

LOVE UNITES THE MUSLIM UMMAH ACROSS DIFFERENT POLITICAL BACKGROUNDS

(Cinta Menyatukan Ummah Islam dari Pelbagai Latar Belakang Politik)

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ABSTRACT

The power of love can make a great contribution and impact to humanity and the world at large. This article will discuss about love uniting Muslim Ummah (LUMU), and how to apply it among Muslims with different political backgrounds. LUMU is one of the Islamic education agenda to prepare the Muslims in term of knowledge, faith and practical activities in daily life. This conceptual paper will highlight on the importance of love in upholding the sovereignty of the Muslim kings, protection of the beloved land of Malaysia and the well being of the Ummah, through the worldly activities (*amal*) especially in the empowerment of Muslim political and economic conditions. A library search was executed with the references ranging from the year of 1991 to 2024. This study has been analyzed thematically and several themes have existed, namely love in Islam is a concept that can unite the Ummah; appreciate different political views; preserving the status of the Sultan and King; love for homeland; and LUMU deeds from the perspective of politics, economics and education. It is discovered that love could be the catalyst in uniting the Ummah and strengthen Malaysia as one of prestigious Muslim country recognized around the globe.

Keywords: Love in Islam; unity; politics; economy; education

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ABSTRAK

Kekuatan cinta dapat memberikan sumbangan besar dan impak kepada kemanusiaan dan dunia secara keseluruhan. Artikel ini akan membincangkan tentang Cinta Menyatukan Ummah (LUMU) dan cara menerapkannya di kalangan Muslim yang berlatar belakang politik berbeza. LUMU adalah salah satu agenda pendidikan Islam untuk mempersiapkan umat Islam dari segi pengetahuan, iman dan aktiviti praktikal dalam kehidupan seharian. Kertas konsep ini menekankan kepentingan cinta dalam menegakkan kedaulatan raja-raja Muslim, melindungi tanah tercinta Malaysia, dan kesejahteraan ummah melalui aktiviti duniawi (amal), terutamanya dalam memperkasakan keadaan politik dan ekonomi Muslim. Pencarian perpustakaan telah dilakukan dengan rujukan dari tahun 1991 hingga 2024. Kajian ini telah dianalisis secara tematik dan beberapa tema telah wujud iaitu cinta dalam Islam adalah konsep yang dapat menyatukan Ummah; menghargai pandangan politik yang berbeza; memelihara status Sultan dan Raja; cinta tanah air; dan amalan LUMU dari sudut politik, ekonomi dan Pendidikan. Ditemukan bahawa cinta boleh menjadi pemangkin dalam menyatukan ummah dan memperkukuhkan Malaysia sebagai salah satu negara Muslim yang berprestij dan diiktiraf di seluruh dunia.

Kata kunci: *Cinta dalam Islam; kesatuan; politik; ekonomi; pendidikan*

INTRODUCTION

Love is a deep affection towards someone or something (al-Ghazali 1991). Allah created human beings, living on the temporary world of tribulations, trials, successes and failures, must take a moment of our life, to evaluate, assess and reaffirm our faith, love and the feelings of great affection, adoration and our deep love to our creator, Allah SWT. In order to love Allah SWT, we must and foremost be very sure of our understanding of the knowledge of Allah SWT in all aspects of His Names (*Asmaul Husna*), His Attributes (*Sifatullah*), His Activities and Actions (*Afa'al Allah*) and His Essence (*Zatullah*).

There are 99 beautiful names of Allah and four of them represent love or *Mahabbah*. In the Attributes of Allah SWT, *Mahabbatullah*, Love of Allah is mentioned as *ar-Rahman*, *ar-Rahim*, *Al-Wadud* and *al-Raof*. In the activities and actions of Allah SWT, such as between two loving persons of the opposite sex, there will be *sakinah*, *mawaddah*, and *rahmah* as all are the manifestation of love of different levels and feelings.

