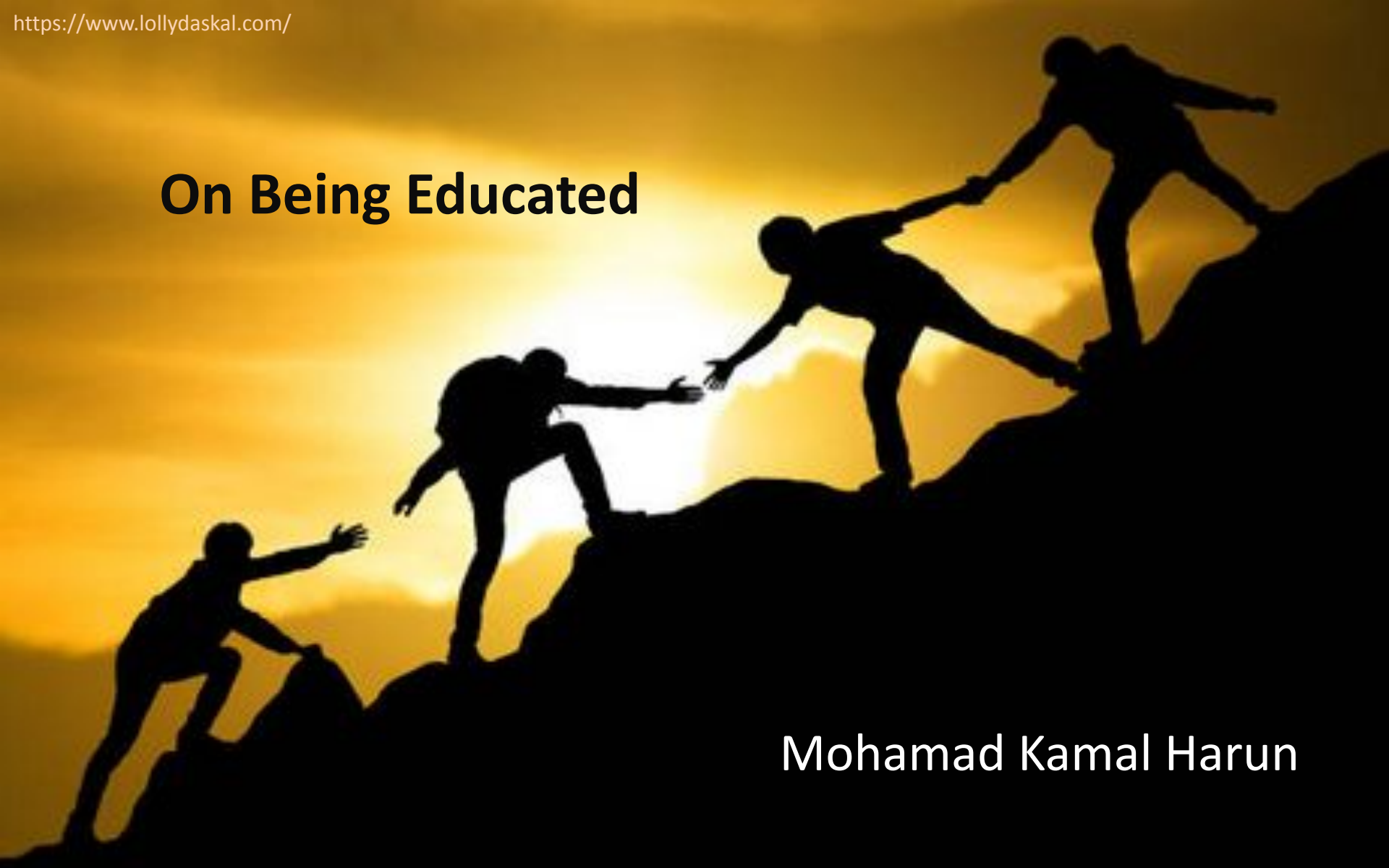


On Being Educated

Mohamad Kamal Harun



What sort of graduate do we intend to produce?

