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TEENAGERS OF THE FUTURE

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all of His Commands and avoiding all of His prohibitions. May we attain blissfulness and salvation in this world and the Hereafter.

On this noble day, I will discuss upon a *khutbah*. <u>titled...</u>

TEENAGERS OF THE FUTURE

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Adolescence is a period of personal and selfidentity development, assuming responsibility, independence, and learning about leadership. Teenagers play a significant role in

shaping the future of community environment, society, and the nation's excellence. Teenagers are precious assets that must be guided and educated in a proper manner, according to

Islamic authentic teachings, for the wellbeing of the community, the nation's prosperity, and a civilization that is an exemplary to the world.

On the authority of bin 'Ali Husayn radiyAllaahu 'anh, صلى الله Baid: عليه وسلم Rasulullah عليه وسلم

"Indeed, Allah Ta'aala loves loftiest and affairs noble (character) and hates filthy matters (conduct)."

(at-Tabaraani)

In al-Qur'an, there are several verses that mentions about the youth, providing advice, lessons, and beneficial stories for the teenagers. Let us

ponder upon the story of As-haab al-Kahf (the **Companions** of the Cave). The story of Ashaab al-Kahf is a wellknown story mentioned in al-Qur'an. It involves a group of youth that had

imaan (faith), whom were seeking refuge inside a cave so as to save themselves, in protecting their 'aqeedah and imaan. This story is mentioned in verses 13-14 of Soorah al-Kahf:

"It is We who relate to you, [O Muhammad], their story in truth. Indeed, they were youths who believed in their Lord, and We increased them in guidance. And We made firm their

hearts when they stood up and said, "Our Lord is the Lord of the heavens and the earth. Never will we invoke besides Him any deity. We would have certainly spoken, then, an excessive transgression.""

Next, the story of Prophet Yousuf 'Alayhissalaam, which depicted the noble adolescent personality, having utmost patience, virtuous akhlaaq (character), and wisdom.

As Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala mentions in verse 22 of Soorah Yousuf, regarding the virtues conferred upon Prophet 'Alayhissalaam Yousuf since his teenage years:

"And when Joseph reached maturity, We gave him judgment and knowledge. And thus We reward the doers of good."

The youth play a significant role in shaping the future of the community and nation. A good civilizational legacy must be held accountable against them for the continuity in driving

progress and well-being of the ummah. Several important aspects must be given due attention so that teenagers today can assume their role effectively and provide added value to the

nation's future, instilling Islamic principles with peacefulness and prosperity. For that, there are several matters that must be prioritized in grooming teenagers of the future. Among them:-

1. Educate the teenagers according to the Islamic way of teaching and elevate their rank with beneficial knowledge. Education is the key to the nation's advancement and development. Youths

that are knowledgeable and educated will be building capable in confidence, shouldering responsibilities, and entrusted with Knowledge leadership. will be the beacon for the

teenagers to explore the truth, the limits of truth and falsehood, as well as the ability to carry out amar ma'roof (enjoining good) and prevent munkar (evil) with adequacy and wisdom.

The Muslim youth must master the knowledge of Fard al-'Ayn (individual obligations) and Fard al-(communal Kifaayah that obligation) worldly encompasses knowledge in a balanced

manner, for a superior Islamic civilization.

Let us as Muslim ummah become the exemplary for the younger generation. Educate them with good examplaries in all aspects

of religious and worldly life, including within the household, managing organizations, politics, social and national issues. And also, how can one become an

individual that stands upright according to the ideals and stipulations in Islam.

2. Nurture the traits of leadership, integrity, and upright persona with the teenagers. They must be sufficiently equipped with tasawwur Islam (Islamic worldview) and sound Islamic principles.

As leaders of the future, the youth must lead the nation through political siyaasah (governance) development that is meticulously organized, and never once abandon the interests of the

religion in the affairs of nationbuilding.

Let us sow and cultivate within the soul of the teenagers unto becoming individuals that would lead in the interest of the

masses, not for group or gain. personal Unfortunately, what is happening today is that the youths are unable to emulate anything that is accurate and befitting for them. What they are

witnessing in the matter leadership of is disputation that are neverending the among Muslims, abuses, slandering, and condemnation. Such predicament necessitates

for the youth to be educated in continuously strong possessing identity. Hence, the teenagers must be adequately trained to endure various situations by having the attitude of

not being easily influenced, blind imitation, or obsession with negative things.

