

## Activities of Oblivious Youth in Pakistan and Their Guidance from Seerah of Holy Prophet (PBUH)

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### **Abstract:**

The main objective of this study is to highlight the methods and techniques in the early years of Islam adopted by the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) to deal with the young generation for developing our existing Muslim youth. The Prophetic era can truly be considered as the ‘Golden Age of Islam. The life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a role model for every person of this world who believes in Allah and the Day of Judgment. Technology has become pivotal role in the development of the world. Unfortunately, our youth are put at risk at a young age. Our youngster is involved in day and night without knowing its drawback, ultimately lead to various types of crimes. As a result, they become rebellion and try to make their decision by their own self. The famous quotation is that: “*The youth of today is the leaders of tomorrow.*” What are the main causes of it and how to recover the teenagers from this situation for the prosperity of whole Muslim Ummah and Pakistan? How we can encourage the youngsters of society to take part in national development by engaging themselves in constructive purposes. In this paper, those methods and techniques of Holy Prophet are reviewed scholarly, and an attempt has been made to present how our youth now a day take guidance from his life for prosperity of this life as well as Here after.

**Key Words:** Oblivious Youth, Practical Demonstration, Shariah, Technology, Seerah.

### **Introduction:**

Mohammad (PBUH) is the last Prophet of Allah. His prophethood is sufficient for all humanity up to the end of this world. Allah declared in the Holy Quran:

*“He has indeed in the Messenger of Allah a beautiful pattern (of conduct)”<sup>1</sup>*

This source of light and guidance from the Prophet (PBUH) can lead us completely. The world has seen a lot of scholars, philosophers and preachers but none was as great as the Prophet Mohammad (PBUH). Allah sent His messengers in every period of history to guide the humanity

*“We have not sent thee but as a universal messenger to men, giving them glad tidings, and warning them, but most men understand not.”<sup>2</sup>*

His Shariah was regarded as the last message of Allah and the previous Shariahs were abolished. His guidance was declared sufficient for all till the end of this world.

*“The religion before Allah is Islam.”<sup>3</sup>*

The Quran and Sunnah are the basis of our religion. Hazrat Abu Huraira reported that on the occasion of Haja-tul-Wida he said:

*“I am leaving two things among you. You will never deviate from the right path that is the Quran and Sunnah”<sup>4</sup>*

These are the Holy Quran and my Sunnah. These two things will not be separated. Until they will come to their destination namely, the Hoz-e-Kausar. If we'll follow the Quran and Sunnah, we cannot be deviated from the right path. These two things are the main source of our religion. These two things will keep on guiding us up to the last day of this world. We'll keep on consulting the Quran for a solution to every problem. Allah has ordered that we have to obey the Prophet (PBUH). It is said in the Holy Quran that the people who believe in Allah they should obey the Prophet (PBUH) as well. They should not waste their virtues. Allah declared in the Holy Quran:

*“So take what the messenger assigns to you, and deny yourself that which he withholds from you”<sup>5</sup>*

It means that the obedience of the Prophet (PBUH) is the obedience of Allah. The teachings of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) and the Holy Quran are the basis of Islam. These two things complete the religion. He empowered the young men and women of his time and left behind an extraordinary legacy that continues to inspire young people till this very day. When studying the Seerah, it is evident that many his followers were in fact young people. The well-known author Adil Salahi writes in his biography of the Prophet

Activities of oblivious youth in Pakistan and their guidance that Islam has a simple message which appeals directly to the human mind. He explained:

*“A new message which advocates a total change in the social order often attracts young people whose vision of a better life gives them strong motives to work hard for the beliefs”.*<sup>6</sup>

Mohammad (PBUH) is the last Prophet of Allah. His prophethood is sufficient shows that his prophethood is universal. He is not the prophet of his age but he is the prophet of every age. He should be obeyed in every age. Truth is forever. The modern system of making people slaves is useless. Islam guides youth in every field of life. It is a complete code of life. The Prophetic approach in dealing with the youth was based on the fitrah. He deals with love and empathy, the Prophet nourished the youth; advised them, empowered them, and developed them.