Muslims suppose to perform *solat* and *zikir* in accordance to the basic command of Allah SWT to be a good Muslim who love Allah SWT. However, study indicates that many of the Muslims fail to perform *solat* or compulsory prayers Allah SWT. Marzuki, Mohd Khusyairie et al. (2019) discovered that majority of students understand that prayer is very important because it lead to noble personality, but the attitude of students in performing obligatory prayers is still unsatisfactory. Therefore, to achieve the love of Allah, one must know Allah, know himself and perform all basic command of Allah. These can be managed through education. The love of Allah will then lead to other form of love that empower us to establish united and strong ummah the *khaira ummah* (Ali - Imran 3: 110):

You are the best nation produced [as an example] for mankind. You enjoin what is right and forbid what is wrong and believe in Allah. If only the People of the Scripture had believed, it would have been better for them. Among them are believers, but most of them are defiantly disobedient.

Bearing all these ibadah in mind and practice, it leads to the creations of LUMU, compiling the efforts of more than 20 years in learning and researching about love (Syaidatun 2021). LUMU is one of the Islamic education agenda to prepare the Muslims in term of knowledge, faith and practical activities to uphold the sovereignty of the Muslim kings, protection of the beloved land of Malaysia and the well-being of the Ummah.

In a democratic system, political power is directed to three elements, namely the party, parliament and government. In the Malaysian context, Muslims no longer control these three elements absolutely. Therefore, deep awareness is needed to reconnect the bonds that have been dissolved and reconnect the broken bonding between them. Only by uniting can Muslims regain control of politics and thus ensure the interests of the next generation. Reunite for the sake of religion, nation and country (Firdaus 2024).

LUMU – THE CONCEPT OF LOVE UNITING THE MUSLIM UMMAH

Love is a natural instinct that is as important as needs to have food, drink and shelter (Abdullah 1997; Syaidatun 2021). Virtuous people choose to do good deeds as aligned by the Quran and Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad SAW. Among the teachings of Muhammad SAW, is to always be lovingly, loveable and united for the well-being of Islam and the Muslim Ummah. LUMU is about different types of love that is found in al-Quran and Sunnah which are love of and for Allah SWT, love of and for the Prophet, love for Islam, love for Quran and Sunnah, love for learning, knowledge and wisdom, love for the Ummah, love of fellow brothers, love of parents, relatives and friends, love for oneself, love for Allah's creatures and love for piety (*Taqwa*) and goodness (*Ihsan*).

Above all, we come to the most important aspect of love that is towards Allah SWT. Allah SWT through His Love and Blessings to all His created beings, humans, animals and plants all are being provided by Allah the basic need of water, food, air and space to live on this earth with dignity and affections. Allah SWT, on the other aspect had warned all mankind irrespective of their faith, that if mankind is to go against or being stubborn and arrogant against the rules and order of life as revealed in the holy Quran, then, we mankind arrogant and *Iblis* inclined in all their life activities and care less of the life after death, their final destiny will be in hell (Al-Quran, al-Kahf 18: 103 - 107):

Say O Muhammad, shall We tell you who are the greatest losers in whatever they do? That is those who endeavours in the world have been wasted and who yet think that they are acquiring good through their deeds. They are the one who disbelieve the Revelations (The Holy Quran) of their Lord and deny that they will ever meet Hum. Vain are their works and We shall not give them any weight on the Day of Judgement. Those who do that Hell is their reward, because they disbelieved and made a jest of My Revelations and My Messengers. As for those who have faith, and do good deeds, they shall in the gardens of Paradise for their enjoyment (which is full of ultimate wealth, pleasures and bliss).

