

MUSIC

IN THE LIGHT OF QUR'AN AND SUNNAH



Islam, being a comprehensive and complete guide from Allah, leaves no area of our life untouched-no part, unguided. Given this, it is unthinkable that there can be any room for the tiniest of errors. The things we have been commanded to do and the things we have been ordered to abstain from, are all for our own benefit.

But sadly, today we have become so involved in things that have no real value and are essentially meaningless that we have forgotten the real purpose of our existence. Whereas the Qur'an tells us that the real purpose of life is:

”إِنَّا جَعَلْنَا مَا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ زِينَةً لِّهَا لِنَبْلُوَهُمْ أَيُّهُمْ أَحْسَنُ عَمَلًا“ ٥

(Surah Kahf: Verse 7)

"Verily We have made that which is on earth as an adornment for it, in order that We may test them (mankind) as to which of them are best in deeds".

Later in Surah Luqman Allah (s.w.t) says:

”وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَشْتَرِي لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ لِيُضِلَّ عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ ۖ وَيَتَّخِذَهَا هُزُوًا ۚ أُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ مُّهِينٌ“

(Surah Luqman: Verse 6)

Interpretation:

"And of mankind is he who purchases لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ (idle talks) to mislead (men) from the Path of Allah without knowledge, and takes it (the Path of Allah, the Verses of the Qur'an) by way of mockery. For such there will be a humiliating torment (in the Hell-fire)."

AL-ILM strives to disseminate knowledge of Qur'an and Sunnah amongst women of all ages, young and old alike.
We conduct the following courses for this purpose:

Our Mission: Qur'an in Each Heart, Each Hand
Every Home and Every Forum

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دن: پیر سے جمعرات	اوقات: 9:00 am سے 12:45 pm

رمضان پروگرام: ماہ رمضان میں دورہ قرآن کا اہتمام
رابطہ کیلئے: 0300-8202473, 0300-2125144

فہم القرآن :	اردو میں تفسیر القرآن اور دیگر فہم دین مضامین پر مشتمل کورس
دن: جمعہ اور ہفتہ	اوقات: 3:15 pm سے 6:00 pm

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مکتب :	بچوں کیلئے تجوید و قرآنی تعلیم و تربیت کا مدرسہ
دن: پیر سے بدھ	اوقات: 3:30 pm سے 5:00 pm

تعمیر :	اردو میں منتخب نصاب، تجوید اور گرامر کا ایڈوانس کورس
دن: منگل اور بدھ	اوقات: 9:30 am سے 12:30 pm

Quest: Weekly Islamic education programme (English)		
Timings: 3:00pm to 6:00pm		Day: Thursday

Perceptions: Weekly interactive Islamic workshops for girls (English)		
Timings: 3:30pm to 5:30pm		Day: Friday

زیر نگرانی - ہما نجم الحسن
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لَهُوَ الْحَدِيثُ - what does the term mean?

Anything that takes man away from remembrance of Allah and His word, the Qur'an, is classified as "Lah-wal-hadeeth". This means that the definition is much broader than just meaningless talk and frivolous activities. Indeed this term also encompasses, which for us are seemingly harmless things like immoral literature, films, novels and magazines etc.

Abdullah Bin Masood (R.A) said:

"By Him besides Whom there is no God! It means music". He repeated this thrice.

Ibn-e-Abbas (R.A) while elucidating the same, said: "It means music and similar kind"

Jabir (R.A) said: "This means music and listening to it".

Ibn Omer (R.A) also agreed that this refers to music.

Ibn-e-Hishaam who has taken it from the narration of Muhammad bin Ishaq says that the message of Islam could not be suppressed despite the utmost efforts of the Quraish to the contrary. At this point Nazar bin Haris stepped in and said to the Quraish that the techniques you have chosen to go about opposing this man are naught but an exercise in futility. This man grew up amongst you. Till today he was considered the best amongst you by his Akhlaq (manners and etiquette), the most truthful and the most honest. Now you say that he is a lunatic, a magician, a poet! Who, after all, is likely to believe you? Do the people not know magicians and the fact that they blow into knots? Are the people unaware of poets and poetry? Do they not know the symptoms of a man not in control of his senses? Which of these allegations can you successfully accuse Mohammad (s.a.w) of? You cannot stop people from listening to him by calling him such. Indeed, I have a better suggestion. Then he left Makkah for Iraq to bring back stories of non-Arab opulence and parables of Rustum and Asfandiyar.

He would hold gatherings in which these stories were narrated so as to keep the people preoccupied, and divert their attention from the Qur'an.

