THE TREE BENDS WHILE IT IS YOUNG

As-Salamu ‘alaykum wa rāmatu Lābi.
A’idbu bilābi mina sh-shaytanī r-rajiim.

Was-salātu wa s-Salāmu ‘alā Rasūlinā Muḥammadin Sayyidi l-awwalīn wa l-akhirīn.

Ṭariqtuna ṣ-sahab wa l-khayru fi l-jam‘iyyah.

These days schools are starting. Children go to school to learn. They should be taught good things so that their faith becomes strong, because those who have faith spend their lives comfortably. There is a saying, “A tree bends down while it is young.” Good teachers should be trained right from childhood, so that they teach good things, beneficial things for life, beneficial things for the next life.

Already today teachers are unconscious. They have neither spiritual understanding nor understanding of true knowledge. They do things for a salary—that’s okay; one can still receive the salary, but at the same time one can receive the pleasure of God. Let them not betray, sell, their country. Otherwise, [and] as if that was not enough, many of those who go to school learn bad habits, for example, smoking. This is an important matter. Whether it is teachers or students, it is an important matter to be careful of, because most evil starts with smoking.

They say drinking is the mother of all evil. [But] before they reach drinking, they start with smoking, then drinking begins, then all the other evil, dirty work starts, [and] then the man is ruined. If the person was protected, however, in the beginning, before he puts this evil thing into his mouth, he can be saved easily, otherwise an evil jinn or an evil person bother him, ruin his life, ruin his family. May Allah protect us! May we have a good next generations, insha’Allah.

Many teachers come to visit us. When the teachers are good, even if it is only one, he is able to change the whole class, the whole school. He is useful in training new, good generations. May Allah increase their numbers, insha’Allah. May Allah accept their service, insha’Allah.

Wa min Allāhi t-tawfiq,
al-Fāthab

Ṣuhbah of Shaykh Muḥammad Mehmet ‘Ādil