

The importance of the Makatib in the eyes of our Akabireen (pious predecessors)

1) In the book "Fadaail A'maal" there is a small treatise which has been approved by Hadrat Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Sahib *Rahimahullah* entitled "The solution of the degeneration of the Ummah" penned by Maulana Ihtishamul Hasan *Rahimahullah*; the following advice has been mentioned therein "Have concern with regards to the (learning of the) Qur'anic recitation and Islamic education of your child; together with this, have concern for the children of your locality and place this (effort) before any other work and responsibility". (Fada'il A'maal)

2) Hadrat Shaikhul Hind *Rahimahullah* states the following: During the solitude and isolation I experienced in Malta I pondered and reflected on the question as to why the Muslims across the globe have been subjected to such destruction and are experiencing decline with regards to their Deen and Dunya?

I came to the conclusion that two factors account for it: the abandonment of the Noble Qur'an and the internal conflicts and dissensions that divide us.

For this reason, I have returned (from Malta) with this firm resolution that the words (reading) and meanings of the Noble Qur'an become widespread. Maktabas need to be established in various towns for our children, whereby the education of the words (recitation of the Noble Qur'an) takes place.

Together with this, there is a need that the Dars of the Noble Qur'an takes place for adults, they should be familiarised with the message of the Noble Qur'an and encouraged to practice on its teachings.

(Taken from Wah'dat-e-Ummat/Unity of the Ummat of Hadrat Mufti Muhammad Shafi Sahib *Rahimahullah*)

3) Maulana Manzoor Nu'mani *Rahimahullah* mentioned the following advice in the Jalsa of the Deeni educational council in the year 1960:

"You may choose one of two things; You may either (Allah Ta'ala forbid!) be pleased with the Irtidaad (apostasy) of your children with regards to their Deen and culture or you may stand with this decision that I need to save each and every child from this hurricane of Irtidaad! Together with this, I will sacrifice and strive to the extent required in this endeavour."

(Takbeer-e-Musalsal: 31)

4) Hadrat Maulana Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi *Rahimahullah* states: The establishment of Madaris and Makatib in these times have become extremely necessary; to such an extent that I believe that there is no method in our times which is more effective with regards to the continuation and protection of the future generations Islameyaat compared to the establishment of Madaris and Makatib.

(Ibid: 31)

5) Hadrat Maulana Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi *Rahimahullah* states: The most important issue and question the Muslims are facing, this may be whether the Muslims are in a majority or minority is as to what preparations have been made for the adults with regards to their Deeni awareness and the Deeni education of their children?

I am forced to have this faith and conviction due to my limited research and awareness of Deen that this is the most primary and important issue compared to all other community and national issues. This is the foundational matter of their lives; this is the question of everlasting salvation or everlasting destruction!

I am delivering this message to the Muslims so that they regard the protection of the Imaan of their children and the recognition of Deen and Imaan and its protection, it's Ghaerat (sense of honour) and the effort of passing one's life in its accordance and thereafter to leave this Dunya upon it as the most important issue.

The degree to which this concern should affect the hearts of Muslims is not affecting their hearts. All danger lies in this matter, that the importance which should have been given to this issue is not in the Muslims.

(Ibid: 536)

6) Hadrat Maulana Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi *Rahimahullah* states: I say this quite bluntly, it is a thousand times more important than sewing your children's Eid clothes, and hundreds of times more important than acquiring the best forms of medicine when your child becomes ill, and hundreds and thousands of times more important than making your child capable of working is the need that he/she becomes a true and powerful Muslim. (Ibid: 252)

7) Hakeemul Ummat Hadrat Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi *Rahimahullah* states: There is no better service of Deen in these times than the Ta'leem (education) of Deen.

(Al-Ilm wal Ulama: 34)

8) Hakeemul Ummat Hadrat Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi *Rahimahullah* states: I had sent a message to the respectable personals of Deoband that a specific dressing be stipulated for the students. A specific dress/uniform which was worn by our pious elders and saints. (Ibid: 174)

9) Hadrat Maulana Ali Miaa *Rahimahullah* states: It is the benevolence of Allah Ta'ala that there are many places in which determined and concerned Muslims are present, if they were to stand up with this important responsibility and were to make it the purpose of their lives and to regard it as a high form of worship and service of Deen, in which there is no possibility of any doubt for the intelligent Muslim, than this concern which seems to be unsolvable will very easily be solved. However, the first condition is determination and resolution, and the second is structure and organisation; and with the presence of these two aspects, each and every difficulty becomes easy and every impossibility becomes possible. (Takbeer-e-Musalsal: 132)

10) Leave the Maktabs as they are! Allow the poor children to study at these Madaris! What will happen if these Mullas (scholars) and Darweshs (saints) do not remain? I have personally witnessed

what will happen; if the Muslims of India were to be deprived of these Madrasah's than we will be in the very same condition which was experienced in Al-Andalus (Spain), wherein despite eight hundred long years of ruler ship, nothing remains besides the ruins and relics of Granada, Cordoba and Al-Hamra! In India there remains no sign and trace of the eight hundred years of ruler ship and civilisation besides the Taj Mahal in Agra and the red fort in Delhi!

(Iqbal Rahimahullah)

(Translation of selected portions from the Urdu Booklet compiled by Deeneyat "Makatib ke Ahmeyerat, Akabir-e-Ummat ke Nigaa me")



DARUL ULOOM ARABIA ISLAMIA N.Z -DARUL IFTA DEPARTMENT

2/36 Stoddard Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041, New Zealand M: +64 21 135 9800 | W: <https://darulifta.org.nz> | E: iftaduai@ait.org.nz