

Al-Huda (The Guidance)

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE.....

- ▶ A MUSLIMAH PARENTS PLEA
- ▶ NATURAL CATASTROPHES
- ▶ IN SHAYKH'S COMPANY
- ▶ 40 HADEETH LESSON
- ▶ CHILDRENS CORNER

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Editorial

A MUSLIMAH PARENTS PLEA

Working closely with Muslim youths in school on a day to day basis, I feel despondent and alarmed at the lack of manners, respect and bad attitude of many of our youngsters. The environment of the home and society, in general, impacts upon the condition of our youth.

Many young people are free to dress as they please. Parents are oblivious to the facts which are regularly discussed in the media on the influence of clothes in promoting sexuality in young children, yet this and the impact on their children is ignored, by allowing their children to follow the latest trends. Then we wonder what ever happened to modesty in our youth.

One will not find many homes where there is no Internet. This is yet another arrow of Shaytaan to mislead our youth and also many adults from the straight path. Under the guise doing school work, many children chat online to friends and strangers late into the night. The internet is a gateway to harmful material which has unfortunately resulted in addiction of a different kind, wasting hours on fruitless activity.

Parents fail to invest in adequate safety controls to block harmful sites on the internet and more alarmingly fail to monitor what their children do on the internet. Many of our youngsters have their own pages on websites such as face book, my space and Bebo, with pictures and details of themselves thus exposing themselves to all, friends and foes alike.

Recently some Asian youths beat a vicar in the yard of his church followed by throwing a firework into a moving car. Is this what our beautiful Deen teaches us in terms of our behaviour and conduct?

The government blames schools for lack of morals and manners in our youth and the schools

blame the parents. As parents we may even put the blame on the Madrassah. Parents play a key role in the tarbiyyah of their children. However, sadly today, we have neglected this duty and made tarbiyyah a responsibility of the schools and the Madrassah alone. As parents we need to ask ourselves the questions of what we are doing for the Tarbiyyah of our children. Do we model to our children the behavior that we expect from them? Do we take time to monitor what they watch, read, their friendship circles, and their use of the internet? Do we make the effort to teach them and guide them in light of Islam? Are we role models for them?

The influence of my parents in my childhood shaped me into the person I am today. From a young age, my mother taught me about the importance of loosely covering certain parts of the body, covering my hair and wearing modest clothing. To this day, I feel very strongly about this. Both my parents were very hospitable and the house was always filled with visitors. Their hospitality is marked on my mind. My father hated the use of foul language and we would be told off even if we used the word stupid. To this day, I abhor foul and swear words. I grew up on a diet of TV and was allowed to watch but only uptill the water shed. One of the best things my father did however was to ensure we did not have a TV when we moved house. Although I had become habituated to TV I realized how much of my time I had been wasting and sadly how much I had polluted my mind with the rubbish that comes on TV, in the form of soaps and films. My father was an upright person who had a strong sense of duty of care to both Muslims and non Muslims. He would often enquire about the health and well being of our non Muslim neighbour, an elderly woman. Even after we moved homes he would

(continued on pg3)

Moderation in Discipline

“One should not be very extreme in disciplining his nafs. By adopting such an attitude it is very likely that after a while the nafs will rebel to such an extent that will go out of control. This is why we see some people completely change for the worse after adopting a period of extreme austerity and abstinence in certain matters.

The nafs should be treated like a small child. It should be cajoled to action by usage of encouragement and reward. For example one may consume a very cold drink with this in mind that I am letting my nafs experience some pleasure so that when I have to do something which may be difficult for my nafs, my nafs will need to obey me.”

Sweet Zikr

“The barakah of zikr is such that when a person embarks upon it he will want to increase the amount of time he spends in zikr.