Someone who became **ARROGANT** because he gets a piece of paper from a university which he used **TO CONVINC** **PEOPLE THAT HE HAS BRAIN**

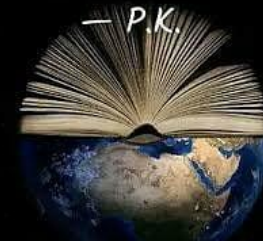
OR

Someone who are humbled by the **KNOWLEDGE** and **INTELLECTUALITY** they nurtured into themselves so that they will do things out of **MORAL RESPONSIBILITY** and **ACCOUNTABILITY**?





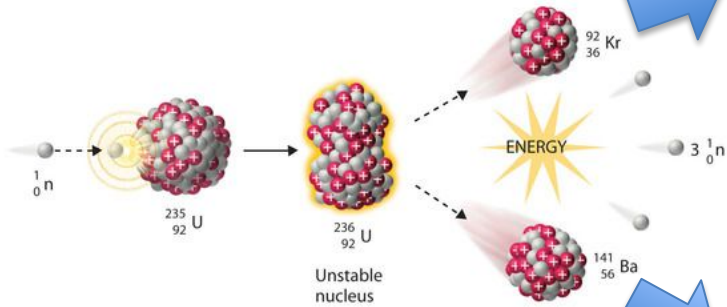
Education is not a name of any degree or certificate that can be shown to others as a proof. Education is the name of our Attitude, Actions, Language & Behaviour with others in real life.



- 1. Reflecting the meaning of Education***
- 2. The purpose of Higher Education***

THE MEANING OF BEING EDUCATED

Scientific **FACT** on Energy from a nuclear reaction



EDUCATED DECISION
(A State of Developed
Aqal & Qalb)

Moral
Purpose



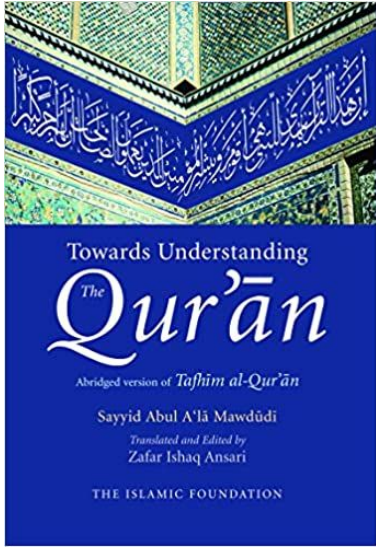
Zero-Emission Clean Energy

UNEDUCATED DECISION
(A State of
Under-developed Aqal &
Qalb)

Immoral
Purpose



Energy for Human Destruction



THE NATURE & DUTY OF MAN (Al Baqarah: 30-36)

(2:30) A **VICEGERENT** (*khalifah*) of God on earth :

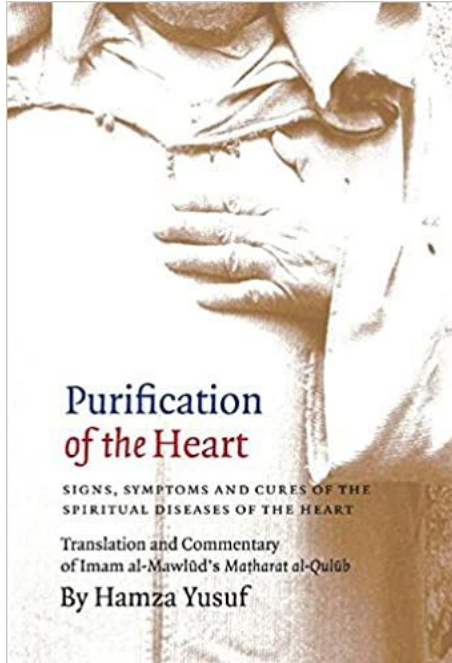
- One who exercises the delegated powers on behalf of the supreme authority.
- Man is thus, not the master.
- Man is entrusted (*amanah*) with the responsibility to rule according God's will
(*Syed Muhammad Naquib Al-Atas & Wan Mohd Nor Wan Daud*)



(2:31-33) A **LEARNING** being (*Aqal*) : Able to acquire **KNOWLEDGE, LANGUAGE** & develop **INTELLECTUALITY**

(2:35) A **MORAL** being (*QALB*): Capable of making right **CHOICES** and thus **DECISIONS** guided by the right values.

