



جولنی کیسے گزاریں؟ (English)

HOW TO SPEND OUR YOUTH?



Presented by

Majlis **Al-Madina-tul-'Ilmiyyah**

Translated into English by

Majlis-e-Tarajim (Dawat-e-Islami)

جوانی کیسے گزاریں؟

HOW TO SPEND OUR YOUTH?

Shaykh-e-Ṭarīqat Amīr-e-Aḥl-e-Sunnat, the founder of Dawat-e-Islami ‘Allāmah Maulānā Abu Bilal Muhammad Ilyas Attar Qadiri Razavi دامت برکاتہم العالیہ delivered a speech titled ‘*Jawānī kī ‘Ibādat kay Fazāil*’, i.e. *Excellence of Worship in Youth* in the Urdu language during the weekly Sunnah-Inspiring Ijtimā’ held on Thursday, 18th Rabī’-ul-Awwal 1412 AH, 26th September 1991, at the very first Madanī Markaz of Dawat-e-Islami – ‘Jāmi’ Masjid Gulzār-e-Ḥabīb’ (situated at Gulistān-e-Okārvi Bāb-ul-Madīnah, Karachi). With the help of the very same speech, a booklet, along with many additions and amendments, was compiled by the **Majlis Al-Madīna-tul-‘Ilmiyyah** in Urdu and translated by the **Majlis-e-Tarājim** (the translation department) into English. If you find any mistake in the translation or composing, please inform the translation department on the following postal or email address with the intention of earning reward [Ṣawāb].

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How to Spend our Youth?

An English translation of 'Jawani Kaysay Guzarayn?'



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أَلْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
أَمَّا بَعْدُ فَأَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Du'a for Reading the Book

Read the following Du'a (supplication) before you study a religious book or an Islamic lesson, you will remember whatever you study, *إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ*:

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ عَلَيْنَا حِكْمَتَكَ وَأَنْشُرْ
عَلَيْنَا رَحْمَتَكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ

Translation

O Allah *عَزَّوَجَلَّ*! Open the door of knowledge and wisdom for us, and have mercy on us! O the One Who is the Most Honourable and Glorious!

(Al-Mustatraf, vol. 1, pp. 40)

Note: Recite *Ṣalāt-‘Alan-Nabī ﷺ* once before and after the Du'ā.

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِينَ
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How to Spend our Youth?

No matter how lazy satan tries to make you feel, read this booklet from beginning to end. Not only will you be acquiring the wealth of reward but also getting aware of the significance of the acts of worship performed in youth.

Excellence of Ṣalāt-‘Alan-Nabi ﷺ

The Mercy for the entire creation, the Guide to the path of salvation صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, ‘O people! Without doubt, the one to attain salvation quickly on the Day of Judgement from its horrors and accountability will be the one amongst you who will have recited Ṣalāt upon me in abundance in the world.’

(*Jam’-ul-Jawāmi’*, vol. 9, pp. 129, Ḥadīṣ 27686)

Ḥashr kī tīragī siyāhī mayn

Nūr ḥay, sham’-e-pur-ziyā ḥay Durūd

Chōriyo mat Durūd ko Kāfī

Rāh-e-Jannat kā raḥnumā ḥay Durūd

Translation: Ṣalāt-‘Alan-Nabī is a beacon in the gloom of the Resurrection Day. O Kāfi! Never give up reciting Ṣalāt-‘Alan-Nabī. It is indeed a guide leading to path to Paradise.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Search for youth

It is said that an elderly person was once passing through some area. Extremely old, he was so bent that it looked as if he was looking for something over the ground. Seeing him, a comical young man said in jest, ‘O old man! What are you searching for?’ Although what he said was infuriating, the old man replied whilst demonstrating great tolerance and sagacity and presenting a thought-provoking piece of advice in return for his taunting remark, ‘Son! I am looking for my youth.’ Astonished to have heard an unexpectedly amazing reply to his snide comment, the young man asked, ‘Dear uncle! I could not comprehend what you mean. Is youth a thing of the kind that can be looked for? Has anyone losing it once ever been able to regain it?’ The elderly man responded, ‘This is what I regret now. When young, I could not avail myself of it. Today, I have realized its significance but I no longer have it. If only I had regained it so that I would make up for my past follies and foibles and would worship Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ wholeheartedly!’

أَلَا لَيْتَ الشَّبَابَ يَعُودُ يَوْمًا فَأُخْبِرُهُ بِمَا فَعَلَ الْمَشِيبُ

If only my youth had returned to me so I would inform it of how old age has treated me.

Then, heaving a deep sigh of remorse and regret, he went onto say: Extremely regretfully! I have lost my wealth of youth. Now there is no use crying over spilt milk. I could not benefit from my youth. I could neither perform virtuous deeds nor make any preparation for my afterlife but rather spent my youth sleeping deeply over the bed of heedlessness.

I am now in my dotage with deteriorating health and weakening body. I have enthusiasm for worship now but have lost courage due to being old. Then, making individual effort, the aged man said, 'Son! By the grace of Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** You are now young. Take advantage of your youth. Exert yourself to perform worship. Bow in the court of Allah **عَزَّوَجَلَّ** before you get bent. Otherwise, just like me, you will also be searching for your youth after you have been old and bent. But, at that time, you will have nothing except for wistfulness and shamefulfulness. You will be empty-handed to have lost your childhood in playing and youth in sleeping, and will be crying in ageing.' The elderly man's polite way of counselling in an advising and sympathizing tone along with fragrant Madanī pearls of individual effort touched the heart of the young man, impressing him greatly. The very same young man who had shot the arrow of a taunting remark at the

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old man a few moments ago was inspired to promise the old man that he would make best use of his youth by spending it in piety.

Highlighting the significance of youth, the beloved son of A'lā Ḥaḍrat, Muftī-e-A'zam Hind Maulānā Mustafa Razā Khān عَلَيهِ السَّلَامُ has composed a couplet in his collection of poems known as 'Sāmān-e-Bakhshish':

*Riyāzat kay yeḥī din ḥayn, buḥḥapay māyn kaḥān ḥimmat
Jo kuch kernā ḥo ab ker lo, abḥī Nūrī jawān tum ḥo*

Translation: This is the time when we must adopt asceticism. O Nūrī! Do now what you have to do because you are young. You will not be courageous enough to do it in old age.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Present flower in return for thorn

Dear Islamic brothers! The foregoing parable contains precious Madanī pearls of admonition, advice and wisdom. One of the Madanī pearls is to have patience instead of making a retort when somebody talks in a taunting tone or resorts to criticism. Guiding the objecting person politely and presenting him with a Madanī pearl in return for his poisonous thorn, depending upon the situation, will produce fruitful results, *إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ*. This will even cause a Madanī transformation in his life, paving the way for the accomplishment of the Madanī aim

‘I must strive to reform myself and the people of the entire world, *إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ*’.

*Tū pīchay na hainā kabhī ay piyāray Muballigh
Shayṭān kay her wār ko nākām banā day*

Translation: O preacher! Never withdraw from preaching, remaining unharmed from every attack of satan.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Promote call to righteousness

Dear Islamic brothers! The above parable also gives the message that we should keep advising Muslims and calling them towards righteousness for the betterment of our own worldly life and afterlife as well as that of other Islamic brothers. Allah *عَزَّوَجَلَّ* has said in Ayah number 55 of Sūrah Az-Zāriyāt part 27:

وَذَكِّرْ فَإِنَّ الذِّكْرَى تَنْفَعُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ ﴿٥٥﴾

And advise, that the admonition benefits the believers.

[Kanz-ul-Īmān (Translation of Quran)]

*Mujhāy tum aysī do himmat Āqā
Dūn sab ko naykī kī da'wat Āqā*

*Banā do mujh ko bhī nayk khaṣlat
Nabī-e-Raḥmat, Shaftī'-e-Ummat*

Translation: O Rasool of Raḥmaḥ and Intercessor of Ummaḥ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ! Encourage me to call everyone towards righteousness and make me also righteous.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Benefit from time

The above-mentioned parable also highlights the fact that waste of time eventually causes embarrassment. Those spending youth in carelessness, idleness and heedlessness end up regretting in old age. Those spending youth in the dark cave of sins find it very hard to come out of it in the bright daylight of virtuous deeds because it is too late to do so in old age. Even if someone wants to do something at that time, physical weakness and poor health discourage him. Therefore, as long as one is young and healthy, he should struggle hard to perform more and more acts of worship and good deeds, remaining steadfast in them.

Today, if anyone shrinks from good deeds and indulges in bad ones, losing his courage, capability and treasure of time, he will have to regret tomorrow but in vain and without any gain. The sharp-edged axe of time is unceasingly cutting the tree of our life. Who can stop the flying time? Who can slow down the fast-running vehicle of time? Therefore, value your time today taking advantage of it. Otherwise, if lost once, it will be regretted but not regained.

Sadā 'aysh daurān dikhātā nahīn
Gayā waqt phir hāth ātā nahīn

Translation: In luxury, one does not always remain. Lost time can never be regained.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Definition of youth

It is stated on page 455 of the first volume of the 1022-page book 'Faizān-e-Sunnat' published by Maktaba-tul-Madīnah: According to dictionaries, a person remains young from the age of puberty to 30 or 40 years. From 30 to 50 years is the period of middle age while old age starts after 50 years.

Blessing of Quran and young man

Dear Islamic brothers! Youth is the stage of life when physical and intellectual abilities can greatly be benefitted from. It is indeed the best age to acquire religious knowledge and study Islamic scriptures [i.e. holy books of Islam]. In old age, man often goes crazy losing his wisdom and power of consideration. The treasure of memory gets buried. Mentally disturbed, the old sometimes behave like children, doing ridiculous things. But good news is for the young man who is habitual of reciting the Holy Quran because he will remain protected from such troubles and tribulations if he reaches old age.

The renowned commentator, Ḥakīm-ul-Ummat Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān Na'imī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْعَلِيِّ has narrated that Sayyidunā 'Ikrimah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has stated: The young man who is habitual of reciting the Holy Quran will not be affected by this condition (i.e. he will not forget the knowledge in old age he had gained in young age.), إِنَّ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ.

(Nūr-ul-'Irfān, part 17, Surah Al-Ḥajj, Taḥt-al-Āyah 5)

Filmaun say dirāmaun say day nafrat Tū Ilāhī!

Bas shauq mujhay Na'at-o-Tilāwat kā Khudā day

Translation: O Almighty! Make me hate films and dramas. Make me keen to recite Quran and Na'at.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Worship in young age brings peace in old age

Dear Islamic brothers! The above parable shows that the one reciting the Holy Quran in youth will remain safe from forgetfulness in old age by its blessing. It is commonly observed that most old people use foul language and forget things but there are some fortunate old people who are so knowledgeable and intellectual that others feel overawed by them. One of the reasons of this glory and greatness is the recitation of Quran and other acts of worship performed in youth.

Madrasa-tul-Madīnah for adults

By the grace of Allah ﷻ! The global and non-political movement for the preaching of Quran and Sunnah, Dawat-e-Islami has made commendable and concerted efforts, promoting the teachings of Quran and arousing enthusiasm among young people for worship. One of these efforts includes the establishment of thousands of 'Madrasa-tul-Madīnah for Adults' which are usually held after Ṣalāt-ul-'Ishā all over the world at various places and Masājid. During these Madāris, Islamic brothers learn the recitation of the Holy Quran with correct pronunciation and articulation, method of offering Ṣalāh correctly, Sunan and Du'ās all free of charge.

Yeḥī ḥay ārzū ta'līm-e-Quran ām ḥo jāye
Ḥar aik parcham say aūnchā parcham-e-Islam ḥo jāye

May the teachings of the Quran everywhere spread
May the flag of Islam fly higher than all other flags

Madrasa-tul-Madīnah for girls

By the grace of Allah ﷻ! Besides the establishment of Madrasa-tul-Madīnah for adult Islamic brothers, Madāris-ul-Madīnah for adult Islamic sisters are also held under the supervision of Dawat-e-Islami, promoting the teachings of the Holy Quran (both Ḥifẓ and Nāẓirah). Thousands of Islamic sisters learn Quran for free during these Madāris where female teachers teach female students.

In addition, countless other Madāris namely ‘Madrasa-tul-Madīnah’ have been established within and outside Pakistan. In accordance with the report prepared in Rajab-ul-Murajjab 1435 AH, more or less 2064 Madāris have been established in Pakistan alone in which almost 101410 boys and girls are getting the education of Hifz and Nāzīrah for free.

*‘Aṭā ḥo shauq Maulā Madrasay mayn ānay jānay kā
Khudāyā zauq day Quran paṛḥnay kā, paṛḥānay kā*

Translation: O Almighty! May I attend the Madrasah, learn the Holy Quran and teach it to others enthusiastically.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Inferior was made superior by Madani environment

One of the departments of Dawat-e-Islami – Madrasa-tul-Madīnah for adults – has made it very easy for a young man to learn Quran and good manners, to have enthusiasm for worship and to make his afterlife better. Here is a summary of what an Islamic brother stated: I had committed too many sins such as providing VCR-cable, hanging around with loafers at night, watching two to three movies every single day and attending concerts all night.

Luckily, the star of my fortune shone. **اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ**! By the blessing of the constant individual effort made by an Islamic brother

from the Nayabad area of Bāb-ul-Madīnaḥ Karachi, I attended the Madrasa-tul-Madīnaḥ for adults where I was blessed with the companionship of devotees of Rasūl and was inspired to join the Madanī environment of the global and non-political movement for the preaching of Quran and Sunnaḥ – Dawat-e-Islami. I am now busy taking part in Madanī activities.

Ĥayn Islāmī bhāī sabhī bhāī bhāī
Ĥay bayḥad maḥabbat bhārā Madanī Māḥaul

Translation: All Islamic brothers treat each others like brothers. The Madanī environment is full of affection indeed.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Value your youth

A great Tābi’ī saint, Sayyidunā ‘Amr Bin Maymūn Awdī رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said whilst advising a person: Value five (things) before five (other) things: Youth before old age, health before illness, wealth before destitution, leisure time before being busy and life before death.

