



PROTECTING OUR CHILDREN'S IMAAAN



THE HIDDEN DANGERS OF
MOBILE PHONES, SOCIAL MEDIA,
AND ONLINE GAMES



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دَامَتْ بَرَكَاتُهُمْ



الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ وَالْمُرْسَلِينَ،
 وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ أَمَّا بَعْدُ،
 أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ، بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
 وَلَا تَمُدَّنَّ عَيْنَيْكَ إِلَى مَا مَتَّعْنَا بِهِ أَرْوَاجًا مِنْهُمْ زَهْرَةَ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا
 لِنَفْتِنَهُمْ فِيهِ، وَرِزْقُ رَبِّكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَبْقَى
 وَقَالَ تَعَالَى
 مَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيَجْعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ حَرَجٍ وَلَئِنْ يُرِيدُ لِيُطَهِّرَكُمْ
 وَلِيُتِمَّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ
 صَدَقَ اللَّهُ الْعَظِيمُ

Respected Brothers and Children in Islam

Today, I would like to make an **appeal**. I am not going to deliver a long bayaan or a lengthy lecture. I will try to keep it short and sweet, although it may sound very bitter.

May Allah **سبحانه وتعالى** grant us the **tawfeeq** to understand. This is an appeal because, every now and then, we hear reports about the behavioural tendencies among our youth and the various things to which they are being exposed.

One father was telling me the other day that he had given his child a phone to play some games. Nowadays, many of these are online games. The father was busy with something else, but fortunately, he was in the same room.

While the boy was playing, the father heard someone speaking through the game. Suddenly, that person said,

"Why must I believe in a God?"

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

Spiritual Dangers of the Device

What does this dangerous question mean?

“Why must I believe in god?” As mentioned, this is only what this father heard on one occasion.

إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ

How many other occasions were there when the child was playing those games and the father was not there to hear what was being said?

When a person begins asking himself or others this question,

"Why must I believe in a God?"

Then what remains after that? Sadly, to say that this person's life as a Muslim is being destroyed if not already destroyed.

We are not speaking about the kuffar. They have already chosen their path to Jahanam (Hellfire).

We are speaking about the mu'min, the believer, the one who believes in the One and Only Allah سبحانه وتعالى.

This warning is directed at us. It is directed at our homes, our families, and our children. No believer should ever think, "This could never happen to my family."

When a person's imaan is placed at risk, nothing is more valuable and nothing deserves greater protection.

A father may be a five times Namaazi (performs his five daily salaah), and the family may be known for its respectability and good upbringing, yet his own son begins to drift away from Islam.

This serves as a powerful reminder that no family should ever feel immune. Every parent must remain vigilant in safeguarding the imaan of their children.

People cry over this. One father was weeping because his son said, "I do not believe in Allah سبحانه وتعالى anymore. I do not believe in any religion." **إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ**

Another son said, "I am no longer a Muslim. I take something from Christianity and something from Islam, and I follow that." **إِنَّا لِلَّهِ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهِ رَاجِعُونَ**

Remember that when a Muslim leaves Islam, whether he becomes a Christian, a Jew, or follows any other religion, he is regarded as a **Murtad**, and in the sight of Allah سبحانه وتعالى this is completely rejected. May Allah سبحانه وتعالى protect us all. Aameen.

My dear brothers, I am **warning** you. If you allow your children **unrestricted** and **unchecked** use of mobile phones with all these games, then it will lead to disaster.

Depression is another problem that can result from watching and playing these online games.

If a person watches **pornography**, it is **haraam** and a great evil. If a person **gambles**, it is **haraam** and a great evil. Watching **movies** is also **haraam** and evil. Yet there is something even more dangerous than all of this.

The greatest catastrophe is when they **lose** their Imaan. There are even cases where some are driven to commit suicide. These are the realities that are taking place today.

We need to take stock of what is happening to our children through social media and mobile phones. Today, even the kuffar have begun **warning** people about the **dangers** of these games.

I was reading an article mentioning the many different types of online games. Even the kuffar have conducted research and are cautioning people about the harms and dangers associated with them.

The concern is not limited to online games alone. Online games, where people use the internet to connect to websites and play with others, are one issue. Even ordinary computer games can have **harmful** effects.

There are many different types of games available today. Although I cannot recall all the names that were mentioned, these games are widespread and easily accessible.

Many people do not even understand how they work, yet these websites, apps and online games are readily available and pose a **serious** danger to us and our children.



