

SAVING OUR TEENAGERS

IMMORALITIES

FROM



Let us have the *taqwa* of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala by diligently fulfilling all of His Commands and abstaining from all of His prohibitions.

Indeed, it is only with taqwa that we will attain blissfulness in this world and prosperity in the Hereafter. The khutbah today is titled "Saving Our Teenagers From Immoralities."

Teenage is a transitional period from the realm of childhood to adulthood. In terms of age, they can be categorized as being those between the ages of 12 to 20 years old.

During this period, there are multitudes of enquiries, dilemma, and problems that arise within their minds. It is the changing phase in the aspects of physical, emotional, and mindset that

has become the source of all the turbulence and trouble if they are not truly understood, guided, and appropriately educated. At this stage, they are always engulfed with the inquisitional attitude,

wanting to try out different things, in attaining maturity as an adult. The teenage years also is a period of equipping oneself with the necessary provisions for the physical and spiritual being,

en route to entering the realm of adulthood. If we fail to guide these adolescents at this critical stage, then they will disperse into society causing havoc and confusion.

The social disorder that continues to plague our society today is nothing new. The immorality amongst the youth is truly severe, which demands immediate action in rectifying the situation.

In addition to being a manifestation of our failure in educating them, it is a worrying state that should be seriously looked into by all parties especially the parents.

Every single day we are fed with news revealing the stark reality of moral decadence amongst our youth today. From skipping school, lazing around wasting time, merempit (fooling around and posing harm to others),

drug abuse, gambling, brawls, unlawful relationship resulting in zina (adultery), and promiscuity, which ultimately leads to murder through abortion or foundling.

According to statistics from the National Registration Department, there are 257,411 birth certificates registered without the legitimate father's name, between the year 2000 and July 2008.

This translates to more than 28,000 cases in a year or 78 cases every day! This is the direct effect of zina which results in pregnancy and birth.

Just imagine, how many promiscuous relationships out there that did not end up in pregnancy? Definitely way more than what one can imagine. And definitely, an overwhelming portion of it

would involve the youth especially teenagers. This is the real picture of the destruction happening to our youth nowadays. What has happened to them today?

Are we to just allow it to continue happening in front of our very eyes? What should we do in curbing these immoralities? Are these not calamities that is befallen upon us?

We had been admonished by Rasulullah sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam on the peril of zina in the hadeeth of Ummahatul Mu'mineen Maymoonah bint al-Haarith radiyAllaahu 'anha whereby she heard the

Messenger sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam said: "My ummah will continue to be upon good for as long as illegitimate children are not widespread among them.

But when it is widespread, then the torment of Allah will be approaching to inflict them all." (Ahmad: hasan)

Let us altogether strive in saving our youth. The moral decay and social disorder that are visibly rampant is an indication of destruction for us all. The torment and Wrath of Allah will be upon

all of us if we fail to guide them onto the Right Path. We must strive our utmost so that moral indecencies by the youth will be curbed and overcame for the benefit of the entire Muslim ummah.

Among the measures to be taken:

1- Parents must give adequate and serious attention to their children. They must know whom their children befriend, ensuring that they are always in good company, with those having good akhlaaq. The parents should also spend quality time in building confidence, courage, and instilling positive

characteristics into their children, grooming them to be prepared in facing problems, emotional pressure, and readily accepting any outcome in their lives with contentment.

2- To increase the children's appreciation and understanding of Islam, imaan, noble values, and upright personality. Get them involved with Islamic courses and discourses,

encourage them to pray in jamaa 'ah at the masjid. Ingrain into them the love for the *deen* so that they will be afraid to fall into sinning and fearful of the torment of the Fire.