(Mishkāṭ-ul-Maṣābīḥ, Kitāb-ur-Raqāq, chapter 2, vol. 2, pp. 245, Ḥadīṣ 5174)

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A renowned Sufi poet, Sayyidunā Shaykh Muṣliḥuddīn Sa'dī Shīrāzī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ الْوَالِهَادِي has said:

كُنُونَتْ كِه دَسْتَسْت خَارِي بُكُنْ دِگَر كِي بَرَّارِي تُو دَسْتِ اَز كَفَن

Translation: O heedless person! Today, your hands of health and courage are strong and free. Do something with them. Tomorrow, these will be wrapped under the shroud. How can they be used then? (*Būstān-e-Sa'dī, Bāb 1, pp. 48*)

صَلُّوا عَلَي الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ تَعَالَى عَلَي مُحَمَّد

Value youth

Here is a summary of a piece of writing made by Ḥakīm-ul-Ummat Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān Na'imī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ الْوَالِهَادِي, highlighting the significance of youth. To aspire to perform worship abundantly in old age with weak limbs after one has wasted his youth in merriment and entertainment is nothing but stupidity. Do in youth what you want to do. There is a very great rank of a pious young man. Do not waste your life, (especially) the period of health, wealth and youth. Perform good deeds during it as one does not gain these favours again and again. Miyān Muhammad Bakhsh عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ تَعَالَى has said:

Sadā na ḥṣn jawānī raḥandī, sadā na suḥbat-e-yārān

Sadā na bulbul bāghān bolay, sadā na bāgh bahārān

Translation: This beautiful youth is not eternal, nor will the company of friends and relatives be enjoyed forever. The chirping nightingale and the beauty of the garden are not also ever-lasting.

(Mirāt-ul-Manājīh, vol. 7, pp. 16)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Saying of Sayyidunā Amīr Mu'āwiyah while departing this life

When Sayyidunā Amīr Mu'āwiyah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ was close to his death, he رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ said, 'Make me sit.' After he رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ was made to sit, he رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ started making Ḍikr of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and reciting Tasbīh. He رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ then said to himself tearfully (showing humility), 'O Mu'āwiyah (رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ)! You have thought of making the Ḍikr of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in old age after you have been weak. What did you do when the bush of youth was fresh?' *(Lubāb-ul-Iḥyā, pp. 352)*

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Humility of saints is advice for us

Dear Islamic brothers! Despite being eager to perform good deeds, our pious predecessors رَحِمَهُمُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى were very humble. Sayyidunā Amīr Mu'āwiyah رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ was a great companion and had spent his life performing virtuous deeds, even then,

he رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ wished that he had performed more worship. This act of humility on his part is actually a very nice piece of advice for us. We can draw such a lesson as: O the young! Youth is a very great favour. Value it. Do not spend it in idle activities. Otherwise, if you come to your senses in old age attempting to achieve something great, it will be like building castles in the air, which is not possible.

عَافِلٌ مَنَشِينِ نَهْ وَقْتُ بَازِي سْتِ وَقْتُ هُنْرَا سْتِ وَ كَارِسَا زِي سْتِ

Translation: O young man! Do not idle your youth away. This is not the time of relaxation and recreation but rather it is the time of skills-enhancing and hard-working.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Youth even in old age

Stressing the importance of worship in youth, Sayyidunā ‘Allāmah Ibn Rajab Ḥanbalī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللهِ الْقَوِي has stated: One who remembers Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in his youth will be helped by Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in his old age and weakness besides being blessed with good hearing, vision, strength and intellect. Despite reaching the age of hundred years, Sayyidunā Abū Ṭayyib Ṭabarī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللهِ الْقَوِي was mentally and physically fit and healthy. Someone asked him of the secret of his health, so he رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ replied, ‘I protected my physical abilities from sins in my youth, so

Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ has retained them for me in my old age.’ On the contrary, Sayyidunā Junayd رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ saw an old begging man. He رَحْمَةُ اللهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ said, ‘This person wasted (the rights) of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in his youth, so Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ wasted (his strength) in old age. (*Majmū’ah Rasāil Ibn Rajab, vol. 3, pp. 100*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Hard work in youth, benefit in old age

Dear Islamic brothers! Fortunate is the pious young man who spent his youth worshipping Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ until he reached old age. If such an old man aspires to perform worship but is unable to do so owing to poor health and helplessness, he will still be continuously granted the reward of the deeds he used to do when healthy and young. Sayyidunā Anas Bin Mālik رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has said: When a bondman reaches the last part of his age (having performed good deeds in the state of Islam), Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ continues to record good deeds in his book of deeds which he used to do in his state of health. (*Musnad Abī Ya’lā, vol. 3, pp. 293, Ḥadīṣ 3666*)

Reward for pious young man in old age

Ḥakīm-ul-Ummat Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللهِ الْكَرِيمِ has stated: If an old man who had been performing worship in his youth is unable to perform more worship owing to old age, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ declares him to be exempted and records, in his book

of deeds, the very same acts of worship he used to do in his youth. (‘Ārif-Billaḥ Shaykh Sa’dī Shirāzī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْقَوِي has said:)

رَسَمَ اسْتَكَيْه مَالِكَانَ تَحْرِيرِ آزَاد كُنُنْدُ بَنَدَهٗ پِير
آءِ بَارِ خُدَا، آءِ عَالَمِ آرَا بَرِّ سَعْدِي پِيرِ خُوْد بَهٗ بَحْشَا

Translation: (It is a trait of masters to free old slaves. O my Creator عَزَّوَجَلَّ! O the One Who has adorned the world! Forgive the old aged Sa’dī as well).

(Mirāt-ul-Manājīḥ, vol. 7, pp. 89)

Therefore, value your youth, performing more and more acts of worship so that you continue to reap their reward even in old age from the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ despite being unable to perform them.

صَلُّوْا عَلَيَّ الْحَبِيْب صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيَّ مُحَمَّد

Beloved man of Allah

It is stated in a Ḥadīṣ Qudṣī that Sayyidunā ‘Abdullāḥ Bin ‘Umar صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَالْآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has narrated that the Holy Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَالْآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ said, ‘The young man who believes in the predestination decided by Me, remains content with what I have recorded [for him], contents himself with the sustenance

I have granted, and suppresses desires of his Nafs for My pleasure, is like some of My angels in My court.’

(Jam'-ul-Jawāmi', vol. 9, pp. 276, Ḥadīṣ 28714)

Indeed, if man becomes an obedient bondman of Allah and a true devotee of Beloved Mustafa, he becomes like angels or even greater than them.

Better than angels

Dear Islamic brothers! Remember! Our Rasūls are greater than the Rasūls of angels, and the Rasūls of angels are greater than our Awliyā, and our Awliyā are greater than those angels who are not Rasūl. Fussāq and Fujjār [i.e. sinners and evildoers] can never be greater than angels.

