



1	 <p><b>OUR YOUTHS DETERMINE OUR FUTURE</b> 3 November 2017AD / 13 Safar 1439H</p>
2	الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي هَدَانَا لِلْإِسْلَامِ، وَأَبَانَ لَنَا الشَّرَائِعَ وَالْأَحْكَامَ، وَرَتَّبَ عَلَيْهَا جَزِيلَ الْفَضْلِ وَالْإِنْعَامِ،
3	وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ الْمَلِكُ الْعَلَامُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ سَيِّدُ الْأَنْبَاءِ،
4	صَلَّى اللَّهُ وَسَلَّمْ عَلَيْهِ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ الْبِرَّةِ الْأَعْلَامِ.
5	أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ، أَوْصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ وَطَاعَتِهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.
6	قَالَ تَعَالَى: وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُنْقِبِينَ إِمَامًا ﴿٧٤﴾
7	<b>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</b> Let us together increase the level of our conviction in Allah SWT through our obedience, confidence and sincerity, by performing all that He has commanded and abandoning all that He has prohibited.



8	May we be among those who are full of conviction, allowing us to be successful and secure in this world and in the hereafter.
9	Therefore, the <i>mimbar</i> today shall discuss a sermon entitled: “ <b>Our Youths Determine Our Future</b> ”.
10	<b>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</b> Youths, or youngsters, are a group of people aged between 15 and 40 years old. In Islam, puberty becomes a measure or standard
11	To determine whether a person has attained adolescence, or the level of <i>muhafaf</i> , namely a person who has reached
12	The relevant age of majority and is obliged to perform all the commandments of Allah SWT. As recorded in history, youths played important roles in the spread of Islam.
13	Sayidina Umar RA was 27 years old when he embraced Islam. Sayidina Ali RA
14	Was among the youngest persons to embrace Islam, besides other great youths such as Abdullah bin Mas'ud,
15	Abdul Rahman bin Auf, Bilal bin Rabah and Mus'ab bin Umayr Radhiyallahu 'anhum. Through these determined youths,
16	Islam began to spread from the Arabian Peninsula, to the colonies of Rome and Persia, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Libya and Northern Africa.
17	The spread of Islam into these countries happened within 35 years of <i>Khulafa 'al-Rashidin's</i> rule.



18	Additionally, Muhammad Al-Fatih was a good example. He was educated since childhood by his father to fulfil the following prophetic words of Rasulullah SAW,
19	As recorded by Ahmad <i>rahimahullah</i> , from a narration by Abdullah ibn Bisyr al-Khath'ami RA: لَتَفْتَحَنَّ الْقُسْطَنْطِينِيَّةَ ، فَلَنِعَمَ الْأَمِيرُ أَمِيرُهَا ، وَلَنِعَمَ الْجَيْشُ ذَلِكَ الْجَيْشُ
20	<b>Which means:</b> "Constantinople will be opened (be conquered by Islam). Its commander shall be the best and its army (that would conquer it) would be the best."
21	Imagine, when other 8-year-olds had nothing to care about, Muhammad Al-Fatih had memorized the Al-Quran.
22	When other youths were confused, daydreaming, fantasizing and unclear of their own identity, Muhammad Al-Fatih was determined
23	To achieve his dreams by asserting to his father: "Father, I want to conquer Constantinople!" As other youths were searching
24	For their direction in life, Muhammad Al-Fatih was appointed a Sultan. When other 19-year olds were proud
25	Of their conquest of a woman's heart, Muhammad Al-Fatih had conquered the city of Constantinople. <i>Subhanallah...</i> is there a similar youth now with such a soul?
26	<b>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</b> It is sad that today, most youths live their lives far from Islamic guidance.
27	Their thinking, behaviour and style of dressing, as well as their socialising and way of life



