

**Arab Republic of Egypt**

**Ministry of Awqaf**

**Rajab ١٥, ١٤٤٠ A.H./March ٢٢, ٢٠١٩ C.E.**

**The Danger of Drug Abuse Addiction to Individuals and  
Society**

All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of all worlds, Who says in His Glorious Book, "Cast not yourselves into destruction with your own hands, and do good (to others); surely Allah loves the doers of good." I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and that our Master Muhammad is His slave and Messenger; may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon him, his Household, Companions and upon those who follow him till the Day of Judgment.

The Almighty Allah has favored man to all other creatures by granting him mind, which is the basis of humans' responsibility, and the instrument of thinking, reasoning and contemplation. Allah, therefore, blames those who make no use of these bounties when He (Glory be to him) says, "...Do you not use your reasoning?" "Will you not reflect?" He (Glory be to Him) also says, "But none will understand them [i.e. His signs of creation] except the people of knowledge"; **and says**, "We have made Our signs clear to you, so that you may fully understand." Allah also says, "Truly in that are signs for people of understanding." Al-Hasan Al-Basry brilliantly said, "Had mind been something to buy, it would have been very expensive. It is thus astonishing that some people pay money to buy something that would spoil their minds."

As intellect, reasoning and thinking are very valuable things in Islam, the Shari'ah has put various means of protection to save mind. It has prohibited the consumption of anything that would harm mind or render people unconscious. Thus Allah says, "O believers! Intoxicants, gambling, idols, and drawing lots for decisions are all evil devised by Satan. So avoid them so you may

be successful." Also, whenever the Prophet (PBUH) would take an oath of allegiance from his Companions he used to say, "Swear allegiance to me that you will not worship anything besides Allah, will not steal, will not commit illegal sexual intercourse, and will not consume intoxicants." The Prophet's statement "will not consume intoxicants" is a general statement that covers any intoxicant, regardless of its name. Thus, similar to wine, in its prohibition, is anything that drives people unconscious whether through drinking, snorting or injection of intoxicants.

The Prophet (PBUH) stated a fixed principle that applies to all times, places, circumstances and people. This principle reveals the nature of wine and all intoxicants. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Every intoxicant is *Khamr* (wine) and every intoxicant is unlawful."

In this way it becomes clear that the word *khamr* covers any intoxicant, whatever the name people give to it, and whether it is a solid substance or liquid one. The Prophet (PBUH) said, "If a large quantity of any beverage intoxicates, then a small amount of it is prohibited." And He also (PBUH) said, "Some of my nation will assuredly drink wine calling it by other names."

To hardly deter people from approaching wine in any form, either, drinking, selling, or processing, The Prophet (PBUH) said, "Allah has cursed wine, its drinker, its server, its seller, its buyer, its presser, the one for whom it is pressed, the one who conveys it, and the one to whom it is conveyed." The also Prophet (PBUH) said, "He who believes in Allah and in the Hereafter should not sit with a group where wine is served."

Islam forbids drugs to preserve individuals and the society, because addiction causes many dangers that harm the addict and negatively affect the safety of the community. Intoxicants affects one's mind, and make people lose their prestige, honor, and politeness. This is why Abu Bakr used to avoid drinking wine

even before Islam. The reason for this was that he once passed by a drunk who was holding excrement in his hand, putting it close to his mouth and then throwing it for its bad smell. Abu Bakr said, this man does not know what he was doing, and therefore he abandoned drinking wine.

According to one narration, Abu Bakr was sitting with some of the Companions of the Prophet (PBUH) and he was asked: Had you drunk wine before Islam? "Allah forbids," he replied. He was asked again: why that?" he replied, "I wanted to preserve my honor and prestige, because when one got drunk, he wastes his honor and stance." Upon this the Prophet (PBUH) commented, "Abu Bakr said the Truth; Abu Bakr said the Truth."

No doubt that the circumstances of the real world prove that drugs abuse and addiction lead to the collapse of the family, the deviation of its members, and the absence of human values and feelings. This leads to the spread of many negative phenomena in the society such as sexual harassment, the increase of divorces rates and family disintegration. All this, in turn, increases crimes of different forms including, theft, killing and raping as the addict give no heed to his actions or the consequences of his crime. All he cares about is how to get the drugs in any way and by any means.