The same narration is found in 'Asbaab-e-Nuzool' taken from 'Qalbi and Muqatil'. Ibn-e Abbas has further added, 'For this purpose Nazar had also bought slave girls who would sing and dance. Whenever he would hear of anybody taking interest in (Prophet) Muhammad's (s.a.w) message he would appoint one of the slave girls for him. She would then be responsible for keeping him engrossed in eating, drinking and music and as a result keep him away from the mesmerizing effects of the Qur'an.

Even today, this practice is not uncommon. Governments repeatedly use the same tactic for their benefit- to make the common man so involved in trivialities (entertainment of similar kind) that they no longer find the time or need to think about the realities of life. Hence, the masses remain unaware of the dark pit of disastrous consequences it is slowly but surely moving towards.

An ignorant man buys this frivolity, cleverly disguised under the garb of so-called "glamour" and he does this at the cost of Qur'an and Hadith. He remains blissfully unaware of the fact that in exchange for the priceless message, the Qur'an- the Holy word of God Himself, what he gets in return is nothing but an unholy, earthly recipe for disaster! On one hand are the verses of Qur'an with their unmatched pearls of wisdom and words of guidance, which one receives free of cost. And on the other, are questionable activities, indecencies that poison the mind and leave one's character bereft of moral values, which are sure to destroy the quality of this life and the Hereafter.

Ironically the tragedy of the matter is that he actually spends his wealth to get his hands on them- a foolish bargain that leaves only regret and a sense of grievous loss at the end. If only he would pay heed!

Satan`s Challenge

In Surah Bani Israel Verse 24 Allah (s.w.t) clearly tells us that Satan will always try to deceive us in order to entice us away from our actual purpose i.e obedience to the Almighty, through meaningless distractions.

وَاسْتَفْزِزْ مَنِ اسْتَطَاعَتْ مِنْهُمْ بِصَوْتِكَ

(Surah Bani Israel:Verse 64)

بَصَوْتِكَ means voice. What exactly is Satan's voice?

Ibn Abbas stated that music, musical instruments and songs (based on music), and amusement and sport of similar kind are the voices of Satan through which he distracts people from the truth (Qurtubi)

This is by far the single most successful trick of Satan, as today we are surrounded by music, whether it be small family gatherings or un-Islamic functions such as *mayun*, *mehndi* etc. Even charity drives are organized through the platform of musical concerts, *mehfil-e-ghazal*, etc. The media, cable and even our cell phones contain music. Unfortunately we remain blissfully unaware of the negative impact music has on our senses. Ironically, in our ignorance we have actually made *Qawwalis* a part of our deen, whereas in reality it is a *Biddah* (an innovation in deen). *Qawwalis* though usually comprise of *Shirkia* words, but at times pious and devout messages are combined with music, which is equivalent to insolence and disrespect. They are usually heard within the houses, on our TV sets, and also at shrines. Ringtones (on cell phones) of Indian or English songs in mosques and during dars-e-quran, even during Hajj and Umrah have become a menace which detract from the essence of the prayer itself and are of course a mark of disrespect, not to mention callousness on the part of the user. Moreover, we have adopted some things such as *Samaa*, *Raqs*, *Haal*, *Wajd* from the Hindu mode of worship. These two are all *Biddah* and can mostly be witnessed at shrines. There is no evidence of such activities being allowed, in Ahadeeth.

Negative Impact Of Music:

- A person who is addicted to music runs away from remembrance of God as music creates a state of apathy within man and hence it becomes a great hurdle in the assimilation of Qur'an. He then loses the desire to learn about the Qur'an and to obey the commands therein. It is precisely this reason that music has been given the name "mulahi" in Arabic which means something that generates apathy.
- Most songs are about drinking and the charms and appeal of the female sex, which encourage people consciously or otherwise, to sin.
- Music prevents one from meditating and pondering deeply over the Greatness of the Lord. Furthermore it makes it difficult to obey Him.
- Music attracts one towards fleeting pleasures and encourages one to attain them. As a result it stifles man's innate craving to search for the truth.
- Obscene songs dirty the tongue making vulgarity, shamelessness and foul language the norm.
- Love of this worldly life increases making one increasingly materialistic.
- Life ceases to be a serious affair; a person no longer ponders over basic questions about his existence and his reason for being sent into this world. He becomes immersed in the frivolities of this world and forgets its reality.
- Music preys upon our lowly desires, making us forget about our eternal abode and furthermore results in wastage of the precious commodity that is time
- Music leads to illicit relations which result in fornication.
- Quran and music cannot reside in one and the same heart.
- People spend exorbitant amounts of money on obtaining music, musical instruments, and concert tickets etc which are sheer wastage of money or israf.
- Truly, consciously or sub-consciously, sooner or later we become a reflection of where we spend our time and our words become the mirrors of our thoughts.