Indeed, without imaan and taqwa in the heart, the youth will belittle and downplay every form of disobedience and sinful acts. In an authentic narration of ibn Mas'ood radiyAllaahu 'anh,

he stated that: "A believer sees his sins as if he were sitting under a mountain which he is afraid may fall on him, whereas the wicked person considers his sins

as flies passing over his nose and he just drives them away like this (and he moved his hand over his nose in illustration)." (al-Bukhaari)

3- Schools and institutions of higher learning must execute effective preventive measures that are accommodating such as counseling service and motivational lectures on

the personal development of students. Counseling at school level is important in aiding the teenagers to overcome their dilemma.

These types of programs will be more effective if kept continuous, under the auspices of experienced personnel.

4- Law enforcement must be fully executed parallel with awareness programs. **Regulations and** punishments that are continuously enforced with transparency will aid in

preventing disobedience and munkar acts. The philosophy of criminal punishment in Islam and the objective of punishment according to the Sharee 'ah Crime Enactment are for prevention,

retribution for wrongdoing, compensation, and rehabilitation. The prevention aspect is for curbing mankind from committing evil. This will only be achieved

when there is fear within the society upon the punishment imposed. This type of deterrence is found in all punishments stipulated by Islamic law. It must be actualized in order to

awaken mankind from heedlessness from the reminders of Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala, as He mentions in al-Qur'an:

"... and We seized them with affliction that perhaps they might return [to faith]."



5-Whatever precautionary measures or approach implemented in resolving the dilemma of the youth, matters pertaining salaah and 'ibaadah must be given utmost priority and highest

level of importance by the parents and family, in saving these teenagers. Research and studies have indicated that those that strictly guard their salaah are found to have sound and solid 'aqeedah.

Allah Subhaanahu Wata 'aala mentions in al-Qur'an: "Recite, [O Muhammad sallAllahu 'alayhi wasallam], what has been revealed to you of the Book and establish prayer. Indeed, prayer prohibits immorality and wrongdoing, and the remembrance of Allah is greater. And Allah knows that which you do." (al-'Ankaboot 29:45)

Efforts in saving the teenagers of today must be carried out with wisdom and appropriateness, requiring everyone's involvement. Teenagers of today are the architects of the generations to

If they are good, then bright will be the future of the coming people. Likewise, the same goes for the opposite scenario. Hence, the task of improving,

educating, and shaping the future generation must be initiated so as to ensure a Muslim society that is conducive, harmonious, and successful.

The conclusions that can be drawn from today's *khutbah*

are:

1- The social disorder that is plaguing today's youth has reached a very critical

stage.

Everyone must galvanize their very effort in tackling this matter. 2- The youth is our precious asset for the time to come. The corrupted akhlaaq that has clearly infected them

nowadays is a clear manifestation of the catastrophe upon our religion, population, and nation. Efforts in resolving these immoralities and saving the youth must be

well planned and properly strategized in a continuous fashion so as to attain the very objective intended, insha Allah.

"And let there be [arising] from you a nation inviting to [all that is] good, enjoining what is right and forbidding what is wrong, and those will be the successful."

(Aali-'Imraan 3:104)



O Allah, You are the Almighty Lord, we are grateful unto You for having bestowed upon us **Mercy and Blessings, nourishing** us to strive to continue in strengthening the Muslim nation especially the state of Selangor, as an advanced, progressive, peaceful, and benevolent state.

We beseech and beg You, Ya Allah, to strengthen our *imaan*, increase our good deeds, strengthen our unity, increase our provision, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, nourish our soul with beautiful akhlaaq, guide us to the Path that is **Pleasing to You,**

protect us from Your severe tribulations such as the long drought, severe flooding, disease outbreak, violence and instability, poverty, and others, so that our land will become more peaceful and blessed.

Oh Allah, we ask You to open up the hearts of the Muslim ummah especially in Selangor, to fulfill their zakaat obligation as You had decreed in al-Qur'an. Bless the lives of those who have fulfilled their zakaat obligation, loving and caring for the poor and needy.

Purify their wealth and soul so that they will live according to that which pleases You. Protect the poor and needy from disbelief and everlasting poverty. Allaahummaa ameen

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