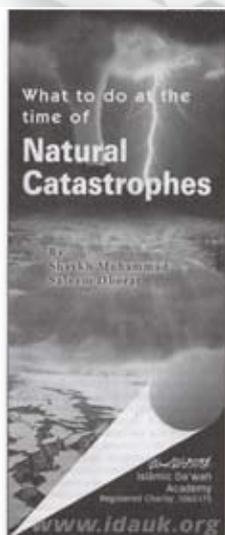
It is just like a child who is given sweet cough syrup, he will enjoy it so much he will ask for more.”

Strive for greater Enjoyment

“Don't think to yourself that, if I leave my sinful life I will be deprived of all enjoyment. If one leaves those things which Allah has forbidden Allah will grant one greater enjoyment in return.

Remember, enjoyment and the experience of enjoyment is after all nothing but a creation of Allah.”

In Shaykh's Company is a blog maintained by Shaykh Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullah's students recording Shaykh's teachings, discourses and advices.



Everyone is aware of the devastations caused by earthquakes throughout the world. According to reports over thousands of people have lost their lives, hundreds of thousands have lost their relatives, entire communities have been wiped out & countless buildings & properties have been destroyed. Over a million people have been left homeless, having lost everything they once owned, now living under open skies with nothing to eat and cover themselves with. And the death toll may rise further as the spread of disease is very likely to occur if adequate assistance is not provided in time.

When such calamities strike, one often ponders over one's role and responsibility, as a human being & as a Muslim. It is unfortunate that for most of us, it takes such calamities to make us reflect on the Power and lofty Attributes of Allah ﷻ. Rather than expressing shallow sorrow & a momentary shock, there are a few points that we need to reflect and act upon. so that events like these can cause us to become better Muslims for the rest of our lives:

1. Allah ﷻ is the Hakim (The Supreme Ruler) and the Hakeem (The Most Wise)

First of all, one has to reaffirm in one's mind and heart that whatever happens, whether good or bad in appearance, is according to the Wish of Allah ﷻ. Allah ﷻ is Hakim i.e. He has Power over everything. Every single particle in the whole universe is under His Control. The turning of the leaf in the air while it is falling from the tree, to the up turning and shaking of the earth itself, as in the case of an earthquake, everything is in His Absolute Control. The commands, wishes and controls of everyone else are subjugated to His Command and Governance. The varied circumstances that one observes or experiences in one's life are also in His total Control.

There are many incidents and events in a person's life, during which one hopes for a positive outcome through worldly means e.g. when a relative is seriously ill we can hope for recovery by consulting a specialist, along with our belief that only that will happen which Allah ﷻ has ordained. Nevertheless we take the help of worldly means to satisfy ourselves & try to rectify the situation to the best of our ability.

However, when faced with natural disasters like storms, earthquakes & floods, there is no hope of any worldly means which we can employ to circumvent, overcome or prevent re-occurrence of such situations. Such natural disasters are entirely in the Control of Almighty Allah & we are forced to acknowledge that Indeed as Muslims we should never have disregarded and ignored the Absolute Power of Allah ﷻ and it should have been reflected upon in our day to day actions & deeds.

However, it is comforting to know that Allah ﷻ is not only the Hakim (The Supreme Commander) but He is also the Hakeem (The Most Wise). Allah's ﷻ Governance of the universe is unlike that of worldly rulers. His Control and Governance is full of Supreme Wisdom & Divine Justice. Hence even in calamities, such as this earthquake. there is the hidden Wisdom of the Almighty, which may not be apparent to our physical eyes.

To be completed in next edition. Don't miss the concluding part. To follow

2. Turn towards Allah ﷻ in repentance: Every person during such times should turn to Allah ﷻ with humbleness, faith, & genuine repentance ...not just from the affected regions but from all over the world.

3. Pray for the afflicted: Our beloved Prophet ﷺ has commanded us to support & help the victims of calamities whether they be Muslims or otherwise. Dua is a very powerful & potent means available to all of us. Only Allah ﷻ has the ability to provide the things asked for in prayer.

