

Music & Dancing, Musical Instruments, Games & Videos



An Islamic Perspectives

The Characters of the Successful

الَّذِينَ يَتَّبِعُونَ الرَّسُولَ النَّبِيَّ الْأُمِّيَّ الَّذِي يَجِدُونَهُ مَكْنُوبًا عِنْدَهُمْ
فِي التَّورَةِ وَالْإِنْجِيلِ يَأْمُرُهُم بِالْمَعْرُوفِ وَيَنْهَاهُمْ عَنِ الْمُنْكَرِ
وَيُحِلُّ لَهُمُ الطَّيِّبَاتِ وَيُحَرِّمُ عَلَيْهِمُ الْخَبَائِثَ وَيَضَعُ عَنْهُمْ
إِصْرَهُمْ وَالْأَغْلَالَ الَّتِي كَانَتْ عَلَيْهِمْ فَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا بِهِ وَعَزَّرُوهُ
وَنَصَرُوهُ وَاتَّبَعُوا النُّورَ الَّذِي أُنزِلَ مَعَهُ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْمُفْلِحُونَ



Those who follow the Messenger, the unlettered prophet, whom they find written in what they have of the Torah and the Gospel, who enjoins upon them what is right and forbids them what is wrong and makes lawful for them the good things and prohibits for them the evil and relieves them of their burden and the shackles which were upon them. So they who have believed in him, honored him, supported him and followed the light which was sent down with him - it is those who will be the successful. (Al-a'raf: 157)

Primordial Human Nature

فَأَقِمْ وَجْهَكَ لِلدِّينِ حَنِيفًا فِطْرَةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي فَطَرَ النَّاسَ عَلَيْهَا لَا تَبْدِيلَ لِخَلْقِ
اللَّهِ ذَٰلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ ﴿٣٠﴾

So direct your face toward the religion, inclining to truth. [Adhere to] the fitrah of Allah upon which He has created [all] people. No change should there be in the creation of Allah . That is the correct religion, but most of the people do not know.

And [by] the soul and He who proportioned it -----

﴿٧﴾ وَنَفْسٍ وَمَا سَوَّاهَا

And inspired it [with discernment of] its -----
wickedness and its righteousness,

﴿٨﴾ فَأَلْهَمَهَا فُجُورَهَا وَتَقْوَاهَا

He has succeeded who purifies it, -----

﴿٩﴾ قَدْ أَفْلَحَ مَنْ زَكَّاهَا

And he has failed who instills it [with
corruption]. -----

﴿١٠﴾ وَقَدْ خَابَ مَنْ دَسَّاهَا

In an authentic hadith, the Prophet Muhammad says that every new-born is born in the Islamic fitra, after which the parents cause the child to become either Christian or Jew or a member of another religion.

Origin & Applications Of Music

- Music, according to the New National Dictionary, means **"Art of combining sounds or sequences of notes into harmonious patterns pleasing to the ear & satisfying to the emotions; melody"**
- Music was invented by Shaytan immediately after Prophet Adam, during the time of Prophet Sheeth.
- At parties, movies, in drama, for pastime, on subway, streets and for relaxation, therapy, festivities and celebrations, at clubs, in sports and even in many religious functions and spiritual activities
- Music can be analyzed in different dimensions: Good or bad, tempo, rhythms, pattern of pitch, timbre, dynamics effects

The Character of Multimedia

While there still exist beneficial contents in multimedia, it is valid to say the following:

- Music types: Afrobet, Makossa, Pop, Hip-hop & Rap, fuji, juju, Waka, Highlife, folk & Country music, Apala, R&B, Jazz and Rock to mention just a few. Most contemporary Music lyrics are replete with vulgarity and lewd talks with excesses in application of instrumentation.
- Contemporary movies of all types are laden with erotic and sensual scenes and sound tracks
- Computer games and other contents of the internet are generally full of violence in addition to the aforementioned vices.

Controversies about Permissibility of Music and Dancing

- All scholars are unanimous on the prohibition of all forms of singing and music that incites excessive indulgence in sensual pleasures, indecency, or sin.
- Scholars agree on the permissibility of singing without instrumental accompaniment and where the content is not prohibited.
- However, there exist controversies about musical instruments
 - Some of them permit all sorts of singing, with all instruments (Some actually recommends it).
 - While others prohibit Musical Instruments.
 - There are some views standing in-between

Evidences & Arguments

And of the people is he who buys the amusement of speech to mislead [others] from the way of Allah without knowledge and who takes it in ridicule. Those will have a humiliating punishment.