On a different angle and perspective, in order to know Allah SWT, the Muslims must know themselves externally and internally. It is easy to identify between races through the color of the skin, the culture and the language, but to know the position of the soul and heart to be in love with Allah SWT is the work of dedicated, sincere and committed hearts to refine the soul and human hearts. One basic activity that must be performed with earnestness, sincerity and deep fail to clean and refine the Muslims' hearts at defined times. The impact and the effect of the common surah of the al-Fatihah as (only Thou we worship and Only Thou we seek for help), every times the Muslims perform solat mindfully, will surely reflect the power of such doa in the life of all Muslims globally. Consequently, when all Muslims pray for the unity of the Muslim ummah, then the outcome of that doa will be of what Allah servants ask for.

When the Muslims seek Allah's love and blessings for the sake of Muslims' Unity, then Allah shall comply with the requests, sooner or later. However, the problem in the Muslim Ummah is while performing *solat*, they fail in constant remembrance to Allah SWT in the state of complete concentration or *khusyuk*. Those Allah had blessed are the Prophets, the Messengers of all times, the people of truth, people who died on the path of Allah on the battle field and on the path of seeking and spreading knowledge and to those who perform good deeds (*amal soleh*) by doing all the best of deeds and abstain from doing any evil deeds. The rich obtain the richness by Allah love and

blessings, spend for Islam by and through Allah favors with the non-appreciation of human beings. If all Muslims are sincere all the time, performing deeds because of His favors', they shall be united in peace and love (al-Jubaily 1994; al-Jubaily 2001).

In the present human civilization, for any country to dominate, terrorise, expel and illegally occupy other nation is the acts of evil human deeds of the highest evil order. Those whom Allah condemned are those who deny Allah commandments in the Quran and the Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad SAW. Therefore, if mankind does not use the Quran, the Hadith of Rasulallah SAW, the works of the learned Muslims globally in the conduct of the affairs of mankind on earth, then they will be led by the power of the self and ego or *nafsu al-ammarah*, worst still being influenced by syaitanic manipulations deceptions and deceit to allure mankind on the wrong path which ultimately led to hell after death, as mentioned in surah al-A'raf 7: 30:

Some of mankind, Allah guided to faith and righteous deeds. And some the transgressors are left in error (out of their own choice) for indeed they had taken Satans as protecting friends (to be obeyed) instead of Allah and deemed themselves on the right path.

However, the power of love is so great and demanding, thus through love, the hearts of Muslims all over the globe can be cultured, injected and ignited by loving all Muslims and mankind in general through the acts and good deeds and abstain from all forms of evil deeds in the hope we achieve that power of uniting the Muslim Ummah. Irrespective of where the Muslims are all over the globe, the sufferings, hardship and calamities due to the injustices of other human beings, the Muslims in more peaceful countries must make all efforts to help them in many ways. Thus, to send humanitarian relief to the Palestinians in real hunger and hopelessness, is the best of good deeds other Muslims can do. Muslims from different political background, can do this without any hesitation.

APPRECIATE DIFFERENT POLITICAL BACKGROUND

Malaysia is so rich in many aspects of life, as the globe is as rich in so many diversities of human activities. The focus of this paper is to evaluate, re-examine and restructure the political environment and culture of political parties in Malaysia. Whatever political parties operating in Malaysia, the aim and basic struggle of all political organization is to govern, administer and manage the nation with the best of all human activities with the hope that all these good deeds may invite Allah's blessings at all times. However, due to some acts of misdeeds and acts of corruptions at many levels of government agencies, it is very hard to really identify the achievement and the failures of government in power to manage the nation.

The ethnic factor has been obvious importance in understanding politics in the Malaysian plural society. Indeed, political party formation in the post-colonial period has acted to strengthen and define ethnic identity by giving opportunities for the public expressions of identity and by raising the general consciousness of ethnicity as means of mobilizing support and gaining power. Malaysia politics has generally been understood to be a contestation of competing demands between the majority Malays and the minority Chinese and Indians (Jawan & King 2004). However after 20 years, the trend has changed because the electoral has reformed and more Chinese and Indians are interested with politics compared to the Malays (Arvin & Nazri 2024).

