



"GADGET ADDICTION: SAVE OUR CHILDREN"

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا
وَذُرِّيَّتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا^١
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا
أَيُّهَا الْمُسْلِمُونَ! اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ. قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى:
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ
مُسْلِمُونَ.

Dear blessed Muslims,

I implore myself and fellow congregation to strive to increase our *taqwa* of Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* with diligence. Let us live according to the *Sharee'ah*, as well as fulfilling all of the commands from Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* and avoiding all of His prohibitions. Verily, it is *taqwa* that will grant us blissfulness in this world and prosperity in the Hereafter.

The title of the *khutbah* that will open up our minds today is: "**GADGET ADDICTION: SAVE OUR CHILDREN.**"

Dear blessed audience,

In an age that is full of advancement and sophistication, the parents are faced with tremendous challenges in realizing their role of educating and developing the physical and mental aspects of their children. Among the main hurdles for parents nowadays in educating their children is the very existence of nifty gadgets. Not wanting to be perceived as outdated, many parents would purchase gadgets such as the tablet, smart phones, iPad, and many more for their children. Not to mention, there are also those utilizing gadgets as companions for the little ones so that the parents can pursue their work with ease, without interruption. However, do we actually realize that such

¹ al-Furqaan 25:74



approach would cause great harm to the development of the child if utilized without restriction? It is even more worrying if these gadgets are given and used without supervision and guidance. Such reality proves that many of the parents are neglectful in perfecting their *amaanah* (trust) of educating their children.

In a *hadeeth* narrated by Imaam Muslim, ibn 'Umar *radiyAllaahu 'anhuma* reported that Rasulullah ﷺ said:

كُلُّكُمْ رَاعٍ، وَكُلُّكُمْ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ، فَالْأَمِيرُ الَّذِي عَلَى النَّاسِ رَاعٍ، وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ، وَالرَّجُلُ رَاعٍ عَلَى أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ، وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْهُمْ، وَالْمَرْأَةُ رَاعِيَةٌ عَلَى بَيْتِ بَعْلِهَا وَوَلَدِهِ، وَهِيَ مَسْئُولَةٌ عَنْهُمْ، وَالْعَبْدُ رَاعٍ عَلَى مَالِ سَيِّدِهِ وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْهُ، أَلَا فَكُلُّكُمْ رَاعٍ، وَكُلُّكُمْ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ

"Beware, every one of you is a shepherd and every one is answerable with regard to his flock. The Caliph is a shepherd over the people and shall be questioned about his subjects. A man is a guardian over the members of his family and shall be questioned about them. A woman is a guardian over the household of her husband and his children and shall be questioned about them. A slave is a guardian over the property of his master and shall be questioned about it. Beware, every one of you is a guardian and every one of you shall be questioned with regard to his trust."

Respected Muslims,

The usage of gadgets truly has its benefits. However, if used without supervision and guidance, it has been proven to yield negative impact upon the children. According to the research conducted by the American Academy of Pediatrics, children below the age of 2 should not be exposed to such technology. Those between the ages of 3 to 5 are allowed to be exposed for 1 hour daily, and those between the ages of 6 to 17 years old should be limited to only 2 hours daily. Usage of more than the recommended duration and without supervision can result in serious harms. It can even lead to death. Among the negative consequences:

First: It Harms The Health and Physical Growth



Children that are too engrossed in their gadget games would become disconnected from their surrounding activities, and become less active with regard to outdoor activities. This would indirectly stunt their physical growth due to irregular eating and drinking pattern. Similarly with teenagers that would obsessively play with their gadgets all day long, they become inactive, their body fatigued, thus harming their health. It can also disrupt the quality of their sleep since their brain was hyper active, and makes it difficult for them to relax due to their eyes being too focused on the gadget's screen. All these would incur problems upon their growing body. Is this not against the philosophy of education for children according to Islam that encourages the Muslims to be brave and strong. How could a growing generation that is addicted to gadgets attain such status?

In a *hadeeth* collected by Imaam Muslim, Abu Hurayrah *radiyAllaahu 'anh* narrated that Rasulullah ﷺ said:

المُؤْمِنُ الْقَوِيُّ، خَيْرٌ وَأَحَبُّ إِلَى اللَّهِ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنِ الضَّعِيفِ.