4. Donate generously: After Dua, for people far from the afflicted region, the next best that they can do to help & support is to provide financial & material help. This is not a time to wait for someone to come & knock at your door for donations. Go out looking for reliable charities & organisations, so that your money reaches the genuine victims.

(continued from pg1)

still ask after her. These are just some examples, there are many more.

As parents let us not underestimate the influence that we can have on our young. The prime responsibility for the rearing and tarbiyyah of our children is ours. It is us who will be questioned first on the day of judgement and not the ustad or teacher. Are we confident of being able to answer those questions?

If you have any articles, stories or poems which you would like us to publish, please forward them to us at:

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LEARN **40** HADEETH OF RASOOLULLAH ﷺ

The Virtue of 40 Hadeeth

"Whosoever will learn and convey forty hadeeth to my Ummah concerning religion, Allah ﷻ will raise him a great scholar (of Islām) and will intercede for him and will be his witness on the Day of Judgement."

EXPLANATION

The more good actions a Muslim does the more beautiful his Islaam becomes, like a bare room which becomes much more attractive and comfortable when it is decorated with paint and wallpaper and fitted with a carpet and furniture.

For a Muslim, sins are obviously harmful and must be avoided, but there is another group of actions which, if they are avoided too, will make our Islaam extremely beautiful. They are all the pointless and futile things we do, which bring no benefit to us in this world nor any reward in the Hereafter, e.g. talking excessively, idling away time, hanging around with friends or getting involved in any other unrewarding activity.

Staying away from these things and doing good actions instead, will make us better Muslims.

HADEETH NO 9

مِنْ حُسْنِ إِسْلَامِ الْمَرْءِ
تَرْكُهُ مَا لَا يَعْنِيهِ (الترمذی)

From the beauty of a person's Islaam is his abandoning that which does not benefit him.

"Because Muslim boys and girls are very precious pearls!"

Children's corner

4

CHILDREN OWE TEN THINGS TO THEIR PARENTS

- 1- They should be provided with food if they do not have any.
- 2- They should be given clothing if they do not possess any.
- 3- They should be served if necessary.
- 4- If they call, they should be immediately attended to.
- 5- They should be gently spoken to and never addressed harshly.
- 6- They must never be called by their names as this is disrespectful.
- 7- Children should walk behind them and never in front of them, nor by their sides.
- 8- One should like for them what he likes for himself and dislike for them what he dislikes for himself.
- 9- One should always make du'a for them. By not making du'a for them a persons life becomes difficult.
- 10- Every command of theirs should be duly obeyed, unless it contradicts the sharee'ah.

8

PLEASING THE PARENTS AFTER THEIR DEATH BY THREE THINGS

After the parents demise, children can please them by doing three things. These are;

1. The children should be pious. This will bring them more pleasure than anything else.
2. The children should maintain good relations with the family and friends of their deceased parents.
3. They should make du'ā for the forgiveness of their parents and give charity on their behalf.

Children should regularly pray for their parents:

رَبِّ ارْحَمَهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيْنِي صَغِيرًا

Rabbirhamhumā kamā rabbayānee sagheerā

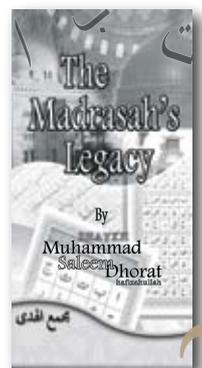
'My lord! Bestow upon them your Mercy as they did bring me up when i was young.'

ATTENTION TO ALL PARENTS! - Not to be missed - 'a MUST read'!

A powerful, thought provoking and insightful leaflet by Shaykh Muhammad Saleem Dhorat hafizahullah, on the importance of the madrasah and the role and responsibilities of parents in the upbringing of tomorrow's generation - our children!

"It is the parents who will be questioned by Allah ﷻ about their children's education.....Allah will demand two questions from every parent.....what knowledge and what good manners/social etiquettes did you teach"

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(Courtesy of Riyadul Jannah)