In Malaysian context, the disunity among Malay Muslim parties were trace before the 12th PRU in 2008. Some of the politicians during that time did not adhere to the Islamic manner and *akhlak*, failed to understand the problems of the people, complacent with their social status and involved in corruptions such as bribery, money politics and fearmongering (Ahmad Atory 2009). The culture of politics in Malaysia have undergone significant changes in parallel with changes in society that are becoming increasingly fragile. This was compounded by the cry of Reformation (*Reformasi*) that changed the Malaysian political landscape in the late 1990. (Arvin & Nazri 2024).

At a glance, the position of Malaysia in the economic terms locally, is not that favourable and at regional level is not that convincing. Nevertheless, the acts to take actions against all forms of corruptions at all levels is indeed commendable and the means to straighten the most complicated inter connected legal matters should be in line with the Quran and Sunnah. However, this is not the reality since the legal laws are the term of reference in most of the affairs in Malaysian laws.

Malaysia is in the position where some political parties in harmony with the Islamic spirit of government. The Islamic government is simple, that is applying all forms of legal matters are Quranic, Hadith, Ijmak Ulama' and qiyas in initiating any laws for the people of Malaysia. Though the concept of Madani rely heavily on the Islamic teachings, but it is subject to the discretion of political views from the non-Muslim parties. Islam is not a religion for the Malays only. It is a universal religion and can be practiced by anyone. In Malaysia, it is the fate of history that causes the Malays to become Muslims. Islam needs to be based on the character and personality of its adherents so that what is seen in their deeds and deeds is a good example and value advocated by Islam (Sidek 2009). For the Malays, Malay supremacy in the Malay state is a natural thing. just as natural as the supremacist rights of the Chinese in the state of China, the supremacist rights of the Indians in the Indian state, Siamese supremacy in the Siamese state, and so on. In the United Kingdom there are many citizens of Pakistani and Indian descent but the supremacists in this state are in the hands of the English natives (Marzali Amri 2021).

Islamic political activities are one of the many human activities that constitute the national culture, aspiration and vision for the unity of the Muslim ummah. However, some political parties with majority non-Muslims, they disregard the reference to al-Quran as the revealed book for all mankind, and only so dedicated to apply the British Common laws being the separation of religion and government. This is an alarming situation because according to the study made by Arvin & Nazri (2024), the percentage of the Malays' interest about politics were low compared to the Chinese and Indians. This is a reminder that the Muslims should be educated in term of political awareness and practices as what has been written in the Islamic history.

The holy Quran was revealed to Prophet Muhammad SAW through angel Jibrail with all the wisdom, knowledge and skills for all mankind to apply it on earth. Allah SWT gave early warning for all those who rebel, disbelieve, arrogant and disregard the teachings of al-Quran and do not believe in the life after death, their place will be in hell as asserted in surah al-Baiyyinah 98: 6:

Truly the unbelievers among the people of the Scriptures and the polytheists shall burn forever in the fire of hell, they are the vilest of all creatures.

The Muslim countries equipped with Islamic knowledge that request them to be very careful to look for the learned one in explaining the basic teachings of Islam. The pillars of Islam it is all about the external manifestation of the Muslim life systems. They frequently testify that there is no god but Allah and Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah, perform solat, prayer five times daily without fail, fasting during Ramadan, pay the zakat and other forms of sadaqah and wakaf, perform hajj once in the life time, that complete the pillars of Islam. On the matters regarding the heart and the soul it is referred as *Ihsan*, that is the state of the goodness of the heart in all of our life activities as human beings, even to the point of realizing that Allah observes all deeds of mankind.