A True Story

A man and his son were travelling by car when suddenly they met with an accident. The father remained safe but for the son, the accident proved fatal. When the father realized this he tried to get his son to recite the Kalima, but the son kept repeating the songs he had been listening to before the Angel of Death descended, and finally breathed his last in that sorry state.

- Latest research tells us that the reason the new generation is so emotional and aggressive is because music is their constant companion.
- Research also tells us that music effects driving which results in over-speeding and that ultimately leads to road accidents.
- Music is Satan's Azan. Music makes one vulnerable to any attack by Satan and thus makes it easier for him to lead us to sins and wrongdoings.
- Gradually music makes man apathetic towards Allah, his Creator and his Deen.
- Obscene songs result in emotional turmoil making one more hormonally charged. Music gives wind to our animal instincts; it basically preys on our sexual responses.
- Love of music generates Nifaq or hypocrisy in the heart.
- Music makes one love the fantasy world more and hampers one's practical approach towards life.

Music in the Light Of Some Ahadeeth

- Imran Bin Hussein (R.A) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said "The people of this Ummah will be plagued by being swallowed up by the earth, disfigurement of faces and by being pelted with stones from the sky". Somebody asked "O Prophet of Allah, when will this happen?" He replied "when singing women surface, when musical instruments become openly available, when drinking becomes rampant"

(Tirmizi)

- Abu Imam (R.A) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said "Buying and selling of female singers and their trade is not Halaal, and neither is taking a price for them" (Tirmizi)
- Abu Hurairah (R.A) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said "Bells are the (musical) instruments of Satan" (Muslim, Abu Dawood)
- Ameer Muawwiyah (r.a) narrated in a sermon that the Prophet (s.a.w) forbade us seven things. I too forbid you the same, know that these seven things are *marsia* (songs of lamentations), music, pictures, poetry, gold, silk, *zeen*, pork" (Tabrani)
- Ali (R.A) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said "When my Ummah bears fifteen traits tribulation will befall them". He continued that among those fifteen things are "when female singers and musical instruments become popular" (Tirmizi)
- The Prophet (s.a.w) said that the world will not come to an end until people are plagued by incidents of being swallowed up by the earth, disfigurement of faces and by being pelted with stones from the sky". Somebody asked "O Prophet of Allah, when will this happen?" He replied "when you see women riding on saddlecloth, when female singers surface, when musical instruments become openly available, when bearing false witness becomes common, and men deem men enough, and women deem women enough (for sexual activity)" (Tabrani)
- Nafay narrates that once Ibn Umar (R.A) heard the sound of a shepherd's flute. He immediately stuck his fingers in his ears and turned the direction of his mount, saying Nafay can you hear something. I replied "yes", so he kept moving until I said "the sound is no more". Only then did he remove his

fingers and came on the path and said I saw the Prophet (s.a.w) doing the same when he heard the sound of a flute.

(Abu Dawood, Ibn e Majah)

- Ibn Abbas (r.a) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said "Allah (s.w.t) has made alcohol, gambling, *tabla* (a kind of small drum), *sarangi* (a kind of fiddle no longer in use) haram, and has declared that anything that intoxicates is haraam.

(Ahmed, Abu Dawood, Ibn-e- Haban)

- Ibn Abbaas (R.A) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said " When war bounty is made personal wealth, when people consider amaanat (a trust) war bounty, when Zakaat is is considered ransom money, when knowledge of Deen is sought for worldly glory, when man obeys his wife and disobeys his mother, when he considers his friend close whilst shunning than his father, when mosques are beset with noise and mayhem, when tribal heads are sinners, when the nation's leader is the worst man amongst them, when men of cunning are respected due to the fear of their evil, when female singers and musical instruments become common, when drinking becomes rampant, and when the latter part of the Ummah curses those who came in the beginning. Then at that time wait for a red storm and an earthquake and being swallowed up by the earth, disfigurement of faces and such signs of the Day of Judgment that come one after the other like the string of a necklace is broken and its beads scatter everywhere at the same time"

(Tirimzi)