How many wars were broken out because of drugs? How many rich have been turned poor because of drugs? How many healthy people were fallen sick as because of drugs? How many man of honor has been humiliated because of drugs? How many cases of divorce did it bring forth? How much sorrow did it cause to its addicts? How many trials and afflictions were brought forth because of it? It is indeed the main reason behind all evil deeds and the key to all kinds of evil, a point which is recorded in the Prophet's (PBUH) piece of advice to Abu Al-Dardaa' (Allah be pleased with him) wherein he states, "... Do not drink wine, for it is the key to every evil." Also, U'thman Ibn A'ffan (Allah be

pleased with him) is reported to have said: "Keep away from wine, for it is the mother of all evil."

Addiction is undoubtedly one of the main reasons for educational, moral, social and economic deterioration. In addition, it causes so many physical and psychiatric diseases, including, among many others, anxiety, depression, nerve and psychological tension, memory disorders, short-term memory loss, introversion, loneliness, feelings of depression, and schizophrenia, which makes it obligatory upon us to combat and resist this fatal danger. In truth, targeting youth through addiction and drugs is but targeting the country and weakening its elements of strength, as well as undermining its good values and morals.

The danger of drugs is truly so serious that the a moment will undoubtedly come when its addict person will turn from a good man into a dangerous person who can rob, kill, or even trade with his religion to get what calms his nerve cells down, in a scene which can be described as madness; a matter that requires intervention to protect the addict from the evil of his own self and to protect his family and the entire society from his evil.

We are in a dire need for every one of us to shoulder his due responsibility towards our youths and sons, each in his position, starting from the family and its educational role, passing to schools and universities and their educational role, and ending up with the participation of the religious institutions and different media outlets, so as not to let our sons fall prey to addiction and drugs, because the danger is very serious, and the price is but their minds, physical and psychiatric health and property. So, let us all stand together to bring up a good generation enjoying the good morals and the ability to make development and progress; a generation who is fully aware of the dangers threatening the country.

This is my speech to you, and I seek Allah's Forgiveness for me and you.

**All praise is due to Allah, and may Allah's Peace and Blessings be upon the Seal of all the Prophets and Messenger Muhammad (PBUH), his family and companions.**

Muslim brothers:

On occasion of launching the Water Rationalization Week this year, we remind ourselves of the blessing of water, which is one of Allah's most important blessings to us, for it is the essence of life and live beings and the most important source for progress and prosperity. Allah, the Almighty, says: "and made from water every living thing" and "And you see the earth barren, but when We send down upon it rain, it quivers and swells and grows [something] of every beautiful kind."

Islam cares greatly about water, thus orders us to properly deal with it and to rationalize its use, to the extent that it declares that extravagance in the use of water as an act of injustice and aggression on the others' due rights. When a Companion came to the Prophet (PBUH) to learn ablution from him, he (PBUH) instructed him to wash every part thrice, and then said: "This is *Wudu'*. Whoever does more than that has done badly, done to extremes and done wrong."

Also, when he (PBUH) passed by the great companion Sa'ad ibn Abi Waqqas (Allah be pleased with him) while performing ablution, he (PBUH) said to him, "What that extravagance in the use of water Sa'ad?" Sa'ad replied, "Is there extravagance in *Wudu'*, O Messenger of Allah?" He (PBUH) said: "Yes, do not be extravagant in the use of water, even if you are (performing ablution) from a running river."

Islam views water as a national treasure for all people, thus no one shall be denied it, which is why the Prophet (PBUH) said:

“Muslims have common share in three (things): grass, water and fire.”

Showing the importance of water, Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) said: “Whoever digs a well will receive reward from Allaah on the Day of Judgment when anyone from amongst the jinn, men and birds drink from it.” He (PBUH) also said: “Seven things the reward of them will reach the deceased in his grave: knowledge which he learnt and then spread; a righteous son whom he leaves behind; a copy of the Qur’an that he leaves as a legacy; a mosque that he built; a house that he built for wayfarers; a canal that he dug; or charity that he gave during his lifetime when he was in good health.”

In conclusion, we stress that polluting and wasting of water or not to keep it is an act of corruption which is divinely prohibited; Allah the Almighty says, “And cause not corruption upon the earth after its reformation.” In truth, every single drop of water is but a life of a man; it is also equivalent to a defined amount of money, so to lose it means undermining the important properties that we should keep. For this, we all should thank Allah for this blessing through keeping it, for expressing gratitude to Allah for His Blessings is a main reason behind their continuity and increase. He, Most High, says: “And [remember] when your Lord proclaimed, 'If you are grateful, I will surely increase you [in favor];”

O Allah, we invoke You to protect Egypt, its people, youths, army, police, properties from all evils.