28	Have been very contaminated with western culture. Indeed, the enemy of Islam is always finding ways to poison the minds of the society,
29	Especially the youths. A more liberal school of thought encompassing a stand
30	That seeks freedom without religious guidance, as long as it does not interfere with the interests of others, is freely pursued.
31	Hence, there are widespread free-sex culture, donning of indecent attires, <i>lepak</i> , consumption of alcohol, extreme entertainment and so on.
32	As a result, a generation is born that is Islam in name and ancestry, but without the soul of a true Muslim.
33	Indeed, the youths are not to be totally blamed, because they are still uncertain of their aim in life, still searching for direction and purpose, still needing education and guidance,
34	And still in the process of development. In addition, their character is essentially shaped by their surroundings. A youth is a reflection of his family,
35	His community and his country. Therefore, to form future generations, the cooperation of all parties - parents, society and leaders – is required.
36	The most important effort in the formation of youths is to create a more mature thinking process in them.
37	If you expect to develop youths with the soul and identity of a real Muslim, then an Islamic way of thinking consisting of faith, <i>syariat</i> and morality must be planted and nourished within them.



38	<p><b>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</b></p> <p>Islam gives great attention to the development of youths. The basics for the formation of their character includes the following:</p> <p><b>First:</b> Youths who are always in control of their desires, who strive to avoid unpleasantness and are used to doing good deeds</p>
39	<p>In a hadith recorded by Ahmad and narrated by 'Uqbah bin' Amir RA, Rasulullah SAW was reported to have said:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ لَيَعْجَبُ مِنَ الشَّابِّ لَيْسَتْ لَهُ صَبْوَةٌ</p>
40	<p><b>Which means:</b> <i>"Verily, Allah Azza Wa Jalla is truly amazed at a young man who does not obey the requests of his desires."</i></p>
41	<p>The hadith just now highlights the importance of forming a future generation of young men imbued with the feeling of <i>ihсан</i>, or awareness of Allah SWT within them.</p>
42	<p>Youths who possess compassionate souls will always take care of their conduct and obey the commands and prohibitions of Allah <i>Azza wa Jalla</i>.</p>
43	<p><b>Second:</b> Youths who are steadfast in obeying Allah SWT's commands and prohibitions.</p>
44	<p>A hadith recorded by al-Bukhari, as narrated by Abu Hurairah R.A, mentioned about the <i>seven groups of people who are sheltered by Allah SWT with His protection on the Day of Judgment</i>, which among them is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">وَشَابُّ نَشَأَ فِي عِبَادَةِ رَبِّهِ</p> <p><b>Which means:</b> <i>"The youth who grew up worshipping his God"</i></p>



45	<p><b>Third:</b> Youths who utilise their time to develop their character from the point of knowledge, soul, morals, spiritual and physical. Therefore, youths should be educated to always enliven the mosque.</p>
46	<p>Indeed, those whose hearts and souls are always linked to the mosque will have the protection of Allah SWT in the Hereafter. This is also stated in the same hadith regarding the seven groups sheltered by Allah SWT,</p>
47	<p>As recorded by Imam al-Bukhari and narrated by Abu Hurairah RA:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">وَرَجُلٌ قَلْبُهُ مُعَلَّقٌ فِي الْمَسَاجِدِ</p> <p><b>Which means:</b> "And the man whose heart is always linked to mosques."</p>
48	<p><b>Fellow Muslims blessed by Allah,</b></p> <p>To conclude the sermon today, let us observe some takeaways as our reflection together:</p> <p><b>First:</b> Youths carry the future of the religion, race and nation, as they are the individuals who will govern the country.</p> <p><b>Second:</b> Youths who are still unclear of their identity and stray aimlessly in their lives have to be thought to think maturely and rationally, as it is the foundation of good deeds, behaviour and lifestyle.</p> <p><b>Third:</b> Emulate the character of Rasulullah SAW, as he is the best role model, example or representative in all aspects of life.</p>



49	<p>Allah SWT declared in Surah an-Nisa, verse 9:</p> <p>أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ وَلْيَخْشَ الَّذِينَ لَوْ تَرَكَوْا مِنْ خَلْفِهِمْ ذُرِّيَّةً ضِعَافًا خَافُوا عَلَيْهِمْ فَلْيَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْيَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ﴿٩﴾</p>
50	<p><b>Which means:</b> “And let those [executors and guardians] fear [injustice] as if they [themselves] had left weak offspring behind and feared for them. So let them fear Allah and speak words of appropriate justice.”</p>
51	<p>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.</p>