

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا
النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ...

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

مَا تَحَلَ وَالِدٌ وَوَلَدًا مِنْ تَحَلَّى أَفْضَلَ مِنْ آدَبٍ حَسَنٍ.

HELLO SUMMER WITH THE QUR'AN!

Dear Muslims!

In the verse I have recited, our Lord Almighty (swt) states, **“O believers! Protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones.”**¹

In the hadith I have read, the Messenger of Allah (saw) says, **“There is no gift that parents give their children more virtuous than good manners.”**²

Dear Believers!

One of the most beautiful blessings and precious trusts bestowed upon us by our Almighty Lord is our children. They are the comfort of our eyes and the joy of our families. They are the most precious capital of our nation. They are the guarantee of our independence and future. Protecting and nurturing such a precious treasure from all kinds of evils and negativities is our common duty, especially for parents. We should show the same care and effort for the health of our children's souls as we do for their physical well-being. We should show the same sensitivity and diligence for them to achieve eternal peace and happiness in the Hereafter as we do for their academic success and career in this world.

Dear Muslims!

We live in a time of rapid change and transformation. Unfortunately, our children, who are the guarantee of our future, are threatened by harmful habits in both the real and virtual worlds, as well as by misguided ideologies and deviant trends. At such times, our most important goal should be to ensure that our precious children, the apple of our eyes, grow up to be good individuals, virtuous Muslims, and beneficial members for themselves, their community, and humanity. Our main goal should be to connect our generations with the principles of Islamic faith, basic religious knowledge, worship, and moral values.

Dear Believers!

Our children have completed this year's schooling and have begun another summer vacation. May Allah the Almighty be pleased with our teachers and all those who contribute to building our children's future. We should not think of their vacation days merely as time spent in front of the TV, phone, tablet, or computer. We should consider our summer Qur'an courses as an opportunity to contribute to the spiritual and physical development of our children.

Beginning on Monday, July 1st, our children will immerse themselves in the spiritual atmosphere of our mosques and Qur'an courses. They will connect with our life guide, the Qur'an, and learn about the exemplary life of the Messenger of Mercy, our beloved Prophet Muhammad (saw). They will gain a deeper understanding of acts of worship such as ablution, ritual prayer, fasting, zakat, and hajj. They will better understand virtues such as love and respect, brotherhood and affection, compassion and mercy. They will embrace values such as cooperation, solidarity, and sharing more deeply. They will better distinguish between good and evil, right and wrong, halal and haram, sin and reward. In a joyful and fun atmosphere, under the guidance of skilled and qualified instructors, they will gain authentic religious knowledge through proper methods.

Dear Muslims!

I invite our children to come to our mosques as well as to our day and boarding Qur'an courses with the call “Hello Summer with the Qur'an!” Registration is still open for our summer Qur'an classes, which began on June 10. I would like to take this opportunity to pray that Allah be pleased with our devoted and selfless teachers who nurture the spiritual growth of our children, with our parents, and with everyone involved in providing them with these wonderful opportunities.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following supplication we are taught in the Holy Qur'an:

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا

“Our Lord! Bless us with ‘pious’ spouses and offspring who will be the joy of our hearts, and make us models for the righteous.”³

¹ Tahrim, 66/6.

² Tirmidhi, Birr, 33.

³ Furqan, 25/74.