So man has the **PURPOSE** of performing **the duty of vicegerent on earth in accordance** to the laws & values as defined by Allah swt, and that this leadership.....:



1. is not about **title** nor **position**.
2. is not about, **power** nor **stature** or **reward**.
3. It is about one's duty to be carried out with **responsibility** (amanah) and **accountability**.
4. It is about **fulfilling the command of God that is to perfect all human society** and to **perfect the physical world**, of space and time.
5. It's about a duty guided by **knowledge, intellectuality** and **moral obligation**.
6. It is driven by your **core beliefs** shaped by **knowledge, values** and **intellect**.
7. It is driven by **clarity of purpose**.
8. It's guided by your **Qalb** (*clean heart/right values*)



KEMENTERIAN PENDIDIKAN MALAYSIA

WHAT IS EDUCATION & WHAT'S ITS PURPOSE, FOR MALAYSIA?

THE NATIONAL EDUCATION PHILOSOPHY

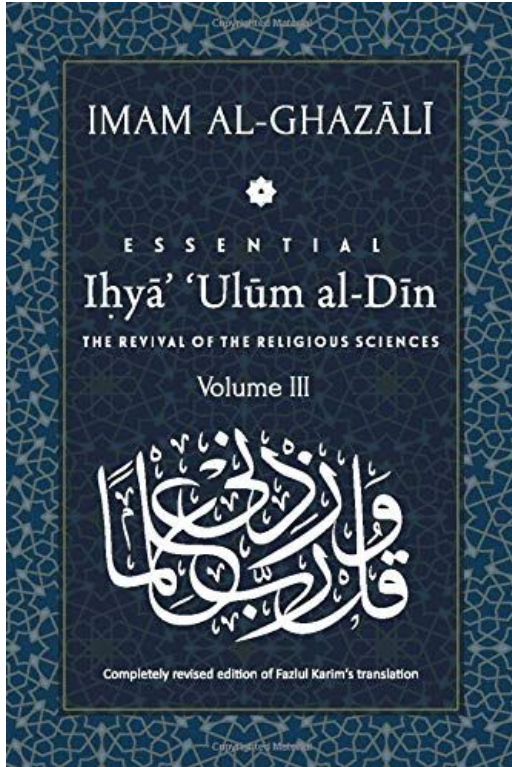
1. WHAT IS EDUCATION?

Education in Malaysia is an on-going effort towards further developing the potential of individuals in a holistic and integrated manner, so as to produce individuals who are **intellectually, spiritually, emotionally** and physically balanced and harmonious, based on a firm belief in and devotion to God

2. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATION?

Such an effort is designed to produce Malaysian citizens who are knowledgeable and competent, who possess **high moral standards**, and who are **responsible** and **capable of achieving high level of personal well-being** as well as being able to contribute to the **harmony** and **betterment of the family**, the **society** and the **nation** at large.

