
- One of the main reasons impeding Muslims from becoming organ donors is the confusion and uncertainty some may have about Islamic law and the Islamic viewpoint on organ donation. Do not doubt that organ donation is a continual act of kindness. Be rest assured, Islamic scholars made permissible organ donations from a deceased person to a living one, if the deceased has consented to it while he was still alive, or if his next-of-kin has consented it.
- By donating organs, we not only improve the patients' lives, but we can also benefit when the person does any good. Insya Allah, we shall also receive the rewards for any good acts that the patient does.