(Fatāwā Razawiyyah, vol. 29, pp. 391; An-Nibrās, pp. 595)

Sayyidunā ‘Abdullāh Bin ‘Umar رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُمَا has narrated that the Renowned and Revered Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ loves such a person who has devoted his youth to obeying the Almighty. *(Ḥilya-tul-Awliyā, vol. 5, pp. 394, Ḥadīṣ 7496)*

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! The foregoing narrations contain plenty of blessings for pious and fortunate young people who spend

their youth worshipping Allah ﷻ, performing other virtuous deeds and overcoming unlawful desires. For them is the good news of becoming beloved bondmen of Allah and gaining a respectable status from His court. Since it is not something easy to handle the bucking horse of Nafs in youth, the acts of worship performed in youth also earn the worshipper more reward.

Ḥakīm-ul-Ummat Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān Na'imī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْقَوِي has stated: One should refrain from sins in youth, remembering Allah ﷻ because the parts of body are strong and Nafs is more inclined towards sins in youth. This is why the acts of worship performed in this period are greater than the ones done in old age. (*Mirāt-ul-Manājīh*, vol. 1, pp. 435)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! In the present sinful age, most of the youth have unfortunately drifted away from Quran and Sunnah. Intoxicated by the joys of youth, fascinated by worldly pleasures and subjugated by Nafs and satan, they are drowning in the sea of sins and indecencies. By the grace of Allah ﷻ, the global and non-political movement for the preaching of Quran and Sunnah – Dawat-e-Islami made endeavours with courage and enthusiasm for the reform of the Ummah, successfully rescuing the drowning people. The successful efforts of Dawat-e-Islami are visible to everyone. The youth who were once the slaves of

Nafs and satan were fortunately inspired to join the Madanī environment of Dawat-e-Islami, causing an exciting Madanī transformation in their boring lives. Devoting the beautiful days of their lives to seeking the pleasure of Allah ﷺ and His Rasool ﷺ, they adopted the Madanī motto: ‘I must strive to reform myself and the people of the entire world.’

Youth of Ummah and Dawat-e-Islami

By the grace of Allah ﷺ! One of the many revolutionary steps taken by Dawat-e-Islami includes setting the youth – stuck in the mire of sins and obsessed with plans for the future of the worldly life – on the path to piety, transforming them into practicing Muslims for the betterment of their own afterlife. By the blessing of the Madanī environment, a large number of young Islamic brothers have devoted themselves to the Divine path, staying away from worldly attractions and merriment. In the terminology of Dawat-e-Islami, this devotion is referred to as ‘Waqf-e-Madīnah’.

*Maqbūl jāhān bhār mayn ho Dawat-e-Islami
Ṣadaqaḥ tujhāy ay Rab-e-Ghaffār! Madīnay kā*

Translation: O Forgiving Allah ﷺ! May Dawat-e-Islami become famous all over the world for the sake of Madīnah!

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Secret to best life

Dear Islamic brothers! It is a Madanī entreaty to you to join the Madanī environment of Dawat-e-Islami and to make up your mind to worship Allah ﷺ for the betterment of your worldly life as well as afterlife. The secret to best life is to worship and obey Allah ﷺ.

Ḥakīm-ul-Ummat Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ الْمَآئِن has said: Every person spends his life. The best life is the one spent in devotion to the Almighty ﷺ. Allah ﷺ has particularly commanded charity for the very same people who have devoted their lives to Him. (*Tafsīr-e-Na'imī, vol. 3, pp. 134*)

May Allah ﷺ have mercy on them and forgive us without accountability for their sake!

أَمِينٌ بِجَاهِ النَّبِيِّ الْأَمِينِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ

Reward of seventy Ṣiddiqīn

Sayyidunā Anas رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Beloved and Blessed Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: The young man who refrains from the things declared Ḥarām by Allah ﷺ, and acts upon His commandments, Allah ﷺ says to him, 'For you is the reward equivalent to seventy Ṣiddiqīn'.

(*Attarghib fī Faḍāil-ul-A'māl, pp. 78*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Real bondman of Allah

Sayyidunā ‘Abdullāh Bin Mas’ūd رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Greatest and Holiest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: From among His creation, Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ likes the most the handsome-faced young man who spends his youth and beauty in worshipping Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ gets proud of him in the presence of angels and says, ‘He is My real bondman.’

(Attarghib fī Faḍāil-ul-A’māl, pp. 78)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Very fortunate are the young Muslims who spend their youth following Divine commandments and suppressing the desires of Nafs and satan despite being able to fulfill them. They remain overcome with deep Divine fear, attaining the rank of becoming beloved bondmen of Allah. Aḥādīš state that there is good news for these fortunate people. They also gain a great status and respect in society.

Modest young man

In order to turn youth into a beautiful period of blessings, to protect it from the dirt of sins and to become a modest Muslim, get the cassette of an audio-speech ‘Bā-Ḥayā Nojawān’ released by Maktaba-tul-Madīnah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami. One can also get the 64-page booklet of the very same speech from Maktaba-tul-Madīnah. Read it yourself

and gift it to others as well. You will get the treasure of blessings, *إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ*. Inculcating the mindset of staying away from evils, refraining from laziness, serving religion and nation following in the footsteps of pious predecessors *رَحْمَتُهُمُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى* and acting upon Islamic teachings in order to gain success in the worldly life as well as in the afterlife, a poet has excellently guided the young generation:

Tayray şofay hāyn afrangī, tayray qālīn hāyn Irani

Lahū mujh ko rulātī hay jawāno kī tan āsānī

Amārat kyā, shakh-e-khusraw bhī ho to kyā hāşil

Nā zaur-e-Haydarī tujh mayn, nā istighnāye Salmānī

Nā dhūnd is chīz ko tahzīb-e-hāzīr kī tajallī mayn

Kay pāyā mayn nay istighnā mayn mi'rāj-e-Musalmānī

Translation: Your settee is Western and your carpet is Iranian. I am shedding tears of blood due to the lavish and luxurious lifestyle of our youth. Even though you have wealth or rule, there is no use of them if you do not have the bravery of Sayyidunā 'Alī *كَرَّمَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى وَجْهَهُ الْكَرِيمَ* and the contentment of Sayyidunā Salmān *رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ*. I have found the glory of being a Muslim in contentment. Do not look for it in the civilization of the present modern age.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Youth is a Divine favour

Dear Islamic brothers! Youth is a great favour of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. One who has it should value it spending most part of it in acts of worship and obedience. One should benefit from these precious diamonds of time. Ḥakīm-ul-Ummat Muftī Aḥmad Yār Khān عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللّٰهِ الْكَرِيمِ has narrated: The worship performed in youth is greater than the worship done in old age, as the perfect time for worship is youth.