- Sahl bin Saad (R.A narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said " At the end of times Khasf (being swallowed up by the earth), Qazf (being pelted with stones) and disfigurement will occur. ". Somebody asked "O Prophet of Allah, when will this happen?" He replied "when female singers surface and musical instruments surface and alcohol is considered Halaal"

(Tabrani) (Sahih)

- Abu Malik Ash'ary (R.A) narrated that the Prophet (s.a.w) said " The people of my Ummah will consume alcohol but will call it by some other name. they will have singing women under them. Allah (s.w.t) will cause the earth to swallow them up and will make (some of) them apes and pigs"

(Ibn Majah)

Drinking, Adultery, Music And Silk Will Be Declared Halaal With "Shariaah Proofs" Before Qayyamah

- 1 Abu Amir Ash'ary (R.A) narrated that he heard the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) say 'Some people from my Ummah will make drinking, adultery, music and silk Halaal.'

(Bukhari)

- 2 Abdullah bin Abbaas (R.A) narrates the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) said 'By Him in whose hand is Mohammad's (s.a.w) soul ! There will be some people in my Ummah who would spend their nights in pride and arrogance and in frivolities but in the morning they will be turned into pigs and apes. This will be done to them because they would make *Haraam Halaal*, female singers would become common, as would alcohol consumption, dealing in interest and wearing silk.

(Ahmed- Sahih)

Music And Dance Leads To Hypocrisy

The similarities between hypocrisy and music are striking. While a hypocrite creates doubts among believers regarding the truth a singer drags one away from purity of character to the abyss of lustful desires.

A hypocrite indulges in wrong doing purporting it to be the right thing to do. And people interested in music are under the same

false impression. People sometimes listen to qawalees n naats without knowing that they sometimes hint at shirk (associating partners with Allah). They do this under the delusion that their hearts are being guided towards the truth. Some listen to music thinking it lightens their hearts and their grievances and others are under the impression that they are merely "enjoying life"! However through this act they are suppressing the true values and innate goodness of their character, as is mentioned in the following hadith:

Jabir (R.A) narrated, the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) stated, 'Music grows hypocrisy in the heart exactly like water grows fields'
(Baheiqi- Abu Dawud)

Playing the Duff (one-sided drum) Is Allowed

- 1 Islam does not allow the use of musical instruments like guitars, violins, pianos, trumpets or tambourines. Neither does it allow holding concerts, dances or musical nights.
- 2 Musical instruments fall into two categories, one being haraam includes instruments that produce the intoxicating effect particular to music even without a lyrics and words. These include flutes.

The other category includes those that are permitted like the *duff* (one-sided drum without bells) which can be used on occasions like weddings and Eid.

(Fatah al Qadeer)

- 3 These days naats are recited in the same fashion and style and even on the same tunes as those of popular Indian songs. This is outright insolence towards the Holy Prophet (s.a.w).
- 4 Islam encourages the use of duff as an expression of joy on happy occasions like marriage. Hence we should encourage their use by replacing drums with duffs on our weddings.

Hazrat Aisha (R.A) narrated, the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) said, 'Perform your nikkahs in mosques, announce them and play the duff'

(Tirmidhi)

- 5 The Holy Prophet (s.a.w) said, 'what distinguishes a *halaal* marriage from a haram one is the publicizing of nikkah and the playing of duff.'

(Nisai- Ibn-e- Maja)

- 6 The playing and singing of 'nasheeds' is also permitted. Nasheeds are songs which comprise of lyrics with character-building verses, sung with rhythm or to the beat of duffs. They may also contain poetry that encourages the desire to do jihad in Allah's way or inculcate the love of God in one. Examples of such poets are Allama Iqbal and Haali. This type of poetry with a constructive approach is allowed. However, caution should be exercised that the subject of poetry should not be indecent; neither should it incite one towards drinking. The poetry should not also talk about women's beauty and should not hint at shirk either, which is a sin.

OPINIONS AND VIEWS OF SCHOLARS

1. People of Ar-Rahman donot take part in musical events
(Imam Abu Hanifa)
2. The singing of songs is a frivolous and disliked activity which greatly resembles falsehood. Listening to songs by either men or women is considered Haraam in Islam. The witness provided by people who take up music as a profession, will be rejected (in a court of law)
(Imam Shafii)
3. Music leads to hypocrisy and hence I dislike it.
(Imam Hanbal)

Once a guitar was brought to Imam Hanbal. He stood up and broke it.

4. Playing flutes and music is Haraam

(Imam Muhammad)

A Question To Ponder Upon:

Why is the word "Paristaar" used for singers and musicians?

