

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

تَعَلَّمُوا الْقُرْآنَ، فَاقْرَءُوهُ وَأَقْرِئُوهُ...

A NEW EXCITEMENT EVERY SUMMER: MOSQUE, CHILDREN AND THE QUR'AN Honorable Muslims!

Another school year has come to an end. As of today, millions of our children will, inshallah, have completed this year's studies and begin their summer holiday. The summer months are not merely a time of rest for our children and young people; they also mark a critical period filled with pivotal choices and examinations that may shape the course of their lives. May Allah the Almighty grant success in both the tests of this world and the Hereafter to all our children, especially to our youth who will be taking the university entrance exam this weekend. May He be pleased with the parents, teachers, and all who played a part in helping them reach this point.

Dear Believers!

Children are both a great blessing and a sacred trust bestowed upon us by our Almighty Lord. As the Qur'an describes them, they are "the adornment of this worldly life"¹, and in the words of our Prophet (saw), they are a source of goodness and benevolence who keep our record of deeds open.² Raising children with love for Allah and His Messenger, and adorning their lives with noble character, is a foremost responsibility of families, society, and all relevant institutions. The Messenger of Allah (saw) reminds us of this duty, saying, **“إِنَّ لَوْلَدِكَ عَلَيْكَ حَقًّا”** **“Indeed, your child has a right over you.”**³

Esteemed Muslims!

It is their rightful due upon us that we raise our children as devoted servants of Allah and as individuals who bring benefit to their families and society. Just as it is important to strive for our children's worldly success, it is equally important and valuable to instill in them an awareness of what is halal and haram, and to protect them from sins. The Prophet (saw) emphasizes this by saying, **“No parent has ever given a gift more valuable to their child than good upbringing.”**⁴

Dear Believers!

In the age we live in, our children and young people face threats more than ever before. False ideologies, the imposition of secular lifestyles, social agendas that corrupt our moral values, and corrupting media content—all work tirelessly to pull our youth away from their national and spiritual heritage. Virtual gambling, violent games, and contents against natural human disposition spread across digital platforms expose our children to moral decay,

isolation, and the scourge of “peer bullying”. These dangerous movements estrange our youth from their families, nation, and faith, turning them into callous, indifferent, and aimless souls.

Dear Muslims!

The surest way to shield our children and young people from all these evils is to raise them with the noble character of our Prophet (saw). In accordance with the our Almighty Lord's commandment, **“O believers! Protect yourselves and your families from a Fire whose fuel is people and stones...”**⁵, it is our duty to safeguard them from every harmful influence. By following the Messenger of Allah's (saw) advice, **“When they reach seven years of age, train your children to pray.”**⁶, it is our duty to nurture in our children a consciousness of worship. In accordance with the verse, **“وَلَا تَزْكُوا إِلَى الَّذِينَ ظَلَمُوا”** **“And do**

not be inclined to the wrongdoers.”⁷ it is our duty to instil in them the resolve to stand against oppression, support the oppressed, and dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to faith, homeland, and nation.

Dear Believers!

Our summer Qur'an courses, which will nurture our children's spiritual growth and guide them to become good-hearted individuals, are set to begin on June 30th, inshallah. Registrations are still open. Summer Qur'an courses are havens of knowledge and wisdom where children learn valuable lessons while enjoying themselves, forge new friendships, strengthen their bonds with the mosque, and cultivate a sense of responsibility. Through these courses, our children not only savor the joy of summer holidays but also become acquainted with the Qur'an—a lifelong guide for their journey ahead. A supplication, a surah, or an authentic religious teaching learned today will shape their tomorrows, filling their hearts with faith and hope.

Dear Parents!

As part of our responsibility as parents, let us bring our children to join our summer Qur'an courses. Let us not forget that if we do not equip their pure minds and hearts with sound and authentic religious knowledge, they will fall prey to countless superstitions, falsehoods, and misguided ideas. This, in turn, would burden us with a grave responsibility in this world and lead to bitter disappointment in the Hereafter.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following hadith of our beloved Prophet (saw): **“Learn the Qur'an, recite it, and teach it. Whoever learns, recites, and acts upon it is like a container filled with musk, spreading fragrance everywhere...”**⁸

¹ Kahf, 18/46.

² Muslim, Wasiiyyah, 14.

³ Muslim, Siyam, 183.

⁴ Tirmidhi, Birr, 33.

⁵ Tahrir, 66/6.

⁶ Abu Dawud, Salat, 26.

⁷ Hud, 11/113.

⁸ Tirmidhi, Fada'il al-Qur'an, 2.

