

**Knowledge is the cornerstone of a nation & the foundation to its progress & prosperity. Knowledge is more important than wealth & property.**

*“Read in the name of your Lord “ "My Lord, increase me in knowledge“*

**No nation or individual can reach the highest status without learning and seeking excellence in the Dunya or Hereafter.**

*“Are those who know equal to those who do not know?” Only they will remember [who are] people of understanding”*

**Ethnicity, Status, Honour & Success in Islam is via knowledge & practice.**

*“Allah will raise those who have believed among you and those who were given knowledge, by degrees. And Allah is acquainted with what you do”*

**Teaching others is one of the greatest deeds that will get us great rewards even after death!**

*“When a man dies all his deeds comes to an end except for three: On-going charity, Beneficial knowledge, A righteous son who prays for him”*

**In many Muslim countries though, the literacy levels are 30%-40%  
Previously Muslim countries were once the most advanced countries on earth. The Islamic civilization was the greatest civilization in the whole world. **WHERE ARE WE NOW?****

**THE IDEALISTS** like Plato believe that the material world does not exist at all. Only the world of Ideas, Forms or Consciousness exists.

**THE MATERIALISTS** are also known as the realists, the empiricists or the Marxists; believe in **FIVE SENSES**. They have no faith in mind conceptions without sense perceptions like John Stuart Mill, David Hume and Berkeley. Knowledge is via experience & teaching only.

**THE ISLAMIC NOTION OF KNOWLEDGE:** Islam believes in the existence of matter as well as soul. Senses and Perceptions **“it is He who brought you out of your mother’s wombs when you did not know anything. He gave you hearing, sight and intelligence & affections in the hope that you will be grateful.” (16:78).**

The material universe is a reality **“Allah is the one who created the heavens and the earth and all that is between them in six days.”**  
**“They ask you concerning the soul, say: Soul is the special command of my Lord. You have been given very little knowledge (about it).”(17:85)**

As we are entering a new school year, all of us must strive hard to understand true knowledge علم نافع and its purpose to bring us closer to our creator, understand who we are, refine us and transform us.

**TEACHERS** have a great role to play in preparing future generations by nurturing students minds, refining their behaviours, identifying and developing the talents inherent in them.

**PARENTS** have the biggest responsibility regarding their children's learning and development!

Allah has entrusted parents with children – Amaanah. We must protect them in the Dunya and prepare them for Hereafter. "Every new born has the correct instinct, his parents make him Jewish, Christian or a fire worshipper." or perhaps now into nothing!

**Physical – Mental – Moral – Intellectual & Spiritual Preparation**

"Indeed Allah will question everyone who is responsible about His charge, whether he has preserved it or lost it, until He will question him about his family (dependents)"

**Correct Intention, Balanced Knowledge, Practice & Remaining Humble**