Muslims are in a great number in this world. But they are disunited. On the contrary, the non-believers are united and attacking the Muslim Ummah severely. Pakistan is the center of the expectations of the Muslim world. It has abundance of every kind of resources. But corruption, poverty and lawlessness are prevailing everywhere. So, the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) developed them emotionally and spiritually. He demonstrated to the world the incredible heights that could be reached with young people marching in the frontlines. The Muslims dominated the evil forces and conquered the whole Arab. Now anti-Islamic forces have become powerful again. We have to follow the Quran and Sunnah in order to defeat these negative forces. The Prophet knew very well the greatness and potential of the youth. For this reason, he was extremely keen on engaging them. The Surah titled Al-Kahf or “The Cave,” presents the narrative of a group of young men who retreated to a cave in order to protect their faith and lives. Allah declared in the Holy Quran:

***“He relate to thee their story in truth: they were youths who believe in their Lord ,and we advanced them in guidance”.***<sup>7</sup>

Surah Kahf depicting that:

❖ Allah loved the actions of these young men and recorded their tale in the Qur’an. This clearly explains the honor that Allah gives to young people who believe in Him.

❖ This Surah gave the Prophet and his companions solace (comfort or consolation in a time of distress or sadness.) It was revealed during the Makkan period when believers were facing various opposition that was like the “sleepers of the cave.” It strengthened the Prophet morally and spiritually as well as motivated him to have trust

in the youth.<sup>8</sup>

❖ It is recorded in Marif ul Quran that during the period/era of youth one can correct himself/herself by accepting of the truth and more guided than their elders.<sup>9</sup>

Now here I am mentioning some of the incidents from the life of the Prophet (PBUH) hat how he deals with the youth of his time.

### **Literature review:**

❖ Understanding Our Muslim youth: Problems and Solutions By: Fady A. Qaddoura, Executive Director of Muslim American Society – Houston Chapter To be presented at the AMJA/NAIF Imams workshop Houston TX, February 2009.

❖ Solution of Youth's problem by Asghar Ali Chowdhary: The book providing guideline of the youth of the modern era.

❖ International Seerah Conference 2022:" Training of youth generation for societal change: Guidance from Seerah May 23-24th 2022.

❖ Article: Compatability of education and training in the light of Seerah of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).

❖ Youth problems: Issues that effect young people by Shiekh Muhammad Salih al Uthaymeen.

❖ Journal of Business Management, Education, Teaching Methods and Techniques in the Early Years of Islam during the Era of Prophet Muhammad (SAW) by Md. Mizanur Rahman

### **Trusting and Investing in Youth:**

It is recorder in Siratun Nabi Ibna Hasham that there was a young boy of 13 year old Zaid ibnThabitr(RA).He was a companion of the Prophet (PBUH). He came to the Prophet (PBUH) and asked him to enroll him in the Battle of Badr to defend his people against the Quraysh. The Prophet (PBUH) did not grant him permission, because he was not capable of participating in the Battle. Prophet (PBUH) did not disqualify his feeling of scarifying for his religion/nation, so the Prophet empowered him according to his ability. The Prophet (PBUH) saw his thirst for knowledge and sincere dedication for his religion, so asked him to learn the Herbew and Syriac language. He became one of the official interpreters of the Prophet (PBUH) at a very young age. His trust and confidence in the young boy opened the door later in history. During the Battle of Yamamah, enough huffaz /memorisers of the Quran were being martyred. There was a fear in the Muslim community that if this continued, it would be lost forever. It is important to note that the Quran at the time of the Prophet was only written in different objects such as

Activities of oblivious youth in Pakistan and their guidance bones, skins and leathers. As such, during the reign of the first Caliph, Abu Bakar (RA) they took on the challenging and monumental task of compiling the scattered writings of the Quran in one book. For this purpose, he appointed Zaid ibnThabit a young companion by act upon the foot step of the Prophet (PBUH) to this great project. In a very short amount of time, he was able to put the Quran together meticulously. It was the character/vision of the Prophet, who saw the potential and talent in Zaid ibnThabit.<sup>10</sup>

### **Entrusting Youth with responsibilities:**

It is mentioned in Ar-Raheeq Al Makhtum that the Prophet was surrounded by many experienced Companions (RA), but he always encourages youth that's why he give the roles and responsibilities to a youngsters. Mus'abibn Umair (RA) was a young and intelligent Companion of the Prophet and had a privileged to attending the meeting of the Quresh. Prophet (PBUH) appointed Mus'abibin Umair as the ambassador of Islam for the purpose of teaching to the people of Madina to fulfill their thrust of religious knowledge. As a young companion he accepted the task of preaching and successfully accomplished it. Safiur Rahman Mubarakpuri explains his achievement in these words.

*“Mus'ab stayed in Medina carrying out his mission steadily and successfully.”<sup>11</sup>*

The Prophet was the greatest trainer as he knew his young companions completely and that why's Prophet (PBUH) task different assignment according to their abilities. The cousin of the Messenger of Allah, Abdullah Ibn Abbas(RA), was spend most of his time with the Prophet (PBUH)for the purpose of learning knowledge and serve him. It is recorded in Musnad Ahmad :That the Prophet (PBUH) offered him a special Dua by put his hand on his shoulder as a sign of love and care.