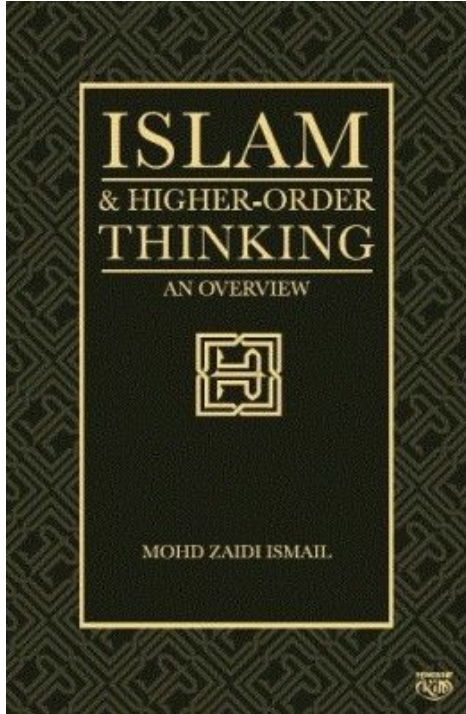
THE MEANING OF EDUCATION



"Education is not limited to training the mind and filling it with information, but involves all aspects, **intellectual, religious, moral and physical, of the personality of the learner.** It is not enough to impart theoretical learning; that **learning must be put into practice.** True learning is that **which affects behaviour** and whereby the learner makes practical use of his knowledge"

Ihya' 'Ulum ad-Din, vol. 3, p. 61-62; here the considerable influence of Ibn Miskawayh, in his Tahdhib al-Akhlaq wa-Tahir al-A'raq, is also apparent on al-Ghazali.

THE MEANING OF EDUCATION



Question:

It is about developing the 'Aqal (*Intellect*)

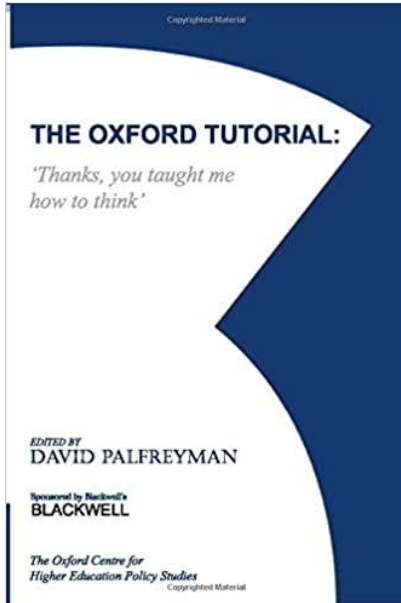
1. Or “Reason” (‘Aqal) is applied to man’s knowledge of the true nature of things, and also to his power to perceive and know. (Imam Al-Ghazali).
2. The term al-Aql means reason, rationality, intellect or intelligence, the antonym of which is stupidity or foolishness. (Dr. Yusuf Dalhat, *International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Vol. 5, No. 9(1); September 2015*)



BIG QUESTIONS ON THE MEANING OF HIGHER EDUCATION

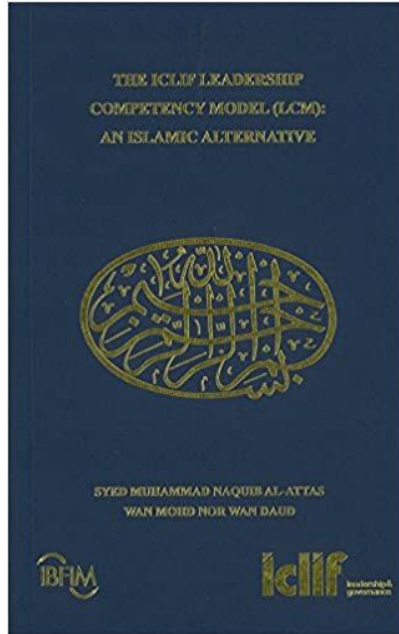
Question:

What is higher about Higher Education?