❖ "Verily, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find rest." (Surah Ar-Ra'd 13:28) ❖

Financial Harm

Personally, I will mention just one of the harms caused by these games. They **affect** the **health** of the child and result in the **loss** of **wealth**.

Many online games require payments. A child may take the father's credit card to purchase or download games, and each transaction deducts money from the father's account. In this way, the parent's wealth is **wasted**.

Children today have become very familiar with modern technology, social media, and mobile phones. They know how to access different platforms with **little** or **no** restriction.

They play these online games, moving from one website to another until they eventually begin **gambling** online. As they grow older, some of them are drawn into **gambling** before even reaching their teenage years. You will find that one sin often leads to another and it becomes difficult to give up.

Just imagine becoming **involved** in such a major sin. This is the reality of much of the modern technology and social media that surround us today.

I have not even spoken about the **music** found in many of these games and platforms, nor the photography and the **indecent** images of naked women that children are exposed to through them.

Physical Harm

When we look at these harms, there is also the physical harm. Researchers have proven that children are affected when they spend time playing these games.

When I refer to children, do not think that I am speaking only about ten-year-olds. Research shows that those from the age of seven right up to seventeen, and even twenty years old, are being affected by these games.

Their health is affected, Researchers say that when a child becomes completely absorbed in these games, it can **weaken** the eyesight and affect the **functioning** of the mind. They refer to this as cognitive dysfunction, where the brain no longer functions and thinks as it should.

As a result, the child begins to struggle academically and finds it difficult to learn at school.

I was surprised when a teacher mentioned to me a few weeks ago that, in the past, a learner generally needed to obtain around 60% to pass an examination. Today, even if a learner achieves 40%, he may still be promoted because of how many children are struggling academically.

It is remarkable that, while many of them find learning increasingly difficult, they become highly skilled at playing these games.

May Allah سبحانه وتعالى protect us and safeguard our children.

I will mention one more point regarding these online games. In many of these games, you play with another person, yet you have no idea who is on the other side of the screen.

There have been many cases where young girls have been **lured** by strangers. They think they are communicating with another teenager, whereas in reality it may be an older person intending to take advantage of them.

They eventually arrange to meet, and Allah سبحانه وتعالى alone knows what follows, the **haraam** that takes place thereafter and the **harm** that comes to the girl, and the embarrassment that comes thereafter to the family.

Some of these online games actually **encourage** suicidal tendencies. There have been reports of parents saying, "My son wants to commit suicide," or, "My daughter wants to commit suicide."

When they question them and ask why, they reply, "We went onto this website, and this is what we were told."

May Allah سبحانه وتعالى protect us.

May Allah سبحانه وتعالى protect us.

Moral Harm

Even more serious is the moral **corruption** that results from these games where a person's akhlaaq and morality become corrupted.

This is not limited to young children. Many teenagers and young adults, eighteen, twenty years old, and older, are also becoming involved in these games.

They are **exposed** to foul language, swearing, rude and vulgar speech, and nudity.

A person may come from a respectable family with good upbringing, yet begins **using** such language.

Where did all these swear words and vulgar expressions come from? The individual is exposed to these things through such games. In this way, morals become corrupted.

When you look at these games, whether they are online games or ordinary computer games, you notice one common feature. There is a great deal of **violence**. There is killing, bloodshed, and scenes of people being attacked and killed.

What do you think is going to happen to the person who is constantly exposed to this?

Do you not think that the mind will become corrupted?

Gradually, the person becomes accustomed to it and begins to regard it as something normal. As a result, a nature of violence and aggression begins to develop.

Do not be surprised, dear brothers, if one day you find your child hitting someone, stabbing someone, fighting with someone, or swearing at someone.

If we allow our children unrestricted and unchecked access to social media and mobile phones, then we must also accept our responsibility for the consequences.

So we have moral corruption, and violence begins to become part of a person's nature. I also read about the pictures, images, and videos that appear in these games.

They **contain** satanic, evil, and very ugly images, and the person becomes accustomed to seeing them.

If you and I were to see something so ugly, we would immediately say, "This is **Shaitaan**."

Yet they become used to it, then they begin wanting more of it, and gradually it becomes worse and worse.

May Allah سبحانه وتعالى protect us.

**Parents have to stop this.
They have to put proper checks in place.**

Advice for parents

As I mentioned, I am not delivering a lengthy bayaan. This is simply my appeal to everyone.

The **best** thing you can do is take the phone away and tell that person that he is not going to use it.

Alternatively, **spend** some money, and it will be money well spent, by purchasing programmes that can lock the phone and prevent all these **haram** things from being accessed. Such programmes are easily available.