وَمِنَ النَّاسِ مَنْ يَشْتَرِي لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ لِيُضِلَّ عَن سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ
بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ وَيَتَّخِذَهَا هُزُوًا أُولَٰئِكَ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ مُّهِينٌ ﴿٦﴾

Most of the scholars follow Ibn Mas'ood's interpretation that lahw al-hadeeth ("idle talk") meaning singing and musical instruments, and every voice that diverts people from the truth. Ibn Abass, Mujahid, Hassan Al-Basri commented in affirmation that this ayat refers to Music and musical instruments.

Al-Tabari. Ibn Abi'l-Dunya, Ibn al-Jawzi, Al-Qurtubi supported this interpretation

Al-Tirmidhi reported in his Sunan (no. 1005) from Ibn Abi Layla from 'Ata' from Jaabir (may Allaah be pleased with him) who said: "The Messenger of Allaah (peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him) went to to al-Nakhl with 'Abd al-Rahmaan ibn 'Awf, when his son Ibraaheem was dying. He took the child in his lap and his eyes filled with tears. 'Abd al-Rahmaan said, 'Are you weeping when you have forbidden us to weep?' He said, 'I do not forbid weeping. **What I have forbidden is two foolish and evil kinds of voices: voices at times of entertainment and play and the flutes of the Shaytaan, and voices at times of calamity and scratching the face and rending the garments and screaming.**'"

fear their Lord shiver from it. Then their skin and their heart soften to the remembrance of Allāh ﴿39:23﴾.

He connect that with mention of the doomed, those who turn away from the Qur'ān and do not benefit from hearing the Words of Allāh. Instead, they turn to listening to flutes and singing accompanied by musical instruments. As Ibn Mas'ūd commented about the Āyah:

﴿وَمَنْ أَلْتَابِ مَنْ بَشَّرَهُ لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ يَؤْتِ عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ﴾

﴿And of mankind is he who purchases Lahū Al-Ḥadīth to mislead (men) from the path of Allāh﴾,

he said, "This – by Allāh – refers to singing."^[1]

﴿وَمَنْ أَلْتَابِ مَنْ بَشَّرَهُ لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ يَؤْتِ عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ بِغَيْرِ عِلْمٍ﴾

﴿And of mankind is he who purchases Lahw Al-Ḥadīth to mislead (men) from the path of Allāh without knowledge﴾,

Qatādah said: "By Allāh, he may not spend money on it, but his purchasing it means he likes it, and the more misguided he is, the more he likes it and the more he prefers falsehood to the truth and harmful things over beneficial things."^[2]

It was said that what is meant by the words

﴿بَشَّرَهُ لَهْوَ الْحَدِيثِ﴾

﴿purchases idle talks﴾ is buying singing servant girls. Ibn Jarīr said that it means all speech that hinders people from seeing the signs of Allāh and following His path.^[3]

His saying:

﴿يَؤْتِ عَنْ سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ﴾

﴿to mislead (men) from the path of Allāh﴾

means, he does this to oppose Islām and its followers.

﴿وَتَتَّخِذَهَا هُزُوًا﴾

﴿and takes it by way of mockery﴾ Mujāhid said, "This means

Positions Prohibiting Music

- Ibn Mashud: – Not possible for a person to love the Quran and music at the same time
- Imam Shafi': Incompetent fool, idiot whose testimony should be rejected
- Maalik: the evildoers (faasiqs) among us do that
- Ibn Qudaamah, the researcher of the Hanbali madhhab – (may Allaah have mercy on him) said: Musical instruments are of three types which are haraam. These are the strings and all kinds of flute, and the lute, drum and rabaab (stringed instrument) and so on.

Evidences for Arguments that Permits Music with Instruments

-Narrated Abu 'Amir or Abu Malik Al-Ash'ari:that he heard the Prophet (ﷺ) saying,

"From among my followers there will be some people who will consider illegal sexual intercourse, the wearing of silk, the drinking of alcoholic drinks and the use of musical instruments, as lawful.

(Sahih Bukhari book 69 hadith 494).

