

OUR YOUTH: OUR GREATEST ASSET AND RICHNESS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

إِنَّهُمْ فِتْنَةٌ آمَنُوا بِرَبِّهِمْ وَزِدْنَاَهُمْ هُدًى.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

سَبْعَةٌ يُظِلُّهُمُ اللَّهُ فِي ظِلِّهِ يَوْمَ لَا ظِلَّ إِلَّا ظِلُّهُ:

...وَشَابُ نَشَأَ فِي عِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ...

Honorable Muslims!

Youth is the spring of life. It is the age of dreams and ideas thriving, strength and excitement peaking out. If the youth is spent most beneficially, it will enable one to attain happiness in this world and the Hereafter, but, otherwise, it will turn to a period of time to be remembered with regret. In this regard, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) makes the following warning, **“Take advantage of youth before old age!”**¹ According to his good news, a young person who grows up with the consciousness of servitude to Allah (SWT) will be protected in the

¹ Hakim, Mustadrak, IV, 341.

² Bukhari, Adhan, 36.

shade of the ‘Arsh (throne) on the calamitous Day of Judgment.²

Dear Believers!

Our youths are our future and our hope. Our youth are our greatest asset and richness. Every member of our youth is valuable for us and deserves care, kindness, support, and love. Let us all strive to ensure they are raised as individuals who are beneficial for humanity, attached to their national and spiritual values, have awareness and ideals.

I would like to conclude this Friday’s khutbah with the following verse on the Ashab al-Kahf, which are set as an example in the Holy Qur’an with their faith and virtuous stance: **“Indeed, they were youths who believed in their Lord, and We increased them in guidance.”**³

³ Kahf, 18/13.