NarratedAbuHurayrahradiyAllaahu'anh:Rasulullah ﷺ said:

"Islam initiated as something strange, and it would revert to its (old position) of being strange. So good tidings for the stranger."

(Muslim)

Today, the nation has placed high hopes upon the youth as leaders of the nation's future and excellence. As the precious country's assets, the teenagers must take notice and

know the boundaries of truth regarding matters that are happening today. The teenagers must reflect upon the lessons from past and current events as examples and extremities in their era of

leadership in the future. Youth as successors must equip themselves and look ahead with full responsibility in transforming this country into a land that is safe, peaceful, and always

bestowed with mercy and forgiveness from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala*.

I would like to convey several advice so that the youth will remain *istiqaamah* (steadfast) in

preparing themselves:-

1. Strengthen the imaan and increase the taqwa. This means to always preserve the relationship with Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala, safeguarding

the rights of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala (by performing the obligatory prayers, fulfilling all of His Commands and all of His abandoning prohibitions). This is

because by preserving the rights of Allah Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala, only then He will dignify our religion and worldly affairs. Do good by performing righteous deeds and reciting al-Qur'an.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in verse 56 of Soorah al-Muddaththir:

"He is worthy of fear and adequate for [granting] forgiveness."

2. Seek knowledge, for knowledge is the guiding light to the truth. Knowledge is a tool for achieving success in this world and the Hereafter. So, strive in seeking authentic knowledge

from teachers whom are murshid (esteemed) wherever one may be. Seeking knowledge is not only necessary, it is an obligation upon every Muslim.

In the words of Imaam ash-Shaafi'i:

"Whoever wants (to attain) the worldly life then he has to gain knowledge, and whoever wants the Hereafter then he has to gain knowledge."

In the *hadeeth* of Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh*, Rasulullah ﷺ said:

"And whoever follows a path to seek knowledge therein, Allah will make easy for him a path to

Paradise. No people gather together in one of the Houses of Allah, reciting the Book of Allah and studying it among themselves, except that sakeenah (tranquility) descends upon them,

and mercy envelops them, and the angels surround them, and Allah mentions them amongst those who are with Him."



3. Choosing the suitable and perfect companion. Make friends with those that can have a positive impact and inviting towards good. Avoid those that can lead to disobedience or corrupt the akhlaaq.

On the authority of Abu Hurayrah radiyAllaahu 'anh: Rasulullah ﷺ said: "A man is upon the religion of his friend, so let one of you look at whom he befriends."

(Ahmad)

To end the sermon today, let us take a few lessons from the sermon as guidelines in our lives, namely:

1. The Muslim ummah must always cling firmly upon the teachings of al-Qur'an and as-Sunnah. Therefore, educate our teenagers to follow and practice those teachings.

2. The Muslims must realize that the youth is a valuable asset that must be guided and educated properly, for the wellbeing of the community and the prosperity of the country in the future.

3. The Muslim ummah must ensure that the teenagers can build and strengthen their *imaan* and *taqwa*, safeguard their tongue and deeds in their daily

lives that the SO relationship between Allah and humans Subhaanahu Wa will always Ta'aala and remain firm meaningful.

"So whoever Allah wants to guide - He expands his breast to [contain] Islam; and whoever He wants to misguide - He makes his breast tight and

constricted as though he were climbing into the sky. Thus does Allah place defilement upon those who do not believe."

(Soorah al-An'aam 6:125)



O Allah! We seek refuge in You from severe trials, from being afflicted with calamities, from evil in destiny, and from the joy of the enemies upon the tribulations and misfortunes

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that befell us. O Allah! We beseech Your protection, from losing the favors that You have bestowed, from the loss of health that You have granted, protect our state from calamity and disaster.

O Allah! You are our One and Only Savior, we humbly beg You to save the Muslims and Masjid al-**Aqsa in Palestine.**

O Allah! Make us among Your slaves that fulfills the amaanah. Strengthen our imaan so that we avoid treachery, protect us from becoming among those that neglect their responsibilities,

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and protect our state and nation from destruction due to bribery, embezzlement, and power abuse. Render the duty to lead our country upon Your slaves whom are trustworthy and honest,

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as well as firm and courageous in upholding the truth and executing justice according to the Sharee'ah. O Allah, make the masaajid and suraus in

the state of Selangor as Your peaceful homes, uniting everyone, and serve as the heart of the ummah's strength.

INDERASING DEEDAWANOLEH

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