The word '*paristaar*' is synonymous to worshipping musicians. In ancient times people worshipped idols. Nowadays they worship living idols i.e musicians. Putting up posters of these musicians, and striving to just be bestowed by their touch, spending lavishly on their concerts are some sorry examples of this behavior. Following them blindly and sighing over them are just new ways of idol worship. When you look into their personal lives you realize that their lives are brimming with sin and dirty acts. "And if music is food for the soul then why are they - the proponents themselves, suffering from depression and anxiety."

What Makes Up "Food For the Soul"? Quran or Music?

The clichéd adage goes "Music is food for the soul". However the sole Creator of our soul is Allah and food for the soul comes from Him alone-His message: The Qur'an! Music may be fuel for Satanic and lustful desires but definitely not the soul.

....."أَلَا يَذْكُرُ اللَّهُ تَطْمِئِنُّ الْقُلُوبُ ۝"

'Verily, in the remembrance of Allah do hearts find solace.'
(Surah Ar-Ra'ad ayah:28)

Allah's message, in sharp contrast to music, fills ones heart with serenity and tranquility.

It makes one evolve to a higher level of spirituality.

It increases one's threshold of patience and stresses upon dignity and decorum at all times.

Music teaches us the exact opposite of what the Qur'an entails. The personality traits that musicians have tried to encourage over the years are literally on a collision course against the teachings of the Qur'an on the subject. This is the main reason why Qur'an and music cannot reside in one heart! That is why Qur'an prevents one from following our desires blindly. It encourages one to maintain purity of character, discipline ones lustful desires, and keep away from adultery and to not follow in Satan's footsteps.

Music on the other hand fuels desires, creates a frenzied sort of excitement in the body and senses, making the dark side of human character more prominent. While the recitation of the Qur'an gives purity to ones thoughts and emotions, making one closer to his/her Creator.

There is something mesmerizing about this message that touched people like Junaid Jamshaid, changing them forever. He left Pop Music going for something higher. He himself says "I have asked Allah for forgiveness for my involvement in music for the past years. I will now use my voice only to spread Allah's message and for positive and constructive poetic lyrics."

His example is one among many, of people, who left their musical professions for good, solely to please Allah (s.w.t), in search of the truth.

Moment Of Introspection for the Entire Ummah

India's political leader, Sonia Gandhi in one of her speeches said, **"We need not use weapons against Pakistan on the battleground when we can win over the Pakistani nation and their minds using our media."**

No doubt we've seen these words materialize. Today Indian songs are played, listened to in majority of our households and girls and boys, men and women alike dance to their beats especially on weddings.

Now, the choice is ours, will we pick music for fleeting pleasures in the process, making ourselves slaves of our desires or will we keep ourselves immersed in Allah's word, gaining peace and serenity here and a high living standard in the Hereafter.

The Quran says:

1 It is not for a believer, man or woman, when Allah and His Messenger have decreed a matter that they should have any option in their decision. And whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger, he has indeed strayed in a plain error'

(Surah Al-Ahzaab Ayat- 36)

2 'O you who believe! Obey Allah and His Messenger, and turn not away from him (i.e. Messenger Muhammad P.B.U.H) while you are hearing.'

(Surah Al-Anfa'al Ayah: 20)

3 'And obey Allah and the Messenger (Muhammad) that you may obtain mercy.'

(Surah A'al Imran Ayah: 132)

Lets Face Reality

It is man's nature to get tired of the monotony of day-to-day work and hence end up craving for pleasure and entertainment. However if that form of entertainment is outside the permissible boundaries of Islam and one is adamant on continuing it anyhow, chances are that a time will come when he/she will no longer be able to distinguish between that fine line of good and evil. He will lose the ability to differentiate between activities that are beneficial and those that will be destructive.

It is true that wrongdoings and entertainment based on them have their own apparent glamour and excitement. Yet it is the understanding of Deen that makes one realize that we cannot fulfill every desire that takes shape in our hearts regardless of it being *Haraam* or *Halaal*. And Islam does give us the *Halaal* way to fulfill our desire for example, if one feels attraction towards the opposite sex he/she should go for the option of *Nikkah*. If one wants to satisfy his/her taste buds, Islam has permitted us to eat and drink what we want, minus only a few things like pork, wine, and anything that is slaughtered on a name other than that of Allah's (s.w.t) .