*“O Allah, give him understanding in the Religion and teach him interpretation of the Quran.”<sup>12</sup>*

Abdullah Ibn Abbas (RA) became a distinguished scholar of Hadith and the Quran at the age of 13, due to spiritual enlightenment of the Prophet (PBUH). The Prophet (PBUH) said to him, as both of them were riding:

*“Young man, I will teach you some words (of advice); Be mindful of Allah and He will protect you. Be mindful of Allah and you will find Him before you. If you ask, ask from Allah. If you seek help, seek help from Allah. Know that if all of creation gathered together to benefit you, they would only benefit you with something that Allah has written for you. And if all of creation gathered together to harm you, they would only harm you with something that Allah has written against you. The pens have been lifted and the pages have dried.”<sup>13</sup>*

Prophet Muhammad Prophet (PBUH) gave advice to his young cousin with love and care, so he becomes able to accept the challenges of life. Attitude toward young servants: It is recorded in the Tabqat ibn-e-Sad that the Zaid bin Harith was kidnapped in his childhood, and gifted by Hazrat Hakeem bin Hazam, to his aunt Hazarat Khawdiji so he came to the Holy Prophet (PBUH). After a long time his father and uncle came to get back. Holy Prophet (PBUH) asked him in front of his father, to select whether he wish to go back or not. He chooses to pass her rest of life in the company of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).<sup>14</sup>

It is recorder in Sahih Bukhari that the Hazrat Ans( RA) at the age of ten year was brought for the services of Holy Prophet(PBUH) by his mother. He remained with him till the death of the Holy Prophet (PBUH).He said that Prophet (PBUH), were never criticized nor condemn him and prayed for his prosperity and wealth.<sup>15</sup>

**Equally treatment without any gender discrimination:**

It is mentioned in Sirat un Nabi by Maulana Shiblea Nomanea that Hazrat Ayesha (RA) and Uma Salma(RA) ,were participated in Ghazwa Uhad to facilitate the injured person.<sup>16</sup> Holy Prophet (PBUH) had established first school in Makkah called Dar-e-Akram and first Islamic university in Madinah called Suffa, where he appointed special days for the education and training of the females.

We could see that:

❖ The people around the Prophet especially the young had so much comfort in him to the point out or to communicate openly their innermost thoughts and feelings.

❖ The Prophet was fully aware from the state of affairs as well challenged of the youth and had tackled the problem according to situation. This was the Prophet's art of empowerment towards them. Presenting Youth with Special Gifts as a Sign of Love and Care.

❖ He empowered the young men and women of his time and left behind an extraordinary legacy that continues to inspire young people till this very day.

*So the above-mentioned discussion revealing that we must follow the sunnah of our Prophet (PBUH) in our daily life and must be consider following step to cultivate the mind of young people.*

❖ First of new syllabus according to Seerah perspectives must be designed and implemented. Ethical and religious guidance should be provided in all educational institutions. Concept of Taqwa in Islam can make a person pious. Our youth must be familiar with the advantages of Islamic teaching like repentance (Toba), patience

Activities of oblivious youth in Pakistan and their guidance (Sabar) and modesty (Haya). We must give them their identity. Who we are? Where we do come from? What is the purpose of our life?

❖ We must be remove indiscipline, aggression, emotional imbalance, irresponsibility, depression, educational stress, bad company, career confusion, felling of loneliness and inconsistency from the life of youth by the guidance of serah.

❖ We must promote honesty, justice, truthfulness, modesty, patience, contentment and other religious values in the life of our youth as well.

❖ Education facilities must be provided to every one without any discrimination of class and gender. Illiteracy produce complete ignorance and the passage of time the forces of illiteracy reflect in the shape of barbarism and social evil of society. The illiterate person remains unaware of the God Providence and knowledge of Devine revelation. The right kind of education is necessary for the prosperity of the youth. The Muslim world has blessed with the Devine teaching of the Quran followed by Hadith, which has produce the world peace, justice and prosperity. On the other hand modern education system based on western pattern which has deprived from blessing of Quran and Sunnah. Illiteracy is the source of ignorance of human values such as duties and rights. Such society always invites and practices barbarity through action and thought. The main cause of barbarism in countries like Pakistan is the feudalism. There is a permanent existence of feudal society which has gives rise to class system. There is no universal plan or policies to provide equal opportunity of education for poor and rich. Holy Prophet (PBUH) had established first school in Makkah called Dar-e-Akram and first Islamic university in Madinah called Suffa. Where Holy Prophet (PBUH) preached the teaching of Islam to every one without any discrimination.

