



AUSTRALIAN  
INTERNATIONAL  
ISLAMIC COLLEGE



بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

**Our Graduands are the Ambassadors of  
Australian International Islamic College**

**Talk delivered by**

**The Most Eminence**

**Sheikh Abdul Quddoos Al Azhari**

**National Grand Mufti of Australia**

**at**

**YEAR 12 FORMAL**

**17 November 2022**

**Brisbane Australia**

## بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين سيدنا محمد وعلى آله وصحبه أجمعين. أشهد أن لا إله إلا الله وحده لا شريك له وأشهد أن سيدنا محمدا عبده ورسوله.

I would like to acknowledge the custodians of the land on which we meet this evening and pay my respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Respected Mr Milton Dick the Honourable speaker of the House of Parliament, Mr John Raven, Deputy Mayor of Logan Council, Cr Angela Owen, respected Principal Mr Andrew Taylor, Dr Raihana Ferdous Deputy Principal, Mrs Ursula Muncaster Head of Primary and Mr Irfaan Meduselac Head of Faculty and Secondary, my dear parents, my beloved graduates, community leaders, brothers, sisters, ladies and gentlemen:

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu

Tonight's graduation formal marks the beginning of many finals. The final day of school, wearing a school uniform, the final day of coming to school with your siblings on the school bus or with your parents. It is an incredibly exciting time for the change. The first of many "what's next" moments to experience.

Dear Graduands, forty or fifty years ago a high school education was sufficient for getting a good job to support a family. In making the decision to attend a tertiary institution you have opened a door to a whole new world of opportunity. The more education you attain the more doors will open to you.

Today we are celebrating not the end but a new beginning for our beloved graduands whose religion encourages the pursuit of lifelong learning. Minal mahadi ilallahidi. (from the cradle to the grave) Congratulations to you all.

The nature of learning at a tertiary institution has changed significantly after the Covid-19 pandemic. The future is looking increasingly remote, increasingly automated, and increasingly online



**Already 87% of all jobs in Australia require digital literacy skills and our country will need 156,000 new digital technology workers by 2025.**

**I request the Honourable Principle, IT Department and the governing Board to seriously consider these statistics and to educate our children to align them with current and future demands in the emerging IT and Technology sector.**

**The system training hubs will teach you how to use many technological skills, including ZOOM, Office 365, Microsoft Team and Blackboard Learn.**

**Be sure to have a reliable internet connection and a backup plan for when you need to work remotely. However don't underestimate the impact of face to face learning, networking and connecting with your peers and professors. These will help you to create long lasting relationships and many fond memories.**

**Be cautious and careful, be vigilant with cyber security and make wise choices online to protect your personal data and your intellectual property.**

**Plagiarism is not Islamic, it is a double-edged deception, it deprives the plagiarist of the opportunity to learn properly and to test what they have learned. Further, it is easily detected by university software and will result in severe consequences.**

**Dear Graduands please make use of the peaceful prayer facilities in the university, visit the mosque and spend some time there and take interest and participate in college/university mosque activities.**

**Make use of the university's 24 hours library on your campus. Make sure that you properly investigate any university club or society before joining. The right club and society can create good networking opportunities and the wrong club or society can take a person far away from their objective.**

**As a model Muslim citizen, continue to uphold your academic integrity.**

**(Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanvi was from a small village very close to Deoband India. The township is called Tana Bowan. Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanvi, the most eminent and honourable learned scholar of 20th century in the Indian subcontinent and the author of 350 books, he repeatedly emphasises and says:**

**‘You must become a good human being before you can ever become a good Muslim’**

**This message destroys the false and tragic misconception that reduces Islam to only the performances of traditional and ritual acts. Nevertheless, Islam is Aqedatun Wa Amal that means beliefs executed with practice.**

**Dear Graduands, you are the ambassadors of the Australian International Islamic College. You all know very well the moto of AIIC. Excellence in education, character and service. Excellence is never an accident, it is always the result of Ikhlas Anniyat and sincerity of intentions and efforts, clear direction and skilful execution. May Allah bless us to obtain excellence in education, excellence in character and excellence in service.**

**I would like to conclude my talk with a small poem from my friend Mr Keysar Trad, the first CEO of AIIC in 2012. Widely known as Sultanul Hubb. The Sultan of Love.**

**The Book Titled. Forays of the Heart.  
“A heart in love – chirps like a dove  
But a heart in pain – does itself distain”**

**On this basis, if you find yourself distant from your goal, do not hate yourself. Do not become miserable, instead, Keep your heart with Allah. Remember always, that Allah always loves you. Ask Allah for help and direction and bring yourself closer to Him through prayer and sincere effort. People may let you down as they move in and out of your life, but Allah will never leave you.**

**It is my sincere Dua and prayer to all our graduands, parents and all our well-wishers, may Allah bless you, may Allah reward you.**

**Once again congratulations and Mubarak to you, your parents and teachers.**

**Jazakallah Khair.**

**السلام عليكم ورحمة الله وبركاته**

**Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh**