

AVOID ILLEGAL DRUGS

25 APRIL 2025M | 26 SHAWAL 1446H

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الْقَائِلِ،

وَتِلْكَ الْقُرَى أَهْلَكْنَاهُمْ لَمَّا ظَلَمُوا وَجَعَلْنَا لِمَهْلِكِهِمْ مَوْعِدًا
أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ.
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،
فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، انْفِقُوا اللَّهَ وَأَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Let us all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, we will be blessed in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

It is a great responsibility for every believer to preserve the blessings bestowed by Allah the Almighty and avoid His wrath, because any form of evil can invite Allah's most painful punishment in this world, as has happened to the previous people. Allah the Almighty gave them advantages such as wisdom in building, strength and greatness in war, and sustenance in the form of fertile land for farming. They were destroyed by Allah the Almighty in the blink of an eye because of their negligent and transgressing attitude. . Allah the Almighty says in the Quran in Chapter 18 (*Surah Al-Kahf*) Verse (*ayat*) 59:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ
وَتِلْكَ الْقُرَى أَهْلَكْنَاهُمْ لَمَّا ظَلَمُوا وَجَعَلْنَا لِمَهْلِكِهِمْ مَوْعِدًا

Which means: “[just like] the former communities We destroyed for doing wrong: We set an appointed time for their destruction.”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today, some Muslims no longer feel ashamed to commit sins and evil deeds such as stealing, robbing, committing adultery, violating virtue and committing murder. Most of these crimes are caused by the abuse of “drugs and substances”. The term “substances” refers to vape, cigarettes, alcohol, *ketum* leaves, sniffing glue and petrol, and other substances that are harmful. The effects of drug and substance abuse are similar to the effects of drinking alcohol because it causes addiction and intoxication. The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *hadith* narrated by Imam Muslim:

”كُلُّ مُسْكِرٍ خَمْرٌ ، وَكُلُّ مُسْكِرٍ حَرَامٌ

Which means: “Every intoxicant is *Khamr*, and every intoxicant is prohibited.”

It starts with curiosity, then ends in destruction that no one could have ever expected. A calm mind becomes tangled, a peaceful soul becomes frayed, a healthy body becomes depleted, a harmonious family turns chaotic, crimes of theft and robbery become more prevalent, and finally a society that was already in peril is falling into decay.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The government’s initial efforts to address the drug problem were through legal action under the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952. Meanwhile, in 1983, the government declared drugs as the country’s number one enemy, subsequently creating the Drug Dependents (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act 1983. Amendments to this act were gazetted on 17 October 2024 to expand access to

Treatment and Rehabilitation for drug and substance addicts and abusers, as well as to encourage voluntary treatment and rehabilitation.

This gazettelement is the starting point for the Treatment and Rehabilitation reform which focuses on services for people with drug problems. Addicts can obtain services voluntarily through the Institutional Treatment and Rehabilitation program and the Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation program. The Treatment and Rehabilitation Program carried out under the National Anti-Drug Agency (NADA) covers nine recovery components, namely medical treatment and health education, physical and discipline training, guidance and counseling, psychoeducation, civics and patriotism, vocational skills training, religion and spiritual, social and recreational, and community integration. According to data from NADA, up to November 2024 a total of 14,205 clients have undergone the Treatment and Rehabilitation Program and remain abstinent from drug addiction.

To foster awareness of the dangers of drugs to the community in general, NADA also runs a Prevention Education Program for schools, workplaces, communities and families. The community needs to be aware and play its role in disseminating information related to drug and substance addiction, so that the harmful effects can be avoided and prevented at an early stage.

Nowadays, the trend of drug and substance abuse has changed from plant-based drugs such as marijuana, heroin and morphine to synthetic drugs (chemical based) such as, methamphetamine, ecstasy and others. These synthetic drugs have also been used in vape flavors. Taking these synthetic drugs can lead to brutal crimes as reported by the newspaper dated 4 December 2024 when a young man in his 20s stabbed his biological mother to death. It was suspected that he did so because he was angry after being reprimanded for smoking a vape containing drugs.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Drug and substance abuse is forbidden in Islam because it causes great damage (*mafsadah*). It is harmful to addicts, their families, society, and even threatens the stability of the country.

Therefore, we must avoid even getting close to drug abuse given its devastating effects. As the Arab proverb says:

الوقاية خير من العلاج

Which means: “*Prevention is better than cure*”

Let us eradicate drug and substance abuse, which has long existed in society. If we do not care about family and community affairs and allow this evil to continue to spread, be prepared to face its negative consequences. Society needs to change the stigma and negative perceptions of addicts who have fully recovered. They need to be given the opportunity to improve their weaknesses and return to being part of society. A positive attitude from society is crucial to ensure that these groups continue to be guided and valued.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Concluding today’s *khutbah* (sermon), let us take some lessons to guide our lives:

1. Drug and substance abuse is forbidden in Islam.
2. The effects of drug abuse are harmful to the individual, family, society and country.
3. It is the responsibility of the family and society to accept recovered addicts.

Allah has reminded us in the Quran in Chapter 9 (Surah At-Tawba), Verse (ayat) 71:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَالْمُؤْمِنُونَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتُ بَعْضُهُمْ أَوْلِيَاءُ بَعْضٍ يَأْمُرُونَ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَوْنَ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ وَيُقِيمُونَ الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُونَ الزَّكَاةَ وَيُطِيعُونَ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ أُولَئِكَ سَيَرْحَمُهُمُ اللَّهُ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

Which means: “The believers, both men and women, support each other; they order what is right and forbid what is wrong; they keep up the prayer and pay the prescribed alms; they obey Allah and His Messenger. Allah will give His mercy to such people: God is almighty and wise.”

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ بِالْقُرْآنِ 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 وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ الْأَحْيَاءِ مِنْهُمْ وَالْأَمْوَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.