"A strong believer is better and is more lovable to Allah than a weak believer..."

Second: It Stunts The Mental Development and Physical Skills.

Playing with gadgets would also stunt the brain development of the little ones, which is supposed to develop gradually according to their age. Not just that, it can also restrict their skills development. When the child only uses one or two fingers to interact with the tablet's screen, it has actually stunt the skills development for all of his fingers. As a result, we find some children are unable to hold a pencil when they enter pre-school or kindergarten. In addition, it delays their ability to speak. Looking at today's reality, we find children that are 2.5 years old and yet unable to utter even a word because they were too preoccupied playing with their gadgets. Even teenagers that are actively engaged with their gadgets have problems in terms of attitude, and quick to lose focus and interest in their educational learning.

Third: Negative Impact Upon the Soul and Emotions.

It was discovered that excessive usage of gadgets greatly affects negative attitude amongst children and teenagers. It can also stimulate rude behavior, aggressiveness, and impatience when desiring for something. The reason is because the gadget provides pleasure easily without any hassle, which in the end causes addiction that is difficult to be halted. Once addicted, the emotions become unstable and would easily rebel or get into a rage if



their desires are prevented. Besides that, it develops an uncaring attitude towards their surrounding that many would choose to not participate in activities involving their family or peers.

Dear blessed guests of Allah,

Herein lies our very responsibility as their guardian. Let us ensure that they will grow up in a healthy environment, with the proper Islamic way of life. Did Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* not remind us upon the trials and challenges in raising our children, along with the tremendous reward promised, as He mentions in Soorah at-Taghaabun, verse 15:

إِنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ ﴿١٥﴾

"Your wealth and your children are but a trial, and Allah has with Him a great reward."

(at-Taghaabun 64:15)

Let's love our children, and save them. Let us correct the way we love our children by being well informed of the things that they desire before given to them. Granting everything that the children ask for without restriction is not a manifestation of love. Moreover, it will definitely destroy them. What is the actual need for us to give them these gadgets at a tender age? Grant them the rights to grow older properly without distraction and negative influence. If we still wish to grant them the opportunity to play with suitable gadgets, then we must ensure that several guidelines are to be adhered to, among them:

First: Ensure that the children's state of mind and soul are ready.

At the very least, the children must be 2 years of age and able to speak, so as to introduce them to the gadgets and others. This requires the parents' supervision, for it can further strengthen the relationship between them, as well as monitoring for suitable games. Apart from that, the parents can observe the potential and development of their little ones. Remember, the development of the children's hearing, sight, and soul must be properly monitored and it is a responsibility upon the parents.

Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* mentions in Soorah al-Israa', verse 36:

إِنَّ السَّمْعَ وَالْبَصَرَ وَالْفُؤَادَ كُلُّ أُولَئِكَ كَانَ عَنْهُ مَسْئُولًا ﴿٣٦﴾



"... Indeed, the hearing, the sight and the heart - about all those [one] will be questioned."

(al-Israa' 17:36)

Second: Utilizing gadgets for the purpose of learning.

Introduce them to softwares that are educational with beneficial lessons for the development of their mind and soul. If one desires to download game applications, then choose ones that would assist in encouraging children to study and learn. Once in a while, give them beneficial games that will stimulate them to think creatively and accomplish success. Avoid games having elements of violence and violates noble Islamic values.

Third: Restrict and limit the duration of use.

Additionally, the parents are to provide guidelines to the children regarding the usage of gadgets. Stipulate a set of rules that must be adhered to and always portray good exemplary such as putting away the gadgets when eating or while conversing with others. Examine the children's gadgets regularly so as to ensure that they are not caught up with social problems that will only destroy them. Alternate those gadgets with sessions for revising school materials and recitation of al-Qur'an. Set a schedule for their playing and studying sessions. Strictly ensure that they perform their daily prayers when they are due. Teach them to abide by the *Sharee'ah* since childhood. The parents must have patience in educating their children to adhere to the *Sharee'ah* especially when teaching them to pray. This matter was emphasized by Allah *Subhaanahu Wa Ta'aala* in Soorah Ta-Ha, verse 132:

وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا لَا نَسْأَلُكَ رِزْقًا سَلَّمَ نَحْنُ نَرْزُقُكَ
وَالْعَاقِبَةُ لِلتَّقْوَى ﴿١٣٢﴾

"And enjoin prayer upon your family [and people] and be steadfast therein. We ask you not for provision; We provide for you, and the [best] outcome is for [those of] righteousness."

