



Our speech for 2020

We reaffirm in this speech the necessity of “*perseverance and mastery of work,*” which is a saying that always resonates in our thought and conscience, a clear goal before our eyes and our morals are linked in it. Especially that teaching Arabic language and the sciences of religion in a foreign country is not a normal profession to gain wealth instead a choice of one’s willpower and determination to educate new and existing generations. As this message carries the meanings of reform and preservation of our identity, to ensure continuity, in goodness and equality.

As this message was commanded and carried by *Sheikh Maḥmūd Murhij* (may God Almighty have mercy and blessings on him).



In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

Praise be to God, and may blessings and peace be upon the best of God's creation, our Prophet Muḥammad, upon his pure family, and his good companions. and the best regards to those who have faithfully followed them until the Day of Judgment.

This is the annual speech presented by **HOODAN-NOOR** Association and School on the occasion of the end of 2020 school year.

From the beginning of our journey in 2015 to this day, we have presented our speech at the end of each school year awarding our beloved students with their certificates and trophies, supported by our dear parents and distinguished guests. Preparation for the sections of the ceremonies were starting from mid-year to insure a good impression and a pleasant memory, especially for our beloved students.

But unfortunately, this year we have sadly not been able to celebrate due to known current circumstances related to the virus that has restricted people activities all over the world. Nevertheless, our students weren't completely denied the joy of taking their awards, thankfully through partial class celebrations as permitted by the regulations that insure no harm or risk to the students or the teachers, and we will display some taken photos throughout the speech.

Usually, I deliver my annual speech at our ceremony in the formal Arabic language. With my sons Alexander and Noah reciting in the English language after each paragraph. As for this year, I have recorded my speech all in one go in the formal Arabic language and then my sons will read it entirely in English, God Almighty willing.

As many of you may know, we have documented all of our previous speeches in a book that we gift to all parents whether old or new or to anyone who would like to get to know us personally and as a school, our approach, education process, as well as what we as a team provide and our goals. Thus, one can follow us step by step throughout our journey. And of course, we will also add this speech to the mentioned book and will be available from next year for those who like to read it or have a copy.

What we have said in our previous speeches over the years is demonstrated like a continuous series, and whomever wishes may return to them when wanted. We will not repeat everything from our previous speeches into this year's speech.

However, as we mentioned before, allow us to recall one important message we have raised in our speech from 2019 about the importance of "***perseverance and mastery of work***" as this year, with all the difficulties we have endured, has reflected on our previous messages as a practical test.



The educational system this year has faced many difficult circumstances and harsh experiences due to the decision of the closure of all language schools, which occurred twice. However, we faced this emergency ordeal with courage and boldness driven by our commitment to avoid any study interruption for our students and to keep communicating with them, in fulfillment of our promise to our parents. And our message to our students is carry on the adherence, with all love and passion, to our language and our heritage, which is a basic and necessary need.

We were among the first to activate and start remote education, and this experience alone was a great challenge for our team, because it was something that we as a team were not familiar about or trained for, as well as the students and parents.

We will not go through the details of all the difficulties we faced, but it's my duty as a principal to thank our teachers for bearing with us during that stage and being open minded on learning this new form of teaching. This experience showed the solidarity and devotion of our team, and that we together are capable of assuming the responsibility to continue in our teaching journey.

Gratitude also goes to our parents who have been patient with our team and hopefully the following year is better for us all.

We now reaffirm in this speech the necessity of **“perseverance and mastery of work,”** which is a saying that always resonates in our thought and conscience, a clear goal before our eyes and our morals are linked in it. Especially that teaching Arabic language and the sciences of religion in a foreign country is not a normal profession to gain wealth instead a choice of one's willpower and determination to educate new and existing generations. As this message carries the meanings of reform and preservation of our identity, to ensure continuously, in goodness and rightness. It is our work that God has helped and guided us to, and it is this work that we will meet our Lord with and which we hope that He will accept from us, and it is the message that the honourable **Sheikh Mahmūd Murhij** (may Almighty Allāh's mercy and blessings be upon him) has carried and entrusted us with. Thus we would like to quote a statement of his entire commandment which has been narrated in our 2016 speech:

“We [immigrants & parents] in this expatriation must focus our attention on our children who are the products of the family and are the growing buds. We should look after them with so much care and sincerity because we're their guardians and trustees, by teaching them:



Our language, rituals, customs and worships. This is the national heritage that was passed on to us by our noble forefathers."

We must also always remember and give gratitude to **Sheikh Tammām Aḥmad** for continuously looking after us and providing us all with all the religious knowledge he contains. He not only provides us with religious and language materials but also the pure opinion and advice from the standpoint of the solicitous advisor.

Accordingly, we confirm that:

No matter how difficult our written future may be, and no matter the circumstances change, we will continue ahead as a team through the path of learning and passing on our knowledge to our students. We will continue to carry on this noble mission and fulfill it to the best of our ability, following up on everything that we promised previously, that all we have started, are working on currently or in the future will take upon. All of this first and foremost with the grace and power of God. And with God Almighty's favour we have many prospective goods; Oh God, make us among those who love good, hasten to it, and strive for more of it.

Almighty Allāh says: {**...and whatever good you put forward for yourselves - you will find it with Allah. Indeed Allah, of what you do, is Seeing**} (Al-Baqarah: 110).

We ask God Almighty to improve the conditions of the country and release the strains of people, and may the coming days be easier and more beautiful for everyone.

Before concluding, we would like you all to know that you will see our religious website "**The Alawite Islamic Library,**" which we established and launched ten years ago, in a new look, and with new additions, very soon, God willing.

We conclude, like we started, with the thanks and praise to Almighty Allāh, and with prayers on Muḥammad and the family of Muḥammad.

Peace, mercy and blessings of Allāh be upon you.



Sleiman Mouin Sleiman (Abu Iskandar)

Saturday 12-12-2020