❖ Our whole society especially young ones are facing problems like unemployment, Child labour and poverty, Lack of professional skill, Unstable Economic system/intrest base economic system, Social evil, class discrimination, uses of drugs, immodesty, lack of peace and unity etc. Our youth become frustrated and commit various types of crimes because of social injustice. Justice is necessary in every field of life for the development of nation.

❖ Government must be control crimes and its publicity. Night packages of mobile companies are infact the western campaign to deviate Muslim youth and destroying the values of the Muslim society. Our youth and even children became fearless from everyone in the name of privacy. Secret friendship through internet is also great cause of families broken and children of these families are not looked after properly so they

became criminals.

❖ Qualities that we must induce in the Character of our youth are: Benevolence (sharing, caring, helping, service orientation), Honesty/trust worthiness, Justice/fair play, Truthfulness/authenticity, Contentment/gratitude.

❖ Knowledge that we must inherit to our youth are: Knowledge of religion and morality, knowledge and reality of life and death, Knowledge of life and nature, Knowledge regarding to health and environmental issues, Knowledge regarding the people, geography, history and nation of the world.

❖ We must give them various skill like: Observational/analyses, Problem solving skill Social skill/communication, Steadfastness, Initiatives/risk taking, Creativity/imagination, Adaptability.

**Strategy deal with the youths:** Accept them as who they are? And give them their true identity, send friendly signals, spend some good time with them, give opportunity to express them and listen to them, involve them in decision making practices, social and practical activities especially in Masajid, take interest in their issues.

### **Conclusion:**

This world is based on law of uniqueness. It means world is based on diversity, every human being has different background, that's why they differ in knowledge, skill, hobbies, feeling and emotion. Another thing we must remember that this universe is made on principle of interdependence and law of self-discovery. The life of the Holy Prophet (PBUH) is a role model for every person of this world who believes in Allah and the Day of Judgment. He was sent as the last Prophet of Allah Almighty. His Shariah was regarded as the last message of Allah and the previous Shariahs were abolished. His guidance was declared sufficient for all till the end of this world. Throughout his noble life, Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) had emphasized the significance of the youth. It is very important to know about those excellent methods and techniques and activities during the glorious era of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) and tries to implement in our life. The Prophet would not speak in a way that would break anybody heart, He did not criticize the person, but rather the faulty action and he always did this correction in the best of ways. The Prophet used to tell stories of the past Prophets and their nations and sometimes of some individuals of such nations in certain contexts in a way to teach Muslims through using interesting stories from which they can derive lessons and admonition. It was also part of Prophet



Activities of oblivious youth in Pakistan and their guidance (PBUH) wise method to speak to people on the level of their intelligence. He did not merely transmit knowledge; rather Prophet (PBUH) effected a complete transformation among the companions by showing them how to live according to the Holy Quran.

Islamic state are such a state in which all rules and regulation are according to Islam and nothing can be contradictory to the Quran and Sunnah. There are 57 Muslim countries in the world. Muslim countries are those in which Islamic law is present whether practices or not but officially religion is Islam. So in a present world all 57 countries are Muslim countries and none of them are Islamic state. The non-Muslim world and their leaders are always at war with Muslim Ummah. The historical process from the very beginning of the world reveals that the prejudice notions, jealousy and the anti-Muslim activities of the West are rapidly growing to harm and capture the growth and unity of Muslim nations. The Western world utilized the services of the secret agencies to shaken the faith and foundation of Muslim Ummah. Infact all the Muslim countries blessed with all kinds of resources to exist and develop. They can achieve the superior position in all fields of life if they act upon the solemnly doctrine and principles of Islam. Allah declared in the Holy Quran:

***“Ye are the best of people, evolved for mankind, enjoining what is right, forbidding what is wrong”.***

There are four dimensions in human life that is soul, body, heart and mind. The most difficult task is to handle manage and solve the mental issues. Human thinking is the permanent source of development and to change the society. Our religion is facing many challenges; one of them is contamination in every field of life. That is why our infra –structure, quality of life and inner- peace are facing continuously threat. Young generation of Muslim countries is the first target of that contamination. Today our teenagers are facing many issues, like purposelessness, indiscipline, aggression, emotional imbalance, irresponsibility, inconsistency, depression, educational stress, drugs addiction, bad company, career confusion, feeling of loneliness and much more. These issues are present in our society and the reaction of youth because they do not know who they are and what the purpose of their life is? These issues are solved by the guidance of Seerah.

**References:**

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