(Ta-Ha 20:132)

Dear blessed Muslims,

Let us educate and guide our young generation, who will become the heir of the religion and nation, from their young age. The childhood age is the appropriate period for us to develop their personality, because educating them when they are already in their



teenage years or reached adulthood will definitely incur difficulty and many problems. It is true as the saying goes: "*Melentur buluh biarlah dari rebungunya*" (meaning: start cultivating good values from a very early age).

One more thing that must be ascertained is to educate our children with complete love and affection, not through coercion, or even worse with harshness. Continuously encourage and guide them in performing good deeds with hugs and kisses of encouragement. The children will feel loved and appreciated, hence will be inclined to obey voluntarily with cheerfulness. This is from the *sunnah* of Rasulullah ﷺ in educating the children. Let us ponder upon a *hadeeth* collected by Imaam al-Bukhaari that was narrated by 'A'ishah *radiyAllaahu 'anha*:

A Bedouin came to the Prophet ﷺ and asked, "Do you kiss your children? We do not kiss them." The Prophet ﷺ said, "Can I put mercy in your hearts after Allah has removed it from them?"

Dear noble audience,

The conclusions that can be garnered from today's *khutbah*, among them:

1. The usage of gadgets by the children must be rigorously monitored, supervised, and guided with proper care by their parents and guardians.
2. Manifest our love and affection towards our children through proper upbringing. Allowing them to play with their gadgets without restriction clearly will bring about more harm than good.
3. Children are *amaanah* and trial from Allah upon all of us. Let us educate them with authentic *'aqeedah*, *Sharee'ah*, and *akhlaaq Islaamiyyah*. Give them true love and compassion so as to ensure blissfulness in this world and the Hereafter.

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
لَنْ تَنْفَعَكُمْ أَرْحَامُكُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُكُمْ يَوْمَ الْقِيَمَةِ يَفْصَلُ بَيْنَكُمْ
وَاللَّهُ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ بَصِيرٌ



"Neither your relatives nor your children will benefit you on the Day of Resurrection. He will judge between you. And Allah is the All-Seer of what you do."

(al-Mumtahanah 60:3)

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ.
أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،
فَأَسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.



THE SECOND KHUTBAH

اَلْحَمْدُ لِلّٰهِ الَّذِي جَعَلَنَا مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِيْنَ، وَرَزَقَنَا مِنَ الطَّيِّبَاتِ. اَشْهَدُ اَنْ لَا اِلَهَ اِلَّا اللّٰهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَاشْهَدُ اَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ. اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ. اَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللّٰهِ، اتَّقُوا اللّٰهَ، اُوصِيْكُمْ وَاِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللّٰهِ فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Dear blessed Muslims,

Once again, I would like to remind all of us that Islam teaches us to remain moderate in every actions and deeds. As Muslims, we are to manifest noble *akhlaaq*, having utmost personality and attitude for Rasulullah ﷺ was sent to perfect *akhlaaq* and as mercy for the entire mankind and the worlds. At the same time, we are to avoid any form of deviant ideologies and extremism in which its consequences will only disrupt the harmony, unity, and security of the Muslim *ummah* and our nation.

إِنَّ اللّٰهَ وَمَلَائِكَتَهُ يُصَلُّونَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا صَلُّوا عَلَيْهِ وَسَلِّمُوا تَسْلِيمًا. اَللّٰهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا وَمَوْلَانَا مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ الْمُرْسَلِيْنَ وَارْضَ اللّٰهُمَّ عَنْ أَصْحَابِهِ وَقَرَاتِيهِ وَأَزْوَاجِهِ وَذُرِّيَّاتِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.