Also there are *Halaal* means to earn money if one wants, with very few things that are *Haraam* like taking interest, bribery, adulteration or being unfair regarding weights and measures. As the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) said, **'Let your hearts relax from time to time'**

In the same way racing, swimming, horse riding, and archery are not just allowed but are actually encouraged in the light of different Ahadeeth, the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) said, **'Do horse-riding and also go for archery.'**

When the companions of the Holy Prophet (s.a.w) would get tired of studying the Qu`ran and Hadith they would have lighter moments where they would enjoy historical Arab fable and stories, and generally have good, humorous times, like we say today "chilling out".

On the other hand all things that are destructive for individuals, society, religion, moral values are outside the permissible

boundary of Islam. Islam prohibits the reading of indecent literature or watching such films or videos or listening to music that incites lustful desires or entertainment that is a complete waste of time. Similarly all entertainment forms that clash with Islamic values are forbidden like dance and music.

Remember when one gives himself completely in the obedience of Allah his/her perception of life takes a U-turn. He/she finds peace and fulfillment in the verses of Allah. This only proves that it is possible to be obedient to Allah's commands and yet have a life of quality- constructive, meaningful and sprinkled with lighter moments!

Cure Is Possible

The best alternative to music is listening to different recitations of Qu'ranic verses in different voices. Recite the Holy Qur'an beautifully. The Prophet (s.a.w) said:

“زَيِّنُوا الْقُرْآنَ بِأَصْوَاتِكُمْ”

Translation: 'Adorn the Qur'an with your voices'

(Bukhari)

Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari (r.a) reported: The Messenger of Allah (s.a.w) said to him, "You have been given a Mizmar (sweet melodious voice) out of the Mazamir of Prophet Dawud (David)."

(Bukhari)

The Prophet (s.a.w) said "Allah does not listen so attentively to anything as He listens to the recitation of the Qur'an by a Prophet who recites well with a melodious and audible voice."

(Bukhari and Muslim)

The truth of the matter is that the Qur'an is a book beyond comparison. Its beauty is far more appealing than any piece of poetry men have composed. It is this beauty that mesmerized not only the

tribal Arabs, but still appeals to people around the world, regardless of whether they speak the language or not. It is that miraculous message that retains its flavor even if oft repeated. In fact every time one reads it, one discovers newer pleasures and sensations washing over him, and truly experiences its hypnotic prowess pulling at the heart-strings. It as a book that talks to the soul and Allah (s.w.t) has made it more than just a magnificent piece of writing, for the Qur'an is not only unprecedented in terms of word power, it is also an unparalleled book of guidance for man. For those who seek guidance from it, find to their utter joy- words of wisdom sprinkled all over it as a strand of beads suddenly broken. Indeed the Qur'an's crowning glory is these pearls of wisdom.

- 1 Whoever is addicted to music and finds his peace lost without it should turn to the Qur'an for cure and gradually start reciting its verses. Insha`Allah Allah will help him lose appeal in music.
- 2 On every command adopt the attitude of سَمِعْنَا وَأَطَعْنَا : **We hear and We obey!**
- 3 Adopt a positive attitude towards all of Allah's and Prophet Muhammad's (s.a.w) commands.
- 4 Remember letting go of music when you don't want to is not hypocrisy but it's equal to Jihaad.
- 5 Ears are a blessing that Allah has entrusted us with; do not cause a breach of trust by listening to obscene and vulgar stuff.
- 6 On the Day of Judgment we will be answerable to Allah for what our eyes see, what our tongues speak and what our ears hear.
- 7 One way to thank Allah for his blessings is to use them according to the ways He has allowed us.
- 8 Wasting time in meaningless activities and hobbies will be a

source of regret on the Day of Judgment.

Make a habit of saying these invocations:

اَللّٰهُمَّ اِنِّىْ اَعُوْذُبِكَ مِنْ مُّنْكَرَاتِ الْاَخْلَاقِ وَ الْاَعْمَالِ وَ
الْاَهْوَاءِ وَالْاَدْوَاءِ۔

O Allah! Indeed I, I seek refuge in You from a disliked character & manners and from disliked deeds, desires and illnesses.

(Tirmidhi)

اَللّٰهُمَّ ارْزُقْنِىْ حُبَّكَ وَحُبَّ مَنْ يَنْفَعُنِىْ حُبُّهُ عِنْدَكَ،
اَللّٰهُمَّ مَا رَزَقْتَنِىْ مِمَّا اُحِبُّ فَاَجْعَلْهُ قُوَّةً لِّىْ فِىْ مَا تُحِبُّ،
اَللّٰهُمَّ مَا زَوَيْتَ عَنِّىْ مِمَّا اُحِبُّ فَاَجْعَلْهُ فَرَاغًا لِّىْ فِىْ مَا تُحِبُّ۔

O Allah! Grant me Your love, and the love that will benefit me in coming nearer You. O Allah! Whatever You have granted me from what I love, make it a means for those deeds that You love. O Allah! Whatever You have taken away from me that I love, make it a means of spare time (spent) on those deeds that You love.

