

Speech of
HE Sheikh Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Abdullah Al Salimi
Minister of Endowments and Religious Affairs
At the opening of a seminar titled
Youth Aspiration in a Changing World seminar
31 March 2013

Praise is due to Allah for his bountiful generosity, thanks to Allah the Almighty for his abundant graces and prayer and blessings on the best prophet, Mohammed and on his companions and all his supporters.

Distinguished guests,

It is my pleasure to have this great seminar held to discuss the topic of young people, who are the backbone of nations, pivot of growth and drivers of development. We wish the working papers and discussions about this topic to generate practical, new and useful ideas that will lead to prosperity and welfare of the nation and people, God Willing.

Distinguished guests,

I thank Allah for giving the grace of balance and awareness to Omani young people in addition to their cultural attributes such as perseverance and benevolence. These attributes are not a surprise for people praised by prophet (PBUH) and well-known by civilizations throughout history. They are sailors who gained a prestigious status and roamed around earth for discovery and openness. They were recognized by nations for their honesty, trustworthiness and principles based on peace and mutual responsibility towards themselves and the world around them.

One of their principles is the balance between freedom and responsibility, a freedom that is adhered to Islamic code of behavior and sense of community values away from individualism and subjectivity which often lead to chaos.

A freedom consists of duty and right which are created by Allah as fundamentals of human rights while taking into consideration to keep under the umbrella of general jurisdiction in protecting religion, life, life, mind and property. Duty requires Muslim to be committed to the duty towards the state in return of the care given by state to Muslim. However, awareness to these rights and duties is an essential element that should not be underestimated and should be put in mind, as judge is more need of his mind than his jurisprudence.

Sense of responsibility is a common attribute that distinguishes Omani people from others. Allah the Almighty chose them for a mission from Messenger of Allah (PBUH), and they were committed to and associated with the honor of delivering this mission, particularly through the Indian Ocean in their trade and Da'wah (proselytizing or preaching of Islam), a mission that carries duty and responsibility. Any defect in performing the rights will lead to replace the people with others who can fulfill the mission.

(O ye who believe! If ye will aid (the cause of) Allah, He will aid you, and plant your feet firmly).

Distinguished guests,

This great seminar augurs well for a successful march led by the builder of Oman progress and leader His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said (May Allah protect him), a march that its impacts will reach you as it aims to promote welfare across the planet. Thank you for this attendance and allow me to extend gratitude to the Ministry of Higher Education for organizing this event. We wish you and the Omani young people best of the luck in their endeavors everywhere and wish them prosperity, progress and welfare.

"Our Lord! bestow on us Mercy from Thyself, and dispose of our affair for us in the right way!"

May Peace, Mercy and Blessings of Allah be upon you