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Youth

Youth الشّباب

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الشّباب

.. رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): الشَّبابُ شُعبَةٌ مِن الجُنُونِ1

1– The Prophet (S) said, 'Youth is a branch of folly.'[al-Ikhtisas, p. 343]

.. رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): خَيرُ شَبابِكُم مَن تَشَبَّهَ بِكُهُولِكُم ، وشَرُّ كُهُولِكُم مَن تَشَبَّهَ بِشَبابِكُم2

2– The Prophet (S) said, 'The best of your youth are those who act like the old from among you, and the worst of your old ones are those who act like your youth.'[Kanz al-'Ummal, no. 43058]

.. الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ الّسَلامُ): شَيئانِ لا يَعرِفُ فَضلَهُما إلّا مَن فَقَدَهُما: الشَّبابُ، وَالعافِيَةُ3

3– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'There are two things whose worth is only known to one who has lost them: youth and health.'[Ghurar al-Hikam, no. 5764]

Educating Youngsters

تَربِيَةُ الأحداثِ

4ـ الإمامُ عليٌّ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): إنّما قَلبُ الحَدَثِ كالأرضِ الخالِيَةِ ، ما أُلقِيَ فيها مِن شَيءٍ قَبِلَتهُ.

4– Imam Ali (a.s.) said, 'Verily the heart of a youngster is like an empty plot of land – it accepts whatever is planted therein.'[Tuhaf al-'Uqul, no. 70]

5ـ عَن إسماعيلَ بنِ عبدِ الخالقِ: سمعت أبا عَبدِاللّه (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ) يقول لأبي جعفر الأحول وأنا أسمع: أتَيتَ البَصرةَ ؟ فَقالَ: نَعَم ، قالَ: كيفَ رَأيتَ مُسارَعَةَ الناسِ إلى هذا الأمرِ ودُخُولَهُم فيهِ ؟ قالَ: واللّهِ إنّهُم لَقليلٌ ، ولَقَد فَعَلُوا وإنّ ذلك لَقليلٌ ، فقالَ: علَيكَ بِالأحداثِ ؛ فإنّهُم أسرَعُ إلى كُلِّ خَيرٍ .

5– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) asked al-Ahwal, 'Did you go to Basra?' He replied, 'Yes.' Imam (a.s.) asked, 'How did you find people's hastening to this matter and embracing it?' He replied, 'By Allah, such people were few in number, and even that which they did do was little.' Imam replied, 'You should put it forth to the youngsters, for verily they hasten towards anything good.'[Qurb al-Isnad, p. 128, no. 450]

Learning During One's Youth

التَّعَلُّمُ فِي الشَّبابِ

6ـ رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): مَن تَعَلَّمَ في شَبابِهِ كانَ بِمَنزِلَةِ الرَّسمِ في الحَجَرِ ، ومَن تَعَلَّمَ وهُو كبيرٌ كانَ بِمَنزِلَةِ الكِتابِ على وَجهِ الماءِ.

6– The Prophet (S) said, 'Learning something during one's youth is like engraving in stone, and learning something when one is old is like writing on the surface of water.'[Bihar al-Anwar, v. 1, p. 222, no. 6]

7ـ الإمامُ الباقرُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): لَو أُتِيتُ بِشابٍّ مِن شَبابِ الشّيعَةِ لا يَتَفَقَّهُ (في الدّينِ) لأَدَّبتُهُ.

7– Imam al-Baqir (a.s.) said, 'If I was brought a young shi'aa man undevoted to learning [religious matters], I would discipline him.'[al-Mahasin, v. 1, p. 357, no. 760]

8ـ الإمامُ الصّادقُ (عَلَيهِ السّلامُ): لَستُ أُحِبُّ أن أرى الشّابَّ مِنكُم إلّا غاديا في حالَينِ: إمّا عالِماً أو مُتَعَلِّماً ، فإن لَم يَفعَلْ فَرَّطَ ، فإن فَرَّطَ ضَيَّعَ ، وإنْ ضَيَّعَ أثِمَ ، وإن أثِمَ سَكَنَ النارَ والذي بَعَثَ مُحمّداً بِالحَقِّ.

8– Imam al-Sadiq (a.s.) said, 'I only like to see the young man from among you occupied in either of two states: learning or teaching, for if he does not [engage in either of these two], he is wasting his time; and by wasting his time, he will lose out; and by losing out, he will be committing a sin; and by committing a

sin, he will dwell in the Fire, by the One who sent Muhammad with the truth.'[Amali al-Tusi, p. 303, no. 604]

The Virtue of a Worshipping Young Man

فَضلُ الشّابِّ العابِدِ

9- رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): إنَّ اللّهَ تعالى يُباهِي بالشابِّ العابِدِ المَلائكةَ ، يقولُ: أُنظُرُوا إلى عَبدي! تَرَكَ شَهوَتَهُ مِن أجلي.9

9– The Prophet (S) said, 'Verily Allah, most High, boasts about the worshipping young man to His angels, saying, 'Look at My servant! He has abandoned his desires for My sake.'[Kanz al-'Ummal, no. 43057]

10- رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): إنَّ اللّهَ تعالى يُحِبُّ الشابَّ التائبَ. .10

10– The Prophet (S) said, 'Verily Allah, most High, loves the penitent young man.'[Kanz al-'Ummal, no. 10185]

11- رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): فَضلُ الشّابِّ العابِدِ الذي تَعَبَّدَ في صِباهُ على الشيخِ الذي تَعَبَّدَ بعدَ ما كَبِرَت سِنُّهُ كَفَضلِ المُرسَلِينَ على سائرِ الناسِ.11

11– The Prophet (S) said, 'The superiority of a young worshipper who worships Allah in his youth over an old man who worships after he has grown old, is as the superiority of the prophets over the rest of people.'[Kanz al-'Ummal, no. 43059]

12- رسولُ اللهِ (صَلَّيَ اللهُ عَلَيهِ وَ آلِهِ): إنَّ اللّهَ يُحِبُّ الشابَّ الذي يُفني شَبابَهُ في طاعَةِ اللّهِ تعالى. .12

12– The Prophet (S) said, 'Verily Allah loves the young man who spends his entire youth in the obedience of Allah.'[Kanz al-'Ummal, no. 43060]

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