And there will be some people who will stay near the side of a mountain and in the evening their shepherd will come to them with their sheep and ask them for something, but they will say to him, 'Return to us tomorrow.' Allah will destroy them during the night and will let the mountain fall on them, and He will transform the rest of them into monkeys and pigs and they will remain so till the Day of Resurrection.

Arguments in support of music suggest this hadith is weak. Sheikh Yusuf Al-Qaradawi is in book (Al-Halal wal Haram) stated this hadith is weak (due to incomplete or doubtful isnad, and thus cannot be used to prohibit musical instruments. His fatwa as follows:

- Singing and music is not haram for as long as it does not contain prohibited wordings
- Singing and music is past-time and Islam does not forbid pastime – Surah Jumua
- Even with Musical instruments, given the weakness of the evidence indicating that they are forbidden, the rule to be applied here is the one states that all things are originally deemed permissible as long as there is no Shari`ah text that prohibits them.

Midcourse Position on Music

- God created us with a nature that love music e.g. Mother singing for a child.
- Melodius Qira'a; Prophet (SAW) said "whoever does not sing the Quran is not of us"
- Voice only Songs; but most not contain any wording that takes someone far from the remembrance of Allah.
- Islamic prohibit only the harmful aspects of it. Wind and string instrument and adult female singers.
- Permissible songs from female minor or males accompanied by duff in wedding and festivals only.
- Singing should not be accompanied with something that is prohibited such as alcohol, nakedness, mixing of men with women that is common in pubs and nightclubs, etc.
- Islam declared excessiveness as prohibited in everything; even leisure and recreation is inclusive
- Avoid music that can cause addiction (e.g. some people tell of the benefit of music)
- Avoid Musicians as role models; they are mostly the corrupt members of our society
- Avoid dancing; it break downs the systems of Sharia on Hijab.

Options to Music

- Beautiful Qira'a
- Ethical Poetry & Oratory
- Nasheed (Voice only) or just drums
- Cultivating Reading habit
- Ethical sports
- Islamic Calligraphy
- History

Electronic Games

Permissible so long as they do not get in the way of obligatory duties such as establishing prayer and honouring one's parents, and so long as they do not include anything that is haraam.

Game Categories

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Massively Multiplayer Online (MMO) | <input type="checkbox"/> Stealth Shooter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Simulations | <input type="checkbox"/> Combat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adventure | <input type="checkbox"/> First Person Shooters (FPS) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Real-Time Strategy (RTS) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sports |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Puzzle | <input type="checkbox"/> Role-Playing (RPG) |
| | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational |

Positives

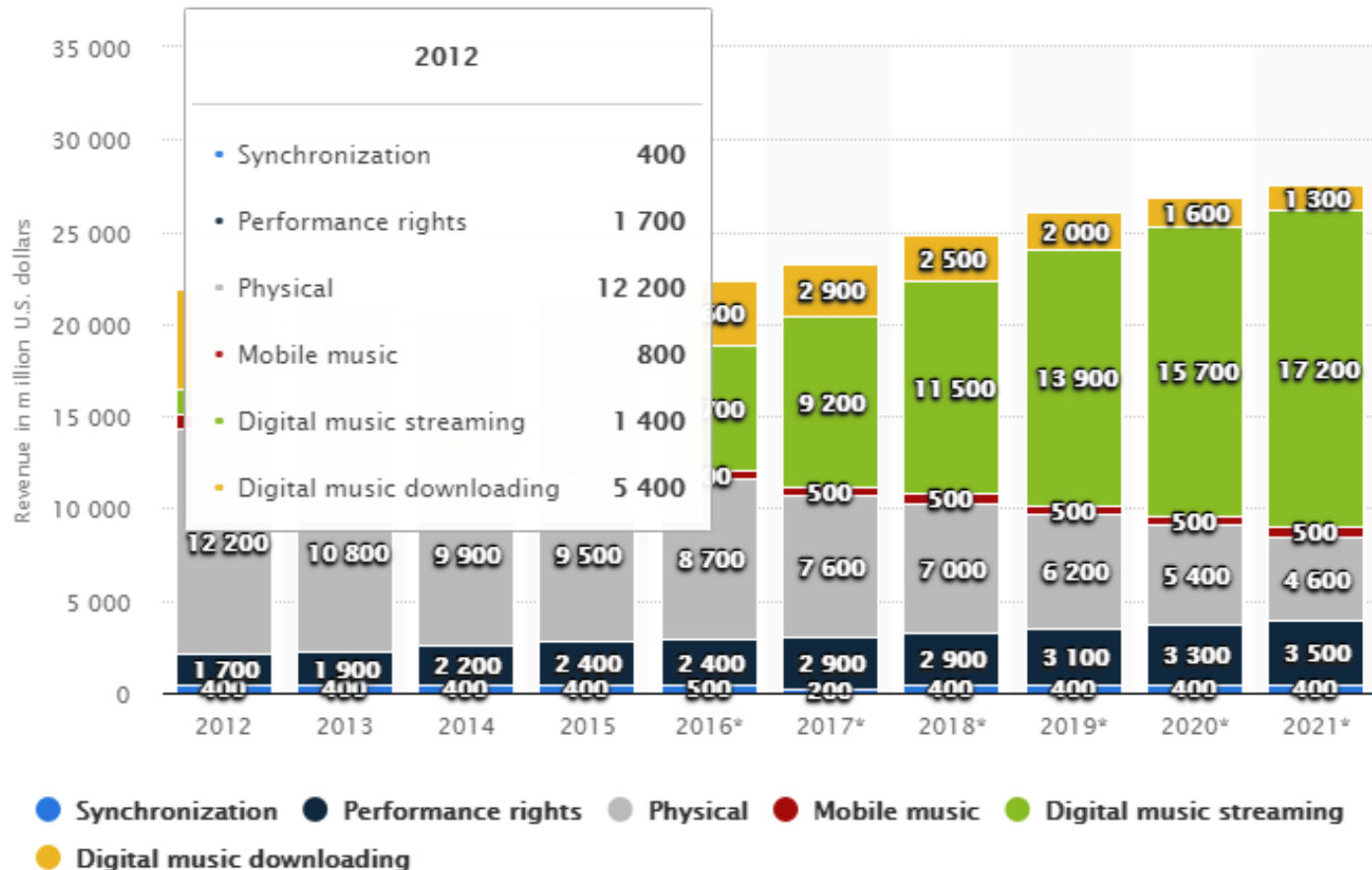
- ✓ It Improves the Cognitive Functions
- ✓ Hand And Eye Coordination
- ✓ Quick Thinking And Accuracy
- ✓ Improve Your Child's Decision Making Skills
- ✓ Encourages Teamwork

Negatives

- ➔ Increases Aggressive Behavior
- ➔ Social Isolation
- ➔ Teaches Wrong Values
- ➔ Poor Academic Performance
- ➔ Adverse Effects On Health Preoccupation
- ➔ Play In Secret
- ➔ Aggression
- ➔ Lack Of Control
- ➔ Neglecting Other Areas
- ➔ Misuse Of Money
- ➔ Defensiveness

Some facts on Economics

- The recorded music industry is worth more than **US\$130 billion** globally.
- Games industry to earn **\$108.9 billion** in 2017. (\$128.5 billion by 2020)



Games To Avoid

- Games that containing anti-Islam elements
- Games which approve of witchcraft/magic
- Games which are based on hatred of Islam and Muslims
- Games that glorify the kuffaar and show pride in belonging to them
- Games that include depictions of nudity, and some games that allow the winner to see a pornographic picture
- Games based on ideas of gambling.
- Games containing music and other things that are known to be forbidden in Islam
- Game that cause physical harm, such as damage to the eyes , ears and nervous system
- Games that encourages violence and criminality,

Case Study: Egypt

- The 18-year-old son of former Egyptian MP Hamdy El-Fakharany was found hanged in his bedroom.
- The victim's sister, Yasmine El-Fakharany, said: "My brother was playing the Blue Whale.. we found papers and symbols of the game among his belongings."



- "I beg you, don't challenge yourselves and try the game. No one was as strong and as religious as Khalid, yet he challenged it, and it defeated him," the sister wrote
- The game makes young players join an online challenge where "leaders" order them to kill themselves after completing a 50-task challenge. The game makes young players join an online challenge where "leaders" order them to kill themselves after completing a 50-task challenge.
- "Blue Whale" incidents recorded in Italy, India, Bulgaria, Brazil, Bangladesh, Russia and Egypt.
- Egypt's religious and governmental body Dar Al-Iftaa posted a YouTube video on their official page declaring the 'Blue Whale' video game as forbidden by Islam,