- Development of the **INTELLECT**
(synthesis/analysis/rationalizing/reasoning)
- Preparing for life long learning in order **TO SERVE THE SOCIETY AS AN KNOWLEDGEABLE AND EDUCATED CITIZEN.**
- A starting point for a profession, but it is meant to produce a knowledgeable professional who thinks critically about the practice of the profession, **WHO UNDERSTANDS MEANING OF HIS PROFESSION IN RELATION TO THE SOCIETY**

ON KNOWLEDGE & EDUCATION

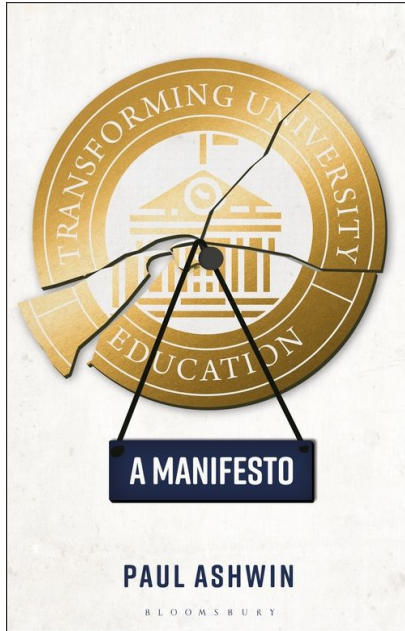


Syed Muhammad Naquib Al-Attas & Wan Mohd Nor Wan Daud:

“The process of **acquisition of knowledge is NOT education**, unless the knowledge that is required **includes moral purpose that activates in the one who acquires... (ADAB or the RIGHT ACTION)**”

“**Education, then is the right absorption of ADAB in the self.** The actualization of adab in individual selves composing society as collective entity reflects the condition of justice; and justice itself is a reflection of wisdom...”

ON THE MEANING OF KNOWLEDGE & EDUCATION



1. Real knowledge is about a **collective of knowledge**, rather than isolated individual fact.
2. Bodies of knowledge have a structure that has been constructed over centuries by many different people.
3. The different aspects of this knowledge **gain their meaning from their position in the structure of knowledge** and so cannot be considered as stand alone facts.
4. This means that "**what students gain from engaging with this knowledge are new ways of seeing and interacting with the world**"
5. This means that **students are fundamentally changed, by their engagement with this knowledge** rather than adding additional information to an already fully formed entity"

ON THE MEANING OF KNOWLEDGE & EDUCATION



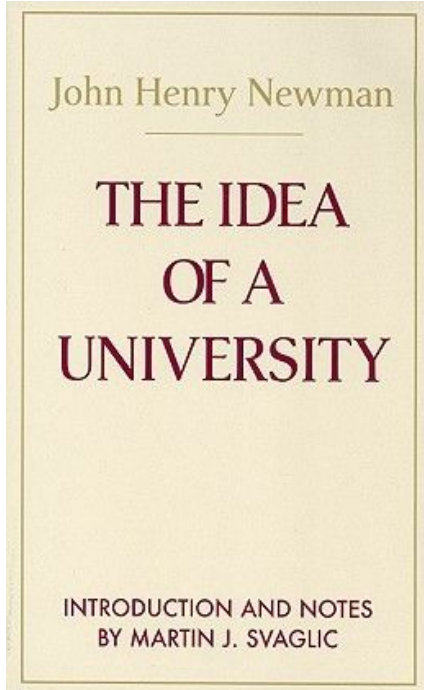
Example: Facebook

1. Facebook is very much a platform for mass communication made possible with the advent of **digital technology, computer, internet, programming, software engineering, Web Technology, AR,VR...** you name it.
2. Facebook the giant it is today have as much to do with its place in the **psychology** and **sociology** within the people as they do in **technology**.
3. In his own word “Facebook is as much **psychology** and **sociology** as it is **technology**”.