Subsequently, the Federal Constitution have to be reviewed, re-written and the inclusion of not just Islam as the religion for the Federation, but to ensure all legal matters must ultimately be settled by the Islamic Court of Justice as it is based on the Quran, Hadith, Ijma' and Qiyas ulama' being the principle of upholding justice. It was noted that some states within Semenanjung Tanah Melayu, such as Malacca, Kedah, Terengganu, Pahang and Kelantan already had the Islamic laws established well before the interference of the British Crown Colony. However, the heritage, the Islamic laws, the culture and all life systems of the Malay power and politics were stolen by invading western powers of that time, thus depriving the Malays from having the evidence of their political power. From another perspectives, those Malay warriors who fought for Islam and the nationhood, were branded as traitors by the

western colonizers. It is of great honour and respect that some states recognized these Malay warriors and re-write the Malay political history in its proper perspectives.

PROTECT THE STATUS OF THE MALAY SULTANS AND RAJA

For those aspiring to be President of Malaysia, one very basic human ethics morale and manners he must have and adhere to it, is that in any land he lives, breath, eat and drink, he must be very true and sincere to himself that he must respect, honor and uphold the law of the land. The law of the land is that the Sultans, Kings and Raja will forever be in that state as it was in there far back in the 14th century or much earlier as our history were being distorted by orientalist historians to wipe out the glory of the Malay Sultanate within the land of the Malays. Now is the prime time to activate the past glory of the Malay Sultanate and their family links with the Kings of the Arab world and at the same time to look far forward to the establishment of the global organization LUMU to unite the whole Muslim Ummah by the power of love.

The Power of The Malay Sultans may had changed hand in rotations but it remains the same until today. The Malay rulers are in power because they are the origin dwellers of the Malaya or now we called as Malaysia (Bellwood 2009; Ismail 2005; Marzali 2021). The Chinese and Indians whom by the power of the British Colonizers had brought in these foreign people into the land of the Malay Peninsular to work on the British economic interest, namely the rubber plantations and tin mining, were later given the citizenship in the land of Malay Peninsular (Mohd Jali 2009).

In the context of ethnic relations in Malaysia, aspects that are considered advantageous to the Malays in the Federal Constitution are balanced with provisions that provide advantages to non-Malay ethnic groups. The provision that establishes Islam as the religion of the Federation is balanced by the provision ensuring freedom for every citizen to profess and practice any religion in a peaceful and harmonious environment. Similarly, the provision that designates Malay as the national language is balanced with the provision that no one shall be prohibited (except for official meaning) from using, teaching, or learning any other language. The same applies to the provision that secures the special position of the Malays and the indigenous people of Sabah and Sarawak, which is balanced with the provision that the government cannot deprive, withdraw, or erode the rights of other ethnic groups (Nazri et al. 2024).

Upholding the status of the Malay Sultans and Raja are the symbol of love for the Ummah and Islam. This is the case because the Sultan and Raja are the khalifah that have been equipped with knowledge and blessings from Allah SWT to uphold the teaching of Quran and Sunnah. The unity of Ummah will be intact when the love for the Sultan and Islam goes together side by side.

THE LOVE FOR HOMELAND

The inculcation of love for land is crucial because we are obliged to protect it from any mischief from others. The love for one's homeland should be materialized in how one preserve, develop and maintain one's property in the form of building or agriculture and landscape.

The rate of development in the Malay Peninsular is considered on the fast rate of physical development. At certain areas Malay Reserve lands were acquired to develop into housing estates and with a certain cost for compensation, the Malay Reserve land was seldom being replaced or given another of land designated for the Malay Reserve Land status. The land Laws regarding the allocation of Malay Reserve Lands must be properly managed, administered honestly adhere to all laws regarding the Malay Reserve Lands and executed so that for every inch of any Malay Reserve Land taken by the government or privately by non Malay citizens, it must be must be equally replaced at a different location on the three times the size of its original land of the Malay Reserve. The law of this replacement must be equally verified.

At the global scene, due to the acts of western powers intervention into the Muslim States, they had been divided into smaller states boundaries at the fancies of the colonialist of the west. The state of Palestine was a big state but was reduced by acts of terrorism, killings and illegal occupations of Palestinians houses by force for the past seventy five years. The present war between The Israel Defence Forces with HAMAS is the act of determination, struggle of jihad and honour for HAMAS for they are fighting for their right to live on their land and to expel Israel people from their homes and land of Palestine (Abu-Amr 1993).