*Ker jawānī mayn ‘ibādat, kāhīlī achchī nahīn
Jab buṛhāpā ā gayā kuch bāt ban peṛtī nahīn*

*Ḥay buṛhāpā bhī ghanīmat jab jawānī ho chukī
Yeḥ buṛhāpā bhī na hōgā maut jis dam ā gayī*

Translation: Perform worship in youth. Do not get lazy. When you reach old age, you will find worship very hard. If you have spent youth, then consider even old age important because you will not have even old age when you meet death.

Value your time. Consider it important. Lost time can never be regained. (*Mirāt-ul-Manājīh, vol. 3, pp. 167*)

It is particularly essential to realize the importance of the days of youth. With a healthy and fit body, a young person is able enough to carry out commandments and perform acts of worship diligently and excellently. Who can reap these blessings in old

age! An old man even finds it hard to attend Masjid and is unable to bear the severity of hunger and thirst. It is difficult to keep all of Farḍ fasts let alone Nafl ones. Therefore, the worship performed in youth is of great prominence.

Superiority of young worshipper

Sayyidunā Anas Bin Mālik رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Revered and Renowned Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: The young man performing worship in the morning is superior to the old man worshipping in old age; as Rasools (عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ) are superior to all people. (*Jam' -ul-Jawāmi'*, vol. 5, pp. 235, Ḥadīth 14769)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! While the foregoing narration shows that the worshipping young man is indeed fortunate and for him is the good news of superiority and success, this does not mean that the old people are not important at all. My dear Islamic brothers! This is a mistaken idea. Remember! It is a unique feature of Islamic society that it grants elevation to the old as well. In Islam, there is no such concept as turning the old person out of home and having them admitted to some institution, deeming them to be a burden. It is a distinctive characteristic of Islam that it grants a particular status to every Muslim without any discrimination of race, colour and age. And it is obligatory for every Muslim to realize its significance. A brief detail of it is

given in the booklet ‘*The Respect of a Muslim*’ published by Maktaba-tul-Madīnah, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami. In short, every Muslim, whether old or young, is considered important by Islam in a specific dimension.

Excellence of old age

The Revered and Renowned Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: Do not pull out white hair as it is Nūr of a Muslim. The person who gets old in [the state of] Islam – for this reason – Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will record good deed for him, remove misdeed and raise the rank. (*Sunan Abī Dāwūd, Kitāb-ut-Tarajjul, vol. 4, pp. 115, Ḥadīš 4202*)

Sayyidunā Ka’b Bin Murrah رَضِيَ اللهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Holiest and Greatest Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said: One who grew old in Islam, this old age would be Nūr for him on the Day of Judgement.

(*Sunan-ut-Tirmizī, Faḍāil-ul-Jihād, vol. 3, pp. 237, Ḥadīš 1641*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Therefore, the aged Islamic brothers should not lose heart. They should not get disappointed. Every cloud has a silver lining. Someone has rightly said:

Ĥay burĥāpā bhī ghanīmat jab jawānī ĥo chukī

Yeĥ burĥāpā bhī na ĥogā maut jis dam ā gayī

Translation: If you have spent youth, then consider even old age important because you will not have even old age when you meet death.

No matter you realize the aim of your life in the world at any stage, you should not be pessimist. Consider it important and get busy pleasing Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ by shedding tears in His court and adopting piety before the sun of your life goes down. With hope and fear, come in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, beseeching Him for mercy. Focus on the following hopeful Ayah:

Despair not of the mercy of Allah. لَا تَقْنَطُوا مِنْ رَحْمَةِ اللَّهِ ط

[Kanz-ul-Īmān (Translation of Quran)] (Part 24, Sūrah Az-Zumar, Ayah 53)

You will not return empty-handed and disappointed but rather you will be blessed with the imperishable wealth of forgiveness, إِنَّ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ. It should also be kept in mind that repenting in the court of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ even if in old age is a trait of the fortunate ones. Nowadays, there are many people who have reached old age but still take pleasure in various types of games and Ḥarām deeds. They wasted their youth in heedlessness and did not turn towards the path of piety even in old age. Which period of life is now left for them to make preparations for their afterlife?

Ker na pīrī mayn tū ghaflat ikhtiyār

Zindagī kā ab nahīn kuch i'tibār

Ḥalq per ḥay maut kay khanjar kī dhār

Ker bas ab apnay ko murdaun mayn shumār

Aik din mernā ḥay ākhir maut ḥay

Ker lay jo kernā ḥay ākhir maut ḥay

Translation: Don't be heedless in your old age. A windstorm of death will soon make the candle of your life go out. The blade of the knife of death is at your throat. Therefore, consider yourself among the dead. One day, you will have to meet your death. Do whatever you want but remember that you have to meet your death.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ
تُؤَبُّوْا إِلَى اللَّهِ أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ
صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! We should take advantage of our young age. Otherwise we may end up regretting in our old age. At that time, one is usually unable to achieve something great. He desires to do something but lacks courage. He reminisces about his youth but it does not return. He regrets his old age but in vain because he is unable to get rid of it.

Jo ā kay na jāye woḥ buḥhāpā daykhā
Jo jā kay na āye woḥ jawānī daykhī

Translation: We have reached the old age that will remain with us till our death. We have lost the young age that will never return to us.

Dear Islamic brothers! There is indeed great excellence of performing worship in young age. How greatly Allah ﷻ blesses the young person performing worship and refraining from sins is described in the following parable.

Reward granted to pious young man

It is stated on page 17 of the booklet ‘*Miraculous Wonders of Faruq-e-A’zam* رضى الله تعالى عنه’ published by Maktaba-tul-Madīnāh, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami: The counsellor of the Rasool, Sayyidunā ‘Umar Fārūq-e-A’zam رضى الله تعالى عنه once went to the grave of a pious young person and said, ‘O so-and-so! Allah ﷻ has made the following promise:

وَلِمَنْ خَافَ مَقَامَ رَبِّهِ جَنَّتَيْنِ

And one who fears to stand before his Lord, for him are two Paradises.

[Kanz-ul-Īmān (Translation of Quran)] (Part 27, Ar-Rahmān, Ayah 46)

O young man! Tell! How are you in your grave?’ Calling out the name of Sayyidunā ‘Umar Fārūq-e-A’zam رضى الله تعالى عنه

twice, the pious young man said from the inside of the grave, 'قَدْ أَعْطَانِيهِمَا رَبِّي عَزَّوَجَلَّ فِي الْجَنَّةِ' i.e. My Creator عَزَّوَجَلَّ has bestowed upon me both of these two Paradises.

(Tārīkh-e-Madīnah Dimashq, vol. 45, pp. 450)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! The above parable shows that one who spends his life performing virtuous deeds and remaining overcome with Divine fear will get deserving of two Paradises by the mercy of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. Therefore, spend your youth in piety and asceticism, refraining from the fulfilment of the desires of Nafs. Stay alert in youth. Remember! It is unwise to brag about the mortal and perishable wealth of youth and beauty.

*Īḥāl jāye gī yeh jāwānī jis pay tujh ko nāz ḥay
Tū bajā lay chāḥay jītnā, chār dīn kā sāz ḥay*

Translation: You will no longer be in the first flush of your youth, yet you are proud of it. Blow the trumpet how much you want but you will soon lose it.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

تَوَبُّوا إِلَى اللَّهِ أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! Listen to amazing parables of two worshipping and Almighty-fearing young men and see how great saintly-miracles are bestowed upon those whose hearts are filled with Divine remembrance.

Saintly-miracle possessing young man

Sayyidunā Mālik Bin Dīnār عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْعَقَّارِ has stated: During a journey, I felt raging thirst. Looking for water, I moved towards a valley. All of a sudden, I heard a horrible sound. ‘Perhaps some beast is chasing me’, I thought to myself. I was about to flee when someone screamed out from among the mountains, ‘O man! There is no such matter as you have assumed. There is a Walī¹ of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. He has heaved a deep sigh with great wistfulness, uttering this high sound.’

Sayyidunā Mālik Bin Dīnār عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْعَقَّارِ further said: As I retraced the path, I came across a young man busy with worship. Making Salām to him, I informed him of my thirst. He said, ‘O Malik (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ)! You have not got even a single drop of water in such a huge universe.’ Then, going towards a rock and kicking it, he said, ‘Quench our thirst with water by the Omnipotence of the One Who has the power to raise even decayed bones from the dead.’ Suddenly, water began to flow out of the rock as if it was a spring. I drank it until I got satiated. I then humbly said to the young man, ‘Please give me a piece of

¹ i.e. friend

advice I obtain lasting benefit from.’ So he said, ‘Get busy with the worship of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ in seclusion. He عَزَّوَجَلَّ will give you water in jungles.’ Saying this, he left me behind.

(Ar-Rauḍ-ul-Fāiq, pp. 166, amended)

Mayrī zindagī bas Tayrī bandagī mayn

Ĥī ay kāsh! Guzray sadā Yā Ilāhī

Translation: O Almighty! If only I would spend my life in Your worship.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Pious and Almighty-fearing young man

Sayyidunā Ḥunnūn Miṣrī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْقَوِي has stated: I once moved to Syria and passed by a lush green orchard where I saw a young man busy offering Ṣalāh under an apple tree. I felt a surge to talk to him. After the young man finished Ṣalāh, I tried to attract his attention but he wrote the following couplets over the ground instead of giving a verbal reply:

مُنِعَ اللِّسَانُ مِنَ الْكَلَامِ لِأَنَّهُ كَهْفُ الْبَلَاءِ وَجَالِبُ الْأَفَاتِ
فَإِذَا نَطَقْتَ فَكُنْ لِرَبِّكَ ذَاكِرًا لَا تَنْسَهُ وَأَحْمَدُهُ فِي الْحَالَاتِ

Translation: The tongue has been prevented from talking because it is a cave of calamities and adversities. Therefore, when you

say something, make Ẓikr of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ. Never forget Him and continue to glorify Him in every circumstance.

Deeply moved by what the young man had written, Sayyidunā Ẓunnūn Miṣrī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْقَوِي burst into tears. After he رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ recovered, he also wrote the following couplets with his finger over the ground:

وَمَا مِنْ كَاتِبٍ إِلَّا سَيِّلٌ وَ يُبْقِي الدَّهْرُ مَا كَتَبَتْ يَدَاهُ
فَلَا تَكْتُبْ بِكَفِّكَ غَيْرَ شَيْءٍ يَسْرُكُ فِي الْقِيَامَةِ أَنْ تَرَاهُ

Translation: Every writing person will enter his grave a day but his writing will exist forever. Therefore, write such a thing that brings you happiness on the Day of Judgement.

Sayyidunā Ẓunnūn Miṣrī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْقَوِي further said: Reading what I had written, the pious young man let out a scream and passed away. I thought about bathing and shrouding him but I heard a voice from the unseen: ‘Ẓunnūn! Leave him. The Creator of the universe (عَزَّوَجَلَّ) has promised him that angels will bath and shroud him.’ Listening to it, Sayyidunā Ẓunnūn Miṣrī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْقَوِي moved to a side of the orchard and got busy with worship. Having offered some Rak’āt of Ṣalāh, he عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ saw that the young man had disappeared.

(Rauḍ-ur-Riyāhīn, pp. 49, amended)

*Rahūn mast-o-bay-khud mayn Tayrī wilā mayn
Pilā jāṃ aysā pilā Yā Ilāhī*

Translation: O Almighty! Make me drink such a beverage that I always remain infatuated with Your worship.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Fortunate ones under the shade of ‘Arsh

Congratulation to the worshipping and Almighty-fearing young man! On the Day of Judgement, the sun will be blazing down from the distance of a mile and there will be no shelter from its scorching heat except for the shade of ‘Arsh. Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ will bless the fortunate young man with the merciful shade of His ‘Arsh. Sayyidunā ‘Abdur Raḥmān Jalāluddīn Suyūṭī Shāfi‘ī عَلَيْهِ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that Sayyidunā Salmān رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ wrote a letter to Sayyidunā Abū Dardā رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ, mentioning: ‘Muslims with certain attributes will be under the shade of ‘Arsh: (Two of them include)

1. The person who was grown in such a way that his companionship, youth and strength were put into pleasing Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.
2. The person who made the Zikr of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and tears welled up in his eyes in His [i.e. Divine] fear.

(Muṣannaf Ibn Abī Shaybah, Kitāb-uz-Zuhd, vol. 8, pp. 179, Ḥadīṣ 12)

*Yā Rab mayn Tayray khauf say rotā rahūn h̄er dam
Tū apnī maḥabbat mayn mujḥay mast banā day*

Translation: O Almighty! May I often shed tears in Your fear!
Bless me with overwhelming love of Yours.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Our pious predecessors رَحِمَهُمُ اللهُ تَعَالَى would value their youth very much and would also advise others to do so.

Advice of Imām Ghazālī

Advising the youth as well as those who delay repentance, Ḥujjat-ul-Islam Sayyidunā Imām Abū Ḥāmid Muhammad Bin Muhammad Ghazālī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللهِ الْوَالِ has stated: Don't you consider how long have you been promising your Nafs that you will commence performing virtuous deeds tomorrow? The 'tomorrow' has turned into 'today'. Do you not see that 'tomorrow' has passed, turning into 'yesterday'? The fact is that you will be incapable of doing the good deed tomorrow more than today. (One who leaves today's work unfinished until tomorrow and delays repentance and obedience) is like the person who is unable to uproot the tree in his youth and delays it until the next year despite knowing the fact that the tree will get stronger, as time goes by, and he will get weaker. Hence one who is unable to

uproot it in his youth will never be able to uproot it in old age.

(Ihyā-ul-‘Ulūm, vol. 4, pp. 72)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Dear Islamic brothers! How thought-provoking the foregoing saying of Imām Ghazālī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْوَالِي is! How can the person who shows laziness in carrying out the commandments of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ and Shari‘ah in his youth be expected to make up for these mistakes in old age when his body will have been weak? Therefore, value your youth and tether the loose horse of Nafs to the pillar of piety within the same period of your life. Hasten to do penance because no one knows when the time of his death comes. One can meet his death anytime whether in youth or in childhood.

Therefore, no matter you are passing any stage of your life, ponder over death. Hasten to do penance. The youth, in particular, should pay attention because Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ likes very much the penance done by a youth.

Excellence of repentance in youth

The Greatest and Holiest Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: ‘إِنَّ اللَّهَ تَعَالَى يُحِبُّ الشَّابَّ التَّائِبَ’ One who does penance in his youth is the beloved of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ.’

(Kanz-ul-‘Ummāl, Kitāb-ut-Taubāh, Al-Juz 4, vol. 3, pp. 87, Ḥadīṣ 10181)

Beloved bondman of Allah

A preacher of Islam ‘Allāmah Shaykh Shu‘ayb Ḥarīfīsh رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ has stated: Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ loves His bondman when he does penance in his youth. A youth is like an evergreen shrub. If a youth, despite being attracted to worldly pleasures and enjoyment, refrains from these things for Divine pleasure, so he gets deserving of the love of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, joining the fold of His beloved bondmen. (*Hikāyatayn aur Naṣīhatayn, pp. 75*)

Sayyidunā Anas Bin Mālik رَضِيَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَنْهُ has narrated that the Revered and Renowned Rasool صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has stated: Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ does not like anyone more than the repenting youth. (*Kanz-ul-‘Ummāl, Kitāb-ul-Mawā‘iz, Al-Juz 15, vol. 8, pp. 332, Ḥadīṣ 43101*)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Do Istighfār in youth

Dear Islamic brothers! How fortunate the worshipping and repenting youth is! Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ makes him a beloved bondman. It is rightly said:

دَرِ جَوَانِي تَوْبَهُ كَرْدَنَ شَيْوَهُ بِيَعْمَبَرِي
وَقْتِ پِيرِي گُرگِ ظَالِمِ مِي شَوَد پَرهیزگار

Translation: To make Istighfār in youth is a Sunnah of Rasools عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَام. In old age, even a cruel wolf puts on the disguise of piety.

Satanic thought and cure for it

Satanic thought: The foregoing couplet describes penance and Istighfār as being a Sunnah of Rasools عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ, whereas penance is performed for sins. مَعَآذَ اللّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ can sins be committed even by Rasools عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ?



Cure for satanic thought: Never ever. Rasools عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ are Ma'sūm from every sin and misdeed. The word 'Ma'sūm' here implies that Divinely bestowed protection has been promised to them. Thus, by Shari'ah, it is impossible for them to commit any sin. Likewise, they are also unanimously Ma'sūm from every deed contrary to their status and glory both before and after Prophethood. Furthermore, they are absolutely Ma'sūm from grave sins. And the truth is that they are Ma'sūm even from committing minor sins purposely both before and after Prophethood. *(Derived from: Bahār-e-Shari'at, vol. 1, pp. 38-39)*

Admittedly, it has been narrated that Rasools عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ used to do penance and Istighfār but they did so in order to show humility and teach their Ummah. This is the reason why penance and Istighfār are described as being a Sunnah of Rasools عَلَيْهِمُ الصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ in the foregoing couplet.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Advice to young man

Hujjat-ul-Islam Sayyidunā Imām Muhammad Bin Muhammad Ghazālī عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْوَالِي has stated: Advising a young man, Sayyidunā Maṣṣūr Bin ‘Ammār عَلَيْهِ رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ الْعَقَمَاء said, ‘O young man! You must not be deceived by your youth. Many youths indulged in long hopes and forgot their death, delaying and ignoring repentance, saying: ‘I will repent tomorrow or the day after tomorrow’. At last, the angel of death came whilst they were heedless of their death. They were buried in their dark graves and were not benefited by their wealth, slaves, parents and offspring. It is stated in Ayahs 88 and 89 of Surah Ash-Shu’arā, part 19:

يَوْمَ لَا يَنْفَعُ مَالٌ وَلَا بَنُونَ ﴿٨٨﴾ إِلَّا مَنْ آتَى اللَّهَ بِقَلْبٍ سَلِيمٍ ﴿٨٩﴾

The day when neither wealth nor sons shall benefit. Except he who presented himself before Allah, with a sound¹ heart.

[Kanz-ul-Īmān (Translation of Quran)] (Part 19, Ash-Shu’arā, Ayahs 88-89)

(Mukāshafa-tul-Qulūb, pp. 87)

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ
تُوبُوا إِلَى اللَّهِ أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ
صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

¹ The heart which is safeguarded from defective beliefs.

Dear Islamic brothers! In order to make preparations for the afterlife, to refrain from sins, to get steadfast in good deeds and to spend your youth obeying Allah ﷺ and His Rasool ﷺ, always stay affiliated with the Madanī environment of Dawat-e-Islami. Travel with the Sunnah-Inspiring Madanī Qāfilaḥs in the company of the devotees of Rasūl. In order to spend a successful life and to make your afterlife better, act upon Madanī In'āmāt performing Fikr-e-Madīnaḥ daily and hand in its booklet to the relevant responsible person every month.

Attend weekly Sunnah-Inspiring Ijtimā'āt with zeal and zest. So as to do penance steadfastly and to get detailed information about it, read the 132-page book '*Taubah ki Riwayāt-o-Hikāyāt*' brought out by Maktaba-tul-Madīnaḥ, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami. Furthermore, attend Madanī Muḥākaraḥs, gaining the pearls of knowledge and wisdom. The Islamic brothers and sisters from outside Karachi should watch Madanī Muḥākaraḥs on the Madani Channel.

Blessing of watching Madanī Muḥākaraḥ on Madani Channel

Here is a summary of an extract taken from page 58 of the book '*Backbiting – A Cancer in our Society*' published by Maktaba-tul-Madīnaḥ, the publishing department of Dawat-e-Islami: ﷺ, Dawat-e-Islami – a global and non-political movement for the preaching of Quran and Sunnah – has

established several departments, promoting the message of Islam all over the globe. Amongst them is the department of Madani Channel, a television channel whereby Dawat-e-Islami is spreading Islamic teachings among households in several countries. It is a fully Islamic channel and is one of a kind in the world, as it has no films and dramas, no songs, no women, and no music of any kind.

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ عَزَّوَجَلَّ! By the blessing of the Madani Channel, several non-Muslims have embraced Islam. Countless such people who did not use to offer Ṣalāḥ have started offering Ṣalāḥ regularly and innumerable people have repented of their sins, adopting Sunnah. Let us hear a Madanī parable, e-mailed by an Islamic brother, realizing the effectiveness of the Madani Channel.

Here is its summary: It is commonplace these days that people indulge in backbiting while talking even without noticing it. An Islamic brother who had come to Bāb-ul-Madīnah (Karachi) from Hyderabad (Bāb-ul-Islam) told other Islamic brothers: One of my friends told me, 'My sister is short-tempered. If she gets upset with anyone, she avoids them. One day, my sister had a row with my sister-in-law about some issue and stopped talking to her. Coincidentally, that very night, a 'Madanī Muḏākaraḥ' was aired on the Madani Channel – a very popular and the 100% Islamic channel run by Dawat e Islami. During the Madanī Muḏākaraḥ, the mindset of protecting oneself from the destructiveness of backbiting was inculcated. By blessing of

watching the Madanī Muḏākaraḥ, the very same short-tempered sister of mine who used to avoid meeting others not only approached my sister-in-law but also apologized to her, getting reconciled with her.’

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ



Dear Islamic brothers! Near the end of my speech, I would have the honour to mention the excellence of Sunnaḥ as well as some Sunan and manners. The Rasool of Raḥmaḥ, the Intercessor of Ummaḥ, the Owner of Jannaḥ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ has said, ‘One who loved my Sunnaḥ, loved me, and one who loved me would be with me in Paradise.’

(Mishkāt-ul-Maṣābīḥ, vol. 1, pp. 55, Ḥadīṣ 175)

*Sīnāḥ tayrī Sunnat kā Madīnaḥ banay Āqā
Jannat mayn paṛausī mujḥay tum apnā banānā*

Translation: May my heart get filled with love for your Sunnaḥ. O Beloved Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ! Please make me a neighbour of yours in Paradise.

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ

Entering and leaving home: 12 Madanī pearls

1. When leaving home, read this Du'ā:

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ تَوَكَّلْتُ عَلَى اللَّهِ لَا حَوْلَ وَلَا قُوَّةَ إِلَّا بِاللَّهِ

With the name of Allah ﷺ, I have put my trust in Allah ﷺ, there is neither power nor strength without Him.

(Sunan Abī Dāwūd, vol. 4, pp. 420, Ḥadīṣ 5095)

!إن شاء الله ﷺ By the blessings of reciting this Du'ā', the reciting person will remain on the right path and safe from calamities besides being blessed with Divine help.

2. The Du'ā of entering home is:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ خَيْرَ الْمَوْلَجِ وَخَيْرَ الْمَخْرَجِ بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
وَلَجْنَا وَبِسْمِ اللَّهِ خَرَجْنَا وَعَلَى اللَّهِ رَبِّنَا تَوَكَّلْنَا

O Allah ﷺ, I ask You for the goodness of coming and exiting. We entered (home) with the name of Allah ﷺ and exited (home) with the name of Allah ﷺ and we put our trust in Allah ﷺ, our Rab ﷺ. (ibid, Ḥadīṣ 5096)

After reciting this Du'ā, say Salām to the household, and present Salām to the Beloved Rasool ﷺ. Then recite Sūrah Al-Ikhlās. There will be blessing in your

sustenance and the house will be protected from disputes,
إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ عَزَّوَجَلَّ.

3. Say Salām to the Maḥārim and Maḥrimāt (e.g. the mother, the father, the brother, the sister, children and the wife etc.)
4. If anyone enters home without mentioning the name of Allah عَزَّوَجَلَّ, e.g. without saying بِسْمِ اللَّهِ, satan also enters with him.
5. If one enters a house where no one is present (even one's own empty home) he should say:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْنَا وَعَلَى عِبَادِ اللَّهِ الصَّالِحِينَ

Salām be upon us and the righteous bondmen of Allah.

The angels will reply to this Salām. (*Rad-dul-Muhtār, vol. 9, pp. 682*) One can also say the following:

السَّلَامُ عَلَيْكَ أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ

O Nabī صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ Salām be upon you.

The sacred and blessed soul of the Holy Rasool صَلَّى اللهُ تَعَالَى عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ is present in the homes of Muslims.

(*Sharah Ash-Shifā lil-Qārī, vol. 2, pp. 118*)

6. Before you enter someone's home, say **اَلْسَّلَامُ عَلَیْكُمْ**
May I come in?
7. If permission for entry is not given, return happily without getting annoyed. Perhaps they may not have given permission due to some compulsion.
8. When someone knocks at your door, it is Sunnah to ask as to who it is. The knocking person should tell his name, for example, *Muhammad Ilyās*. Instead of telling the name, saying such things as *Madīnah!* 'It's me', 'open the door' etc. is not Sunnah.
9. After you have told your name, stand at a side so that you do not look inside the house as soon as the door opens.
10. It is prohibited to peek into someone's home. Some houses are taller than the other adjoining ones. Therefore, those living in taller houses should take great care when looking out from the balcony or window of their house.
11. When you go to someone's home, do not unnecessarily criticize home arrangements, as this could be hurtful to them.
12. When leaving, make Du'a for the household, thank them, say Salām, and gift them a Sunnah-Inspiring booklet, if possible.

In order to learn various Sunan, buy and read the two publications of Maktaba-tul-Madinah, 'Baḥār-e-Sharī'at (part 16)', consisting of 312 pages, and 'Sunnatayn aur Ādāb', consisting of 120 pages. An excellent way of acquiring knowledge about Sunnah is to travel with the Madanī Qāfilaḥs of Dawat-e-Islami in the company of the devotees of Rasool.

Sīkḥnay sunnatayn Qāfilay mayn chalo

Lūīnay raḥmatayn Qāfilay mayn chalo

Ḥaun gī ḥal mushkilayn Qāfilay mayn chalo

Pāo gey barakatayn Qāfilay mayn chalo

To learn Sunnahs, travel with the Qāfilaḥ

To attain mercies, travel with the Qāfilaḥ

Your difficulties will be solved, travel with the Qāfilaḥ

You will receive great blessings, travel with the Qāfilaḥ

صَلُّوا عَلَى الْحَبِيبِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ تَعَالَى عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ



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Madani Channel - Global Coverage Parameters

Transmission: Digital

Satellite	Beam Type	Position	Downlink	H _z .	Polarity	Sym. Rate	FEC
Asiasat (A7-C3V)	Global	105.5 E	C-Band	3739	Vertical	2815	3/4
Intelsat 20	Africa Region	68.5 E	KU-Band	12562	Horizontal	26657	2/3
Eutelsat 7	Middle East	7 West A	KU-Band	10815	Horizontal	27500	5/6
Astra 2F	Europe	28.5 E	Sky Platform	12640	Vertical	22000	5/6
Galaxy 19	USA	97 West	KU-Band	121835	Horizontal	22000	3/4

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AND SALAH-OFFERING MUSLIM

Spend the whole night in the weekly Sunnah-inspiring Ijtimaa' of Dawat-e-Islami held every Thursday after Salat-ul-Maghrib in your city, for the pleasure of Allah ﷻ with good intentions. In order to learn Sunnahs, make it your routine to travel with a 3-day Madani Qafilah every month with the devotees of Rasul, to fill out the Madani In'amat booklet every day practising Fikr-e-Madinah and to submit it to the relevant responsible Islamic brother of your locality on the first date of every Madani month.

My Madani Aim: 'I must strive to reform myself and people of the entire world, **إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ ﷻ**.' In order to reform ourselves, we must act upon Madani In'amat and to strive to reform people of the entire world, we must travel with Madani Qafilahs, **إِن شَاءَ اللَّهُ ﷻ**.



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