THE CONCEPT OF UNIVERSITY'S HIGHER EDUCATION

Concept:

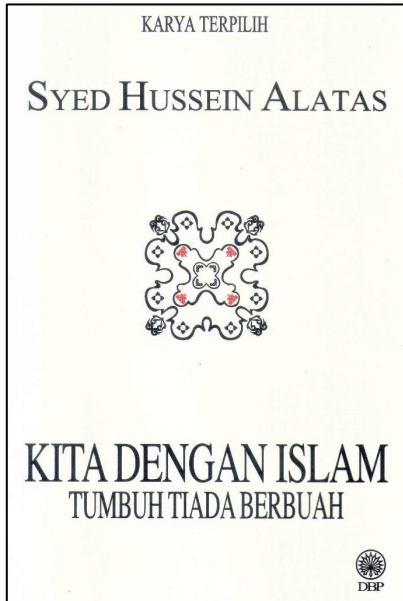


- The role is to **train minds** ('a real cultivation of mind') to **inculcate** 'the force, the steadiness, the comprehensiveness and the versatility of **intellect**,, to ensure **its graduates posses a connected view or grasp of things**; and **are intellectually methodological in pursuing intellectual excellence**'.
- The purpose is not mere knowledge, not Learning or Acquirement, but rather is **Thought or Reason exercised upon the Knowledge:**
Philosophy

(From Ian Ker, "Newman's *The Idea of a University*, in David Smith & Anna K Langlow, '*The Idea of a University*', 1988)

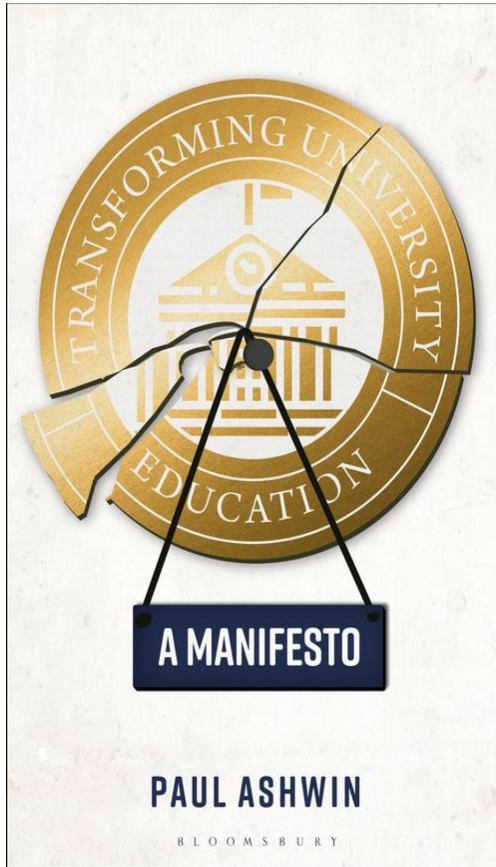
THE CONCEPT OF UNIVERSITY'S HIGHER EDUCATION

Promoting the spirit of philosophical thinking



1. Wanting to know the whole range of reasons that causes the issue at hand. (not just the one you want to hear or the one you can understand)
2. Respecting the scientific approach in discovering the truth. (not just hearsay, perception, assumption etc..)
3. Using the power of intellect to the fullest. (Not to be emotionally reactive)
4. Aware of the interdependent relationship between events, efforts and questions of the society or nature. (Be open to views)
5. Having the clarity of purpose, belief and values. (Don't get lost in the maze, Check your beliefs and values)
6. Be aware of the importance of short and long term thinking
7. Addressing the issue in a holistic context. (Contextualizing, big picture thinking)
8. Never give up

BIG QUESTIONS ON THE ROLE OF UNIVERSITY'S EDUCATION



To help students to gain **an understanding of knowledge** that can change their **sense of who they are**, what the world is and **what they can do in the world.**

The Universities are established to **look after knowledge for society**

What should we be CONCERNED? A Commitment to EDUCATION

EDUCATION 5.0@UiTM



1. INTELLECT (AQAL)

- Commitment to knowledge
- Strength of imagination
- Strength of conceptualizing
- Strength of thinking
- Strength of coordinating and curating
- Strength of communicating
- Strength of creating and making things happened