UMMAH'S WELL BEING

What are the yardsticks criteria's and the characteristics for any civilization of mankind to be regarded as civilized human beings? Do we refer to the human thinking minds to determine our status as human beings or do we have to refer the holy Quran to really understand of what actually we are in relation with other creatures of Allah's creations.

We are the best of Allah created human beings if only we believe in Allah, be submissive and obedient to all the commandments of Allah, while at the same time to avoid all forms of evil deeds. At the present global scenes of human activities, actions and reactions, we, as thinking human beings with the spirit of the believe in the Creator of all on earth and the universe, Allah SWT. We perceive that some human beings are not fit to be addressed as human beings because of their evil deeds are destroying human.

Human injustices, hatred, colonization, suppression and global domination by acts of initiating wars and conflicts, are not the spirit of God awareness human beings but are the acts of barbarians, satanic influence and animals, worst still than animals (Al-Quran, al-Baqarah 2: 216).

Fighting is made obligatory to fight against aggression, even though you dislike it, but you may hate a thing which is good for you, and love a thing which is bad for you and remember that Allah alone knows all these things, but you do not know.

War criminals, crimes, tortures due to bombing of the restricted area of Gaza, Lebanon and Iran will result in the outcome only Allah knows best, as all global Muslims pray to Allah for the safety of the victims in Gaza while seeking the destruction of Israel by the seen and unseen Army of Allah such as wind, water and land. For these elements can cause havoc to Israeli Defence Forces when Allah use these natural elements to destroy their military might by creating floods, heavy and strong winds, sand storms, and ground quakes and breakages as we had witnessed in the news from the eastern part of the globe. The outcome of the war, the holy Quran had revealed (Al-Quran, al-Baqarah 2: 218).

Those who believe, migrated, and fought for the sake of Allah to have back the land of Palestine and establish Islamic rule, it is these who may hope for the mercy of Allah, and remember that Allah is most Forgiving and Merciful.

Ummah well-being should be taken care by dedicated leaders that rule the country with faith (*Iman*), good deeds (*amal*) and piety (*taqwa*). Ahmad Atory (2009) proposed a model that there should be three important elements among the politicians, namely the academic qualifications and experiences; personality; and moral ethics.

DEEDS IN LUMU – POLITICS, FINANCE AND EDUCATION

The proposed global organization of LUMU-love United Muslim Ummah is based on the concept of love in Islam, as outlined in the Quran and Sunnah. In LUMU a wide spectrum of human activities were detailed out as *amals*. The aim is to give mankind the best of good deeds with the spirit of Love to avoid all forms of corruptions in all deals. Some of the deeds that most mankind shall perform are matters related to education, communication, development, trade and investments, finance and monetary aspects, defense and security, culture, arts and sports and the holistic matters in administration of any organization. This article will focus on 3 main deeds, namely the politics, finance and education.

One aspect of LUMU as a global organization, is the undefined boundaries for any nationhood, because LUMU is based and operated through human beings in particular the global Muslims and the whole mankind, being the Ummah of the Prophet Muhammad SAW. It is for the interest and the well-being of all mankind, when the blessings from Allah SWT opens their hearts and souls for them to be Muslims and thus make them love of Allah SWT and the love for Muhammad SAW. There, it is not confined to one particular political institution. The political boundaries may only be tolerated for the internal administrative affairs of each country, but all the Muslim countries must have a united face at least with reference to the common objectives of the Muslim Ummah (Syaidatun 2021).

Mohd & Zaini (2020) emphasized that an Islamic country is a country that is occupied by most Muslims or the majority of them are Muslims even though there are non-Muslims under the auspices of the Head of State who is Muslim. The opinion of contemporary scholars such as Yusuf al-Qardawi and Ramadan al-Buti is appropriate to be used in a pluralistic situation like Malaysia which is multiracial and multi-religious. However, there is no doubt that the Head of State is obliged to find a way and always strive to implement Islamic law in Malaysia.

In the aspect of finance and economics, dependency on foreign loans where most of Muslim countries borrow a huge amount from the rich Western countries causing the economics of Muslim world to shatter. Moreover, the instruments of interest, gambling and speculative transactions that is applied by capitalist countries making Muslims unable to prevent the non-halal transactions (Syaidatun 2021). Therefore, the Muslims should opt to the full-fledge Islamic finance system and free themselves from the capitalist financial and economics system.

In order to understand LUMU deeper, the book entitled “Love the Agenda of Uniting Ummah” (Syaidatun 2021) outlined the structure of LUMU organization is clarified. There is a brief introduction on seven Amals (programs) and explanation on different kind of people among the Ummah. This book also defines the vision, mission, goals and objectives of LUMU organization, and suggested organization structures of various levels which are at village or district level, state level, national level and global level. The last chapter of this book is mostly about the implementation strategies of LUMU. There is debate about vision, objectives and scope of deeds (Amals). The book details out about seven core activities under each Amals which are Education, Development, Communications, Finance, Social & culture, Trade commerce and Security & Defense. There are also recommendations on some working operational activities in materializing the concept of LUMU (Syaidatun 2021).

Among the working operational activities in term of finance development, these core activities have been listed, namely the currency system and transactions; security commission; *waqf*, *zakat* and taxation; *takaful* networks; and Islamic Banking. Each of the seven core activities shall have areas of concentration as shown below;

- i. *Currency System and Transaction*: The proposed currency for LUMU to be used for all transactions at local, regional and global level shall be *Dinar* with gold backing.
- ii. *Security Commission*: Identification of all *halal* products globally for investment.
- iii. *Zakat and Wakf Taxation*: Taxation for Muslims will be in the forms of *Zakat*, *Sedekah* and *Wakf* while non-Muslims will be taxed in the usual way. Accounting system for *Zakat* funds and taxation will be separate.
- iv. *Zakat and Wakaf Management*: Fulfilment of national obligations with the remainder of funds set aside for regional and global projects in human development.
- v. *Takaful Network*: Consists of matters regarding Savings, Investments, and Coverage.
- vi. *Islamic Banking*: Strictly *Syariah*-compliant, and involves project financing, savings, and investment.
- vii. *Islamic Banks and World Bank Cooperation*: Identification of project by the World Bank in Muslim and non-Muslim countries, review of project with LUMU nations for feasibility, and joint investment by LUMU in the affected countries and to avoid usury (*riba*’) in the LUMU nations (Syaidatun 2021).

Ghulam (1991) suggested on the revival of educational system based on the psychology of love. In relation to LUMU, a great emphasized should be focused in the internalization of these quranic verses in the educational system (Zahrin & Ali 2019).

LUMU is based on the Quranic verses (Al-Quran, Ali-Imran 3: 31):

Say, if you love Allah, follow me, Allah will love you, and grant you protection from your sins and Allah is forgiving, Merciful. obey Allah, and the Messenger, but if they turn back, Allah surely loves not the disbelievers

“Love” The first step to loving and uniting the Muslim Ummah is to love Allah SWT and Prophet Muhammad SAW. “United” - This term is derived from the spirit of Surah al-Baqarah 2: 148:

For every community is a goal (qiblah) towards which they turn. So, emulate one another in good works; for wherever you are, Allah will definitely bring you all before Him (on the Day of Judgment). Indeed, Allah has power over all things.

The goal of LUMU is the unity of the Muslim Ummah based on the concepts of *Tawhid* and *Taqwa* for Allah is the final return.