If you are unable to afford such programmes, or you simply prefer not to purchase them, then you should personally monitor and supervise the use of these devices.

Keep a close and vigilant watch over whether the child is engaging in these games or sites. To begin with, such games and sites are themselves **haram**, and beyond that, merely occupying oneself with them is a needless waste of precious time.

We are taught that no form of play holds benefit, except those through which a person acquires a worthwhile skill.

With these games, what skill does a person really gain? The only skill acquired is becoming better at playing the game itself. Is that a skill of any real benefit?

People play football games, but what skill do they gain? Learning how to dribble a ball or score a goal? Is that a worthwhile skill? Will it benefit them in the other matters of life?

You need to keep a **close** check on that phone. If you cannot take it away completely, then at least do your utmost to **monitor** and **supervise** its use.

Secondly, **introduce** Deen into your family life. The father says, "I was busy with my work." The mother is occupied with her phone, while the child is busy with **haram**. Instead, bring a collective atmosphere of Deen into the home.

Read Islamic kitaabs together. Read the **Quraan** together. Have a fixed time each day.

For example, after Fajr, sit together and read **Surah Yaseen**. Make **dhikr** together in the home.

Recite the **Quraan**, read beneficial **Islamic** kitaabs, and establish these practices morning and evening.

At least these a'maal (actions) will form a barrier against these evils and create some **fikr** in the minds of the youth.

The **best** advice I can offer is that those who are getting married or who have young children should implement

these habits of Quraan recitation, Kitaab reading etc, from the very beginning to avoid these haraam actions or bad habits from coming into our children's lives.

Dear brothers, the main point is that we should not allow our children to have free **access** to a mobile phone.

Today, the mobile phone has become like a toy for children. Once they see it, they naturally want to play with it.

Take the mobile phone away from them.

Remember, from a very young age, if a child is **nurtured** with the understanding that he is not supposed to touch or use a mobile phone, he will grow up accepting that instruction.

Children listen to their parents when they are taught from the beginning, "You are not allowed to touch this."

From the age of two or three, once they begin walking and understanding, they can develop the mindset that this is something that is out of bounds and that they must not touch it.

This advice is especially for those who are now starting their family lives. That is one of the **best** things you can do.

The **problem**, however, is that we ourselves are **attached** to our mobile phones. We leave the phone lying around the house, and the child picks it up.

When that happens, take it away. Take it away. There is nothing to be **afraid** of. Do not worry if the child cries. Children cry, and throwing tantrums is part of childhood. Do not be concerned about those tantrums.

When you remain firm upon your principles, InshaAllah, the child will come to learn and understand.

So, dear brothers, that is all I can do, to make this **appeal**. My message is clear. The rest is up to you. The responsibility now lies with the parents.

Convey this message to your mothers, your wives, and the other ladies in your family.

Explain to them what has been discussed here and the importance of **monitoring** the use of mobile phones by our children and always keeping a close check on them.

May Allah سبحانه وتعالى grant us the tawfeeq to practise upon what has been said. Aameen.

NB:

Every effort has been made to faithfully preserve the message and teachings of Hazrat Mufti Siraj Desai Saheb (دامت برکاتہم), and to convey them with the accuracy and reverence they deserve.

Any errors, omissions, or shortcomings found in this publication are solely due to our own limitations and deficiencies.

We seek the forgiveness of Allah سبحانہ و تعالیٰ for any mistakes that may have occurred and ask Him to accept this humble effort, overlook its shortcomings, and make it beneficial for all who read it.

We humbly request your du'aas for all those who contributed towards the research, preparation, publication, and distribution of this book.

We also ask Allah سبحانہ و تعالیٰ to grant us sincerity (ikhlaas), steadfastness (istiqamah), beneficial knowledge, and acceptance (qubool) in all our efforts.

May Allah سبحانہ و تعالیٰ make this publication a means of guidance, benefit, and ongoing reward (sadaqah jaariyah) for all those who contributed towards its preparation and publication, as well as for our parents, teachers, and all its readers.

May He accept this humble effort, forgive our shortcomings, shower His mercy upon us, our parents, our teachers, and the entire Ummah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ آمِينَ يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ

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SALAAMAT

PUBLICATIONS



Our children are a priceless trust from Allah Ta'ala.
In today's digital age, many hidden dangers threaten
their imaan, character, and future.



This book exposes the unseen harms of mobile phones,
social media, and online games and provides
practical advice for parents to protect and guide
their children with wisdom and love.



May Allah Ta'ala grant us success in safeguarding the
imaan of our children and the next generation.



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