اَللّٰهُمَّ اغْفِرْ لِلْمُسْلِمِيْنَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ مَاتَ الْمُؤْمِنِيْنَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءُ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، إِنَّكَ سَمِيعٌ قَرِيبٌ مُّجِيبُ الدَّعَوَاتِ وَيَا قَاضِيَ الْحَاجَاتِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ إِنَّا نَسْأَلُكَ وَنَتَوَسَّلُ إِلَيْكَ بِنَبِيِّكَ الْأَمِينِ، وَنَسْأَلُكَ بِأَسْمَائِكَ الْحُسْنَى وَصِفَاتِكَ الْعُظْمَى أَنْ تَحْفَظَ بَعِيْنَ عِنَايَتِكَ الرَّبَّانِيَّةَ وَتَحْفَظَ وَقَاتِيكَ الصَّمَدَانِيَّةَ، جَلَالَةَ مَلِكِنَا الْمُعْظَمِ سُلْطَانَ سَلَغُور، سُلْطَانَ شَرْفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ ابْنِ الْمَرْحُومِ سُلْطَانَ صَلَاحِ الدِّينِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيزِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ أَدِمِ الْعَوْنَ وَالْهُدَايَةَ وَالتَّوْفِيقَ، وَالصِّحَّةَ وَالسَّلَامَةَ مِنْكَ، لَوْلِيَّ عَهْدِ سَلَغُور، تَعَكَوْ أَمِيرِ شَاهِ ابْنِ السُّلْطَانَ شَرْفِ الدِّينِ اَدْرِيسِ شَاهِ الْحَاجِ فِيْ أَمْنٍ وَصَلَاحٍ وَعَافِيَةٍ بِمَنْكَ وَكَرَمِكَ يَا ذَا الْجَلَالِ وَالْإِكْرَامِ. اَللّٰهُمَّ أَطْلِ عُمْرَهُمَا مُصْلِحِيْنَ لِلْمُوظَّفِيْنَ وَالرَّعِيَّةِ وَالْبَلَدِ، وَبَلِّغْ مَقَاصِدَهُمَا لِطَرِيقِ الْهُدَى وَالرَّشَادِ.



O Allah, You are the Lord that is All Mighty, we are grateful to You for having bestowed upon us *rahmah* and *ni'mah*, that we are able to continue the effort in empowering the Muslim *ummah* especially in the state of Selangor, as an advanced state, prosperous and providing welfare, under the auspices and leadership of our Ruler as the Head of Islamic Affairs in this state.

Hence, we sincerely beseech You, O Allah, strengthen our *imaan*, accept our deeds, strengthen our unity, increase our *rizq*, enrich us with beneficial knowledge, cultivate our soul with good mannerisms, return us to the path that You are pleased with, protect us from disasters and Your severe trials such as droughts, floods, the plagues of Zika and Dengue, so that our state will always remain protected and blessed.

O Allah, we sincerely beseech You, strengthen our beliefs according to the creed of *Ahl as-Sunnah wal Jamaa'ah*, and protect us from the practices and *'aqeedah* that are astray such as *Shee'ah*, *Qadiyaani*, and other ideologies.

O Allah, open up our hearts in fulfilling the five daily prayers, performing *zakaat*, and other obligations, as well as making *waqf* and *infaaq* of our wealth especially to *Perbadanan Wakaf Negeri Selangor* (Selangor Waqf Corporation) and *Tabung Amanah Pembangunan Islam Selangor* (Islamic Development Trust Fund of Selangor). With these deeds, O Allah, bless our lives and widen our *rizq* with perpetual rewards until the Last Day.

رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا. رَبَّنَا آتِنَا فِي الدُّنْيَا حَسَنَةً وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ حَسَنَةً وَقِنَا عَذَابَ

النَّارِ. عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَأْمُرُ بِالْعَدْلِ وَالْإِحْسَنِ وَإِيتَايَ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَيَنْهَىٰ عَنِ الْفَحْشَاءِ وَالْمُنْكَرِ وَالْبَغْيِ ۚ يَعِظُكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ

تَذَكَّرُونَ ﴿٩﴾

فَاذْكُرُوا اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ يَذْكُرْكُمْ وَاشْكُرُواهُ عَلَىٰ نِعَمِهِ يَزِدْكُمْ، وَاسْأَلُوهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ ۚ يُعْطِيكُمْ وَلَذِكْرُ اللَّهِ أَكْبَرُ ۗ وَاللَّهُ يَعْلَمُ مَا

تَصْنَعُونَ.