“Muslim” - This is well portrayed and described in Surah al-Baqarah 2: 177

It is not righteousness that you turn your faces towards the east or the west, but a righteous man is he who believes in Allah and the Last Day, in the angels and the Scriptures, and the Prophets; and gives his wealth – although he loves them – to his kinsfolk, and the orphans, and the needy, and the wayfarer, and the beggars, and for the ransom of slaves; who attends to his prayers and pays the alms-tax; and those who are true to their promises which they have made, and steadfast in trial and adversity and in times of war in the cause of Allah. (Such are) the truthful ones (because of their belief and righteous deeds), and such are the God-fearing.

It is these people who strive for and see the truth in Muslim unity. They will not give up on this struggle (*jihad*) for this is the way for the glory of Islam and the honour of all Muslims. “Ummah” - Allah SWT has revealed in verse of Surah al-Baqarah 2: 213:

Mankind was once a single community (following the religion of Allah which was the only religion), but (later on this state of unity ended and differences arose), and then Allah sent forth Prophets to give them (the faithful) good news (about Paradise) and to warn them (the unbelievers of Hellfire); and with these Allah sent down the Holy Book (embodying the truth) that it might judge the disputed of men. And (actually) none disputed it save those to whom it was given after clear arguments had come to them – and that was out of mutual jealousy. Thus, Allah bestowed guidance, by His leave, on those who believe in the truth which had been disputed (by the transgressors). And Allah guides whom He wills to the straight path (according to His divine laws).

Thus, the Ummah is part of mankind, and it is the duty of LUMU and the global Muslims to inform the Ummah on the truth of Islam – the straight way of life as laid out in the Quran and Sunnah, of *iman* (faith) and of *Ihsan* (goodness) (Syaidatun 2021).

CONCLUSION

This writing is about a journey of instilling love as an important agenda in uniting the Muslim Ummah, for the greatness of Islam and the well-being of the Muslim Ummah in particular and mankind in general. Despite of different political backgrounds, the Muslims must be united. This article deals with the spiritual perspective in the concept of love as revealed in the holy Quran and Sunnah of Prophet Muhammad SAW. It is hope that the love for mankind, regardless of the politics, religion or the way of life, will be able to reflect and benefit from this writing. May this humble pursue will bring wonders and love into readers life.

Malaysia is so rich in many aspects of life. However, the richness will go astray if the Muslims disunite, dismay and become weak due to the instability in the family and community. Therefore, we should be thankful to God, embrace each other, get united and work harder for the well-being of Ummah. Whatever political parties operating in Malaysian land, the aim and basic struggle of all political organization is to govern, administer and manage the nation with the best of all human activities with the hope that all these good deeds may invite Allah's blessings at all times. Let us as His true Servants and Believers, dedicate our effort sincerely to seek Allah's pleasure by placing our absolute confidence in His assurance. Allah surely will help and guide. Regardless of the different political backgrounds, love in the family and community cannot be affected negatively because Muslims must be united under the guidance of the Quran and Sunnah. Diversity of opinion within the party should be celebrated as unity in diversity (Syaidatun 2021).

Strive in the cause of Allah in a manner worthy of that striving. He has chosen you (for His task) and he has not laid upon you any hardship in religion. Keep to the faith of your father Abraham. Allah named you Muslims as earlier and even in this (Book, al-Quran), that the Messenger may be a witness over you, and that you may be witnesses over all mankind. So, establish Prayer, and pay Zakah, and hold fast to Allah. He is your Protector. What an excellent Protector; what an excellent Helper! [emphasis added] (al-Hajj 22: 78) (Abdullah 1998).

The spirit of love suggested here is to unite the Muslim leaders from different political background. They could remain in their own political entities, but they are strong and united by the Aqidah, Akhlak and Syariat. The theory of love uniting Muslim (LUMU) highlight the teachings of Islam that is embedded in the Quran and Sunnah. Based on the authentic hadith of the Prophet, verses of the Quran and previous studies on love in Malaysia, we have come to conclusion that love can unite the Muslim Ummah as long as the teaching of Islam is being adhered in all walks of life.

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