



Quran & Tafsir - Aqeedah - Seerah

Academics & Islamic Studies

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The Expectations and Goals of Student Writers

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Assalaamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakaatuh

All praise is due to Allah, we praise Him, seek His aid, ask for His aid and assistance, we ask for His forgiveness and we repent to Him. We seek refuge in Allah ta`ala from the evil souls and from the evil consequences of our actions. Whomsoever Allah ta`ala guides, none can misguide him and whomsoever Allah allows to go astray, none can guide him. I testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah ta`ala in truth, alone, having no partner and I testify that Muhammad (sallaAllahu alaihi wa sallaam) is his slave and Messenger. May Allah send blessings and peace upon him, upon his family, upon all of his companions and upon his true followers' aameen

Amma Bad:

First, after praising and thanking Allah subhanahu wa ta`ala for allowing us the opportunity and capability of thinking and writing. We want to be grateful to Him for allowing us the ability to distinguish between right conduct, incorrect conduct, and gray areas (to stay far away from) as they are "doubtful matters."

With this acknowledgement, we approach a tender subject that seems to plague the school systems, parents, and students; whether they are upon correct guidance or not a`udhu billah. The subject is **Plagiarism and it is an extremely serious and grievous offense. It harms the very act of genuine character and truthfulness coming from the writer and replaces that with dishonor, mistrust, and corruption. Furthermore, it strips and sometimes diminishes the authenticity of the statements coming from their original owner as the reader may not know or is not familiar with the source of the original quote, comment, or other materials. It is a path to corruption, which must carry a reprimand and/or a serious consequence to cease such actions.**

Think for a moment, as a Muslim, if there were no textual proofs or evidence for the practice of the religion of Islam; that all of its authentic narrations were based upon the innovators or deviants who seek to follow their desires and false concepts. Would we not be a nation who is lost and doomed to fail?

THUS WE HAVE THE STATEMENT FROM THE KHUTBATAL-HAAJAH:

"Indeed the best speech is the speech of Allah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad (sallaAllahu alaihi wa sallaam). And the worst of all matters are those innovated by the people, and every innovated matter is a bid`ah and every bid`ah is astray, and every going astray is in the fire."

In addition to this previous point, **plagiarism is an act of theft**, is not the act of stealing a serious offense? One that is punishable in Islam? To what end should the writer get away with such an act of blemished character?

Allah ta`ala says in the Noble Quran:

وَالسَّارِقُ وَالسَّارِقَةُ فَاقْطَعُوا أَيْدِيَهُمَا جِزَاءً بِمَا كَسَبَا نَكَالًا
مِّنَ اللَّهِ وَاللَّهُ عَزِيزٌ حَكِيمٌ

"Cut off (from the wrist joint) the right hand-of the thief, male or female, as a recompense for that which they committed, a punishment by way of example from Allah. And Allah is all-Powerful, all-Wise." Al-Maa`idah (5):38

How then, can you as a student prevent/avoid such a harmful act of deceitfulness inshaAllah?

We say walhamdulillah before you face a day that will bring about regrets, or dishonor seek refuge in your Lord, and stay far away from that which might lead you into the path of harm so that Allah an-Naseer (the one who aides the believers) will grant you the fulfillment of His promise of forgiveness to those who repent for ones sins.



ALLAH TA`ALA SAYS IN THE NOBLE QURAN:

"I said to them, `Ask forgiveness from your Lord, indeed He is oft-Forgiving." Surah Nooh (71):10

You may think it is impossible or extremely difficult to avoid the act of plagiarism, but **with determination and regularity on your behalf and being mindful of the rights of others you will achieve success** inshaAllah. Write down every source! (web, books, magazines, articles etc...)

Now, after understanding our purpose for this document inshaAllah, let us approach the delicate subject to you as the student in the form of expectations and goals that may lead you towards the path of successful writing. May Allah grant me and you tawfeeq and accept from all of us our intentions and action towards pleasing Allah ta`ala alone aameen

The Definition of Plagiarism (click to see source)

Plagiarism has been defined as the intentional or unintentional representation of another's work or ideas as your own. This includes the act of copying, paraphrasing, and presenting unique ideas as your own without giving credit to the source. This action is known also as infringement, piracy, theft, and stealing.

What is our Expectation?

We genuinely expect for students to be creative, thoughtful, and energetic in their own writings, they must learn to read, research, and form an opinion about text, pictures, and sounds without duplicating what they have learned. We also expect, due diligence on behalf of the parents in aiding us while trying to achieve these goals inshaAllah

The Goal:

For students to write on a continuous basis through journaling, free-writing, essays, captions, benefits, quotes/proofs & evidences, along with some opinions and research topics.

For students to properly cite their resources, by listing the source from which they have obtained the information. For example, when using a website for research; you will need to provide a direct link to the page and section where the information was found and not just the "name" of the website or host.

Reprimand or Consequence for this Action:

- 1. First Offence*** - *The student and parent will be directed to read this document again and sign an agreement for ethics and a confirmation that the parent and student take full responsibility for the action.*
- 2. Second Offence*** - *The student will be suspended for a period of not less than 5 days, and an official administrative report retained in their administrative file along with an indication for any future transcript letter.*
- 3. Final Offence*** - *Student shall be expelled and any reference request sought on behalf of the student will include a documented and detailed explanation of the infringement.*

Any questions about this document and its contents can be referred to the administration by submitting an email to admin@thmsadaqagroup.org

We ask that Allah ta`ala, the One who is in Control of All Affairs, and Granter of Mercy to the Believers aid us in avoiding these indiscretions and to help us remain guided toward correctness and the path of truth aameen.

Anything that we may have said that was not correct within this document is solely from ourselves and we seek Allah's refuge and protection from harm to us or to you aameen

Wa`salaamu Alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakaatuh

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See PS009.2 for Parent/Student/Teacher contract amendment