

# Australian International Islamic College

**“COME CLOSE TO  
HIM AND TALK TO HIM”**

**Address delivered by**

**Imam Abdul Quddoos Azhari**

**at**

**Year 12 Graduation Night  
Formal Dinner**

**16 November 2017  
Michael's Restaurant**

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Bismillah ir Rahman ir Raheem

In the name of Allah the most beneficent the most merciful

الحمد لله رب العالمين والصلاة والسلام على أشرف الأنبياء والمرسلين

The Honourable Chairman of the Board Mr Aziz Khan, Trustees, Board Members, Chief Administrator Mr Mohammed Ally, Principal Mrs Banwa, Imams of various mosques, Presidents of various Islamic Societies, Parents, Teachers and Year 12 Graduands

Assalamu Alaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu

It is indeed a great honour for me to take part in the Australian International Islamic College 2017 Year 12 Graduation Ceremony.

Today is an important milestone in your life. Today you are graduating after working hard for more than 12 long years of your life.

To You, the Graduands, Mubarak and congratulations. May Allah bless you and grant you the best in the years to come. May he help them in furthering their education and guide them to be good ambassadors for the Muslim community and Australia at large.

When I look at the year 2017, what an eventful year it has been.

Perhaps the most striking events of this year was the appointment of the new AIIC Board and its Chairman. Mr Aziz Khan is the new Chairman and the new Chief Administrator is Mr Mohammed Ally. We welcome them on board and congratulate them and pray for their success.

Both Mr Aziz Khan and Mr Mohammed Ally are well known to the AIIC community. They have been with us right from the beginning, they have come with 25 years of educational and community experience. I am confident with this background of knowledge and experience that they will contribute greatly taking our college further ahead. Insha Allah Jazakumullah Khair.

One of the most important initiatives introduced by Mr Mohammed Ally is that, in 2018, every student will have access to a laptop computer to enhance the teaching and learning process. Insha Allah.

Every member of the AIIC staff is committed to the school and in meeting the needs of every student. They are constantly striving to ensure that the teaching and learning experience supports the students to embrace the rapidly changing society.

Colleges and universities focus on preparing the students to meet the challenges and opportunities for the 21st century. Business leaders search for people whose skills and character match the demand of the global economy. Focusing on strong communication, team work, analytical, technological and organisational skills. They need people who are self-motivated, creative and have strong work ethics.

You can only achieve all this when you organise yourself, plan your time, be focused, come close to Allah and talk to him. Allah says in the Quran, "Call on your Lord with

humility and in secret." (Al Quran) The quality of humility and talking in secret with God mentioned in this verse can be acquired by studying the science of Allah's power and beauty in the material world.

My Dear Graduands, Life in the universities and colleges is very different to AIIC. A lot of things have to be done independently by yourself in the universities. You will meet people from different backgrounds and make new friends who are going to be your friends out in the world. It is important for your success to select the right friends.

Who will be your friends who is going to be your friends? Imam Ghazali explains about friendship, "Men are like trees, some are fruit bearing and shady, some are shady only, and some are mere thorns and thistles. Similarly, some friends are a blessing both here and in the hereafter and some are for worldly gain. Some are of no good in this world or in the next and are scorpions in human form." Therefore, my dear students be wise in your choice of friends as we have seen from Imam Ghazali choose the once who will help you and be a blessing in this world and in the ahirah.

Please remember what Imam Jafar Al Sadiq says in this regard. "Do not keep company with five kinds of people.

1. A false man who deceives you like a mirage.
2. A fool, who cannot benefit you even if he tries to do so. He would do harm through his foolishness
3. A miser. When you need his help the most, severs himself from you
4. A coward, who will leave you when you are in danger and
5. A wicked sinner who will sell you for a piece of bread.

Dear Graduands, Allah mentioned about the pious young people in Surat ul Al Kahaf 13 & 14

**"They were youths who believed in their Lord, and we advanced them in guidance, we gave strength to their hearts, behold they stood and said, ' Our Lord is the Lord of the heavens and of the earth. Never shall we call upon any God other than HIM. If we did we should indeed be uttered an enormity'."**

The famous scholar Maulana Abul Hasan Al Nadwi, elaborating and explaining this ayah, says, "If we prepare the young people with the above attributes the world will then see again living specimens of the religious, earnestness and sacrificial spirit of Bilal and Amar and Khabbab and Shuhaib, Musab bin Umair. A gentle breeze of Emaan will once again kiss the face of the earth and a new world quite different from the one we know will come into existence."

The poet of Islam, Alama Iqbal says,

“SABAQ BIR PAD SADAQAT KA  
SHUJA AT KA ADALAT KA  
LIYA JAYAGA TUIJSEA KAM  
DUNYA KI IMAMAT KA”

"Learn the lesson of bravery, the truthfulness, the lesson of justice. Then and only then will you be called to lead the world once again."

Dear Graduands, I would like to tell you about a grand personality and just ruler and a very great emperor who ruled India from Khabul to Dakan. He was known as the founder of Modern India. He was the Great Emperor Alam Gieer Aurangzed, who was the son of Shahjahan who built the Taj Mahal. We have a lot to learn from his personality. He was blessed with courage, volar, patience and self-confidence. He was able to find time to offer all his religious duties and responsibilities to his Lord and at the same time face the opposition from his enemies.

Emperor Aurangzeb use to look in to everything connected to his empire personally. During Ramadan he completed the recitation of the Quran, as he was Hafiz of Quran. He paid full attention to the spiritual lessons. His famous book Fatawa Alamgiri (code of laws compiled under his guidance twenty-five volumes). This famous book is still in use in Muslim world in the name of FATAWA HINDIYYA. He wrote many books including books on hadith.

He never took any payment from the government during his 62 years of rule. If anyone gave him hadiyah he would take it and use it. Subhanallah.

Dear students, how did this great emperor find the time to do all this? It was through the barakat of Allah subhanahu wa talaa that counts the most. If Allah gives you the Barakat you can achieve anything.

Dear Graduands, we have to be practical and passionate. It is our actions that make history. The Honourable Kevin Rudd, the Prime Minister of Australia in his great apology address at Parliament House Canberra, February 13th, 2008 said, "Australians are a passionate lot. We are also a very practical lot, for us symbolism is important but unless the great symbolism of reconciliation is accompanied by an even greater substance, it is little more than clanging a gong. It is not sentiment that makes history, it is our action that makes history."

Dear Parents, I hope you feel proud of your child and that they will always be the coolness of your eyes. (qurratu aayun).

Dear Graduands, we pray for your health, happiness and success in your future. Whatever you do, do it well. Remember our motto, "Excellence in Education, Character and Service." Excel in every task that you do large or small.

Please come and visit us and tell us what you are doing. If there is anything we can do to help you or assist you please do not hesitate to come and see us, we will always be here. Dear Brothers, Sisters and friends, I would like to wish all our Graduands, their parents, teachers, the school community and all others Mubarak, congratulations.

Thank you

Walaikum Assalam Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuhu

و عليكم السلام ورحمة الله وبركاته