(Tirmidhi)

اَللّٰهُمَّ اجْعَلْ حُبَّكَ اَحَبَّ اَلْاَشْيَاءِ اِلَيَّ وَاجْعَلْ
 خَشْيَتَكَ اَخْوَفَ اَلْاَشْيَاءِ عِنْدِيْ وَاقْطَعْ عَنِّيْ حَاجَاتِ
 الدُّنْيَا بِالشُّوْقِ اِلَى لِقَائِكَ وَاِذَا اَقْرُرْتَ اَعْيُنَ اَهْلِ
 الدُّنْيَا مِنْ دُنْيَاهُمْ فَاقْرُرْ عَيْنِيْ مِنْ عِبَادَتِكَ۔

O Allah! Make Your love dearer to me than the love of all my possessions, and make Your fear more intense than the fear of all my possessions, and You decrease my worldly needs and increase my eagerness to meet with You, and where You have made this world the coolness of eyes for the worldly, keep the coolness of my eyes in Your worship.

(Kinz-ul-Amaal)

ROCK MUSIC'S INFLUENCE ON SOCIETY

Music has been around for thousands of years, it appeals to everyone. When was the last time you have heard someone say, "I hate music."? Lately though, music has been criticized for corrupting teen's minds.

Metal is being blamed for giving teens only dark images and thoughts in their minds. Although the media and public criticize metal and rock music and blame the music for influencing teens negatively.

Today's Rock music is a lot different then it was 40 years ago. The topics they sing about are different as well as the sound of the music and lyrics. People thought that listening to rock gave you an attitude of rebellion.

Even when the lyrics weren't in any way obscene people had that negative attitude towards the music and today people still have that same attitude about rock. Only now, that rock has changed a vast amount a person's attitude towards rock has probably gotten worse.

Bands that sing about death, sadness and depression have been blamed for being the reason someone commits suicide or murders another person.

Then you have the bands that use obscene language, bands that people say may have taken it too far and may have used a lot of unnecessary words in their songs.

Some people might say that obscene lyrics are straightforwardly obscene, and anyone with good morals will know enough to avoid them, or at least not repeat them to his or her parents. Other people might not care and say that a song is for entertainment, and that obscene lyrics are just a part of getting a bands message across.

People say that rock and metal bands like KoRn and Iron Maiden give kids negative thoughts and make teens act out in violence.

MUSIC AND INFLUENCE

The introduction of Rap Music into the 21st Century has become influential in a global society for the following reasons: The way women are portrayed in rap videos, drug use "glorified" by rappers and the Bling-Bling era. Rap music can be heard playing in all countries. Over time, rap music has developed a lot of controversy in many ways. i.e. How women are degraded in the lyrics and how drugs and Diamonds or "Bling-Bling" plays a large part in how rappers are portrayed.

The way women are portrayed in rap videos is especially degrading. They make them up to look like "prostitutes" and "gold diggers". Rappers portray themselves as having a lot of money and being able to have any women that they want. Women in rap videos are shown "barely clothed" i.e. thongs, short-shorts, bras, etc...

Drugs use is glorified by rappers when they talk about it in their lyrics as if it is okay. Snoop Dogg, a well known rapper, constantly talks about smoking marijuana or "weed" in almost all of his music. Some rappers lyrics lead teens to believe that drug use is okay. You can consistently hear in our news reports today of rappers being caught with drugs i.e. marijuana and cocaine and being incarcerated.

Rappers are notorious for their Diamond Grills, diamond necklaces and flashy clothes. They also spend millions on their cars and wheels. "Bling-Bling" originated from the song "Bling Bling" which was created by the New Orleans Rapper B.G. on his 1998 album, Chopper City, which basically talked about how they lived their flashy lives as hip hop artists.

Overall, rap music influences the way we talk, the way we dress, the way we look and the type of jewelry we purchase. It negatively portrays our women as prostitutes and has a terrible influence on our young teens. It also promotes drug use among our young people.

RAP MUSIC AS A BAD INFLUENCE

Teens who spend more time watching the sex and violence depicted in the "reel" life of "gangsta" rap music videos are more likely to practice these behaviors in real life, suggests one of the first studies to specifically explore how rap videos influence emotional and physical health.

After studying 522 black girls between the ages of 14 and 18 from non-urban, lower socioeconomic neighborhoods, researchers found that compared to those who never or rarely watched these videos, the girls who viewed these gangsta videos for at least 14 hours per week were far more likely to practice numerous destructive behaviors. Over the course of the one-year study, they were:

Three times more likely to hit a teacher

Over 2.5 times more likely to get arrested

Twice as likely to have multiple sexual partners

1.5 times more likely to get a sexually transmitted disease, use drugs, or drink alcohol.

"What is particularly alarming about our findings is that we didn't find an association with just violence or one or two risky behaviors," says researcher Ralph J. DiClemente, PhD, of Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health. "We found an association with a string of these behaviors."

His study, published in the March issue of the American Journal of Public Health, only involved black girls living in Birmingham, Ala. --all of whom were already sexually active.

While the researchers surveyed viewing habits for various types of rap videos, gangsta rap was by far the most popular among the girls practicing these destructive behaviors.

Ala. --all of whom were already sexually active. While the researchers surveyed viewing habits for various types of rap videos, gangsta rap was by far the most popular among the girls practicing these destructive behaviors.

THE BAD EFFECTS OF RAP MUSIC ON TEENAGERS

Some of today's most famous and successful rappers actually started out in the school of hard knocks, selling drugs on street corners and getting into skirmishes with the law. Some critics say their music glamorizes this sort of lifestyle and objectifies women, creating a negative image for teenage listeners.

Drug Use and Rap Music

A 2008 article on sciencedaily.com found that drug references in rap songs had increased sixfold since 1979. The same study also found that drug references had evolved from cautionary tales to stories that glamorized illegal drug use.

Multiple Negative Effects of Rap Music on Teens

According to a study conducted by the American Journal of Public Health from 1996-99 on African-American teenage girls, participants who were exposed to rap music videos were 113 times more likely to have hit a teacher; more than 2.5 times as likely to have been arrested; 2 times as likely to have had multiple sexual partners; and more than 1.5 times as likely to have acquired a new sexually transmitted disease, used drugs, and used alcohol over the 12-month follow-up period."

Violence, Alcohol Abuse and Rap Music

According to an article on NPR's website, a 2006 study by the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation suggested that "young people who listen to rap and hip-hop are more likely to abuse alcohol and commit violent acts."

Sexist Attitudes in Teens and Rap Music

A 2008 study at North Carolina State University found that latent sexist attitudes were revealed in study participants regardless of whether they listened to rap music with sexist lyrics, or rap music with no sexist language.

Sexual Behavior in Teens and Rap Music

A study by RAND Corp., a health care research organization, polled 1,461 teen and discovered that those who listened to music with lyrics that "objectified and limited characterizations of sexuality" reported a faster progression in their own, sexual behavior.

BACK MASKING

What is Black Masking?

It is a recording technique in which a sound or message is recorded back word on to a track i.e. meant to be played forward.

A type of subliminal message in which a second audio track is recorded backward on top of a records music. It is a common belief among the public that such messages by pass the conscious brain enter the subconscious and motivate the individual to take certain action.

Examples of Back masking / tracking

1. Pokemon Song

Forward Lyrics

Gotta catch em all

Reverse

I love Satan, I love Satan

2. Black Oak Arkansa's Song

Forward Lyrics

'Natas Natas'

Back Track

Satan, Satan

Forward Lyrics:

3. Stairway to heaven - Led Zeppelin forward:

"If there's a bustle in your hedgerow
Don't be alarmed now
It's just a spring clean
For the May queen

Yes, there are two paths you can go by
But in the long run
There's still time to change
The road you're on."

Reverse Lyrics:

"Oh, heres to my sweet satan. The one's whose little path will
make me sad, whose power is satan. He'll give those with
him 666, there was a little toolshed where he made us suffer,
sad satan"

Forward Lyrics:

4. This far down the line (Song)

Reverse lyrics

"Have a mind of Satan"

5. Hotel California:

Forward Lyrics:

"In the middle of the night, just to hear them say.."

Reverse Lyrics:

"satan he hears this, he had me believe"

For further details you can visit on this website:
[jeffmilner.com /backmasking. htm](http://jeffmilner.com/backmasking.htm)

Al-Ilm Institute Publication

ادارہ 'العلم' کے مختلف موضوعات پر مندرجہ ذیل کتابچے اور پمفلٹ اردو اور انگریزی میں دستیاب ہیں۔

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