A Contemporary Thoughts of Negative Effect of Music & Dancing

- Many modern dances, particularly jazz, combine overstimulation with the disintegrating influence of their syncopated rhythms. Howard Hanson, in his very good essay, exposes in a drastic way the widespread injurious influence of jazz. He says this:
- “I hesitate to think of what the effect of music upon the next generation will be if the present school of ‘hot jazz’ continues to develop unabated. Much of it is crass, raucous and commonplace and could be dismissed without comment if it were not for the radio whereby, hour after hour, night after night, American homes are flooded with vast quantities of this material, to which accompaniment our youngsters dance, play and even study. Perhaps they have developed an immunity to its effect but if they have not, and if the mass production of this aural drug is not curtailed, we may find ourselves a nation of neurotics which even the skill of the psychiatrist may be hard pressed to cure. It seems, therefore, only poetic justice that musical therapeutics should develop at least to the point where music may serve as an antidote for itself.”

Reward for Pious Worshiper

حَدَّثَنِي إِسْحَاقُ بْنُ نَصْرِ، حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو أُسَامَةَ، عَنِ الْأَعْمَشِ، حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو صَالِحٍ، عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ - رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ - عَنِ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ " يَقُولُ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى أَعَدَدْتُ لِعِبَادِي الصَّالِحِينَ مَا لَا عَيْنٌ رَأَتْ، وَلَا أُذُنٌ سَمِعَتْ، وَلَا خَطَرَ عَلَى قَلْبِ بَشَرٍ، ذُخْرًا، بَلْهَ مَا أُطْلِعْتُمْ عَلَيْهِ " . ثُمَّ قَرَأَ {فَلَا تَعْلَمُ نَفْسٌ مِمَّا أُخْفِيَ لَهُم مِّن قُرَّةِ أَعْيُنٍ جَزَاءً بِمَا كَانُوا يَعْمَلُونَ}

Narrated Abu Huraira:

The Prophet, said, "Allah said, 'I have prepared for My pious worshipers such things as no eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard of, and nobody has ever thought of. All that is reserved, besides which, all that you have seen, is nothing.'" Then he recited:-- 'No soul knows what is kept hidden (in reserve) for them of joy as a reward for what they used to do.' (32.17)

Music, Games and other pastime Activities in Paradise

The Beautiful Voices and Singing of the Maidens of Heaven (Jannah)

Ibn U'mar narrates that Beloved Prophet (Peace be upon Him) said, "Definitely, the wives of the people of Heaven (Jannah) will sing for their husbands with the most beautiful voices that anybody has ever heard. One of their songs will be, 'We are the women with good character and beautiful faces. We are the wives of noble husbands who look at us with the coolness of their eyes.' Another song will be, 'We are the immortal women; we will never die. We are the women full of security; we will never get scared. We are the women who will always remain forever, we will never leave.

- Reference: (Tabrani)

نَحْنُ أَوْلِيَآؤُكُمْ فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَفِي الْآخِرَةِ وَلَكُمْ فِيهَا مَا تَشْتَهُى أَنفُسُكُمْ وَلَكُمْ فِيهَا مَا تَدَّعُونَ ﴿٣١﴾

We [angels] were your allies in worldly life and [are so] in the Hereafter. And you will have therein whatever your souls desire, and you will have therein whatever you request [or wish] (fussilat:31)

يُطَافُ عَلَيْهِمْ بِصِحَافٍ مِّنْ ذَهَبٍ وَأَكْوَابٍ وَفِيهَا مَا تَشْتَهُى الْأَنفُسُ وَتَلَذُّ الْأَعْيُنُ وَأَنْتُمْ فِيهَا خَالِدُونَ ﴿٧١﴾

Circulated among them will be plates and vessels of gold. And therein is whatever the souls desire and [what] delights the eyes, and you will abide therein eternally.(Zukhruf:71)

Plenary Discussions

- Comments/Contributions
- Q&A

دَعْوَتُهُمْ فِيهَا سُبْحَانَكَ اللَّهُمَّ وَتَحِيَّتُهُمْ فِيهَا سَلَامٌ وَعَآخِرُ دَعْوَتِهِمْ أَنِ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ ﴿١٠﴾

Their call therein will be, "Exalted are You, O Allah," and their greeting therein will be, "Peace." And the last of their call will be, "Praise to Allah, Lord of the worlds!"