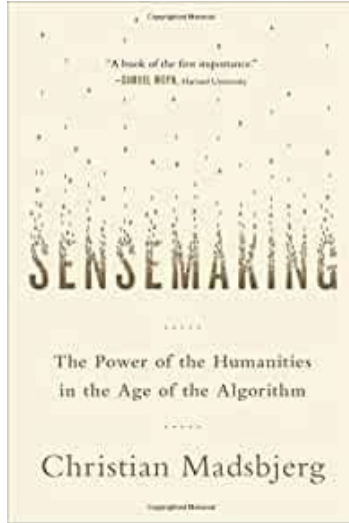
2. MORAL OBLIGATION (QALB)

- The ability to ground the above activities on values, moral principles, clarity of purpose and above all be guided by rules of Allah swt

3. VICEGERENT ON EARTH (PURPOSE)

- Assuming responsibilities of a learned/educated person with the intention of creating a better future.

OUR GOALS ON OUR HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

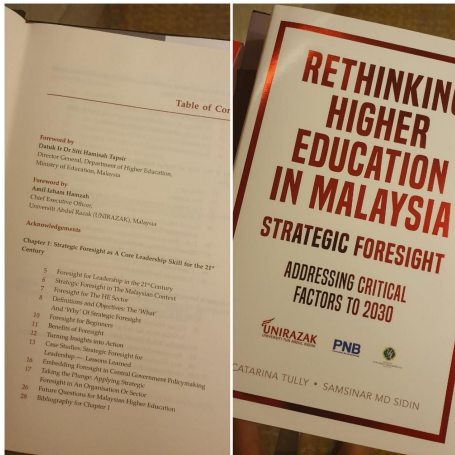


- AN EDUCATION THAT MAKES STUDENTS A RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN
- AN EDUCATION THAT ENABLES AND EMPOWERS STUDENTS TO LEAD RESPONSIBILITIES
- AN EDUCATION THAT MAKES STUDENTS UNDERSTAND THE COMPLEXITY OF THE WORLD
- AN EDUCATION THAT ENABLES STUDENTS TO NAVIGATE COMPLEXITIES AND MAKES MEANINGFUL DECISION
- AN EDUCATION THAT PREPARES STUDENTS TO FACE THE CHALLENGES AND PRESSURE OF CHANGE
- AN EDUCATION SYSTEM THAT MAKES STUDENTS UNDERSTAND, APPRECIATE AND PRESERVE THE EARTH FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS (SDG's)
- AN EDUCATION THAT UPHOLDS ETHICS & VALUES, APPRECIATE COLLABORATION, PROMOTES MUTUAL RESPECT, NEGOTIATION AND ACT AS A COMMUNITY



THE FRAMEWORK

- A DEEP EMPHASIS ON VALUES, PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSE.
- DEVELOP THINKING , INTELLECTUALITY AND WISDOM.
- ENCOURAGE THE DISCOVERY OF LEARNER'S TALENT AND UNLEASHING IT
- ENCOURAGE LEARNERS TO EXPLORE POTENTIALS WITHIN THEM
- TRANS AND MULTI DISCIPLINARY
- EXPERIENTIAL AND REFLECTION
- COORDINATION AND CONTEXTUALIZING KNOWLEDGE , NURTURING CURIOSITY, CURATING AND CREATION





My Reflection: On the Narratives for Education

Neoliberalism

Free market capitalism

- Concern about Reputation
- Competition and Ranking
- Dominance/Exploitation/Glorification
- Conceit (egoistic)
- Transactional (Reward based)
- Inequality in access (market segment)
- Graduate's Social Status
- HE program is about getting a job
- Cognitive aspect to build human capital

Shaping a Human (Knowledge, Intellect & Qalb)

To perform the duty of vicegerent on Earth

- Concern about Credibility & Sustainability
- Co-existence/Collaboration, purpose focus
- Ethical & Just society
- Humility / Responsibility/Honest
- Social conscience, Responsibility & Accountability
- Inclusivity
- Inner purification & love for knowledge
- Spiritual intelligence/Morally upright and knowledge for Wisdom
- Cognitive aspect of human for a meaningful existence



THANK YOU