

My Dear Son, Peace be upon you.

Now that you have achieved success, thanks to Allah, the Exalted, and reached the threshold of a new journey in your life, I, your loving father, would like to share with you some useful advice to illuminate your way during your forthcoming adventure.

Before I start, let me congratulate you on this joyful occasion of your achievement. You cannot imagine how delighted I am for you. May Allah grant you success in your professional journey and bring you back to us safely.

It is now up to you to work hard to develop yourself to meet the high expectations of all those who have placed their trust in you. We are confident that you will not fail us.

Your Loving Father

My Advice to You

Preparing for your Journey

- ▶ Travel light. Do not take unnecessary items that will overburden you (clothes, kitchenware, spices). When you get there, you will find that everything that you need is available in stores and supermarkets.
- ▶ Keep the following important telephone numbers close at hand:
 - ▶ Your Academic Advisor
 - ▶ university clinic
 - ▶ Local police
 - ▶ Close friends
 - ▶ Your family in the Kingdom



My Advice to You

Finding a Place to Live

- ▶ As soon as you arrive at your destination, you may stay in temporary accommodation while you search for a suitable place to live. Consult your advisor to help you find nearby accommodation. The closer the accommodation to the school, the better and the more secure. If you find a place on campus, take it!
- ▶ If you're looking for a flat mate, make sure he is reliable and trustworthy. Divide the expenses equally in everything (rent, food, drinks, etc).



My Advice to You

Your Studies

- ▶ Concentrate on your main goal - I am here to study! Tackle each challenge with diligence and enthusiasm.
- ▶ Contact your academic advisor at the start of the term to plan your schedule/academic program. Do not hesitate to contact him on any academic matters. His job is to help and guide you on your academic journey.
- ▶ Follow the advice given to you by the academic adviser.
- ▶ Manage your time wisely and adhere to your schedule.



- ▶ Try to do homework and assignments in the library, as there is no better place to study and learn. Try as much as possible not to leave anything for home or apartment.
- ▶ Monitor your cumulative average. Make sure to keep it high. Anything below 2.5 may lead to the termination of your scholarship.
- ▶ Manage your time wisely and adhere to your schedule.
- ▶ Balance work and study with regular exercise and meals. Keep healthy by eating the right food and going to bed early.
- ▶ Read the Quran every morning for your day to be blessed. The fajar (dawn) time is the best time for studying. Take advantage of it.

My Advice to You

Free Time

- ▶ Utilize your time effectively and try to read as much as you can.
- ▶ Visit famous places and tourist attractions to remind you of the Greatness of your Creator. Stay away from places that are inappropriate or against your Islamic values.
- ▶ Exercise moderation in all things. Remember that you represent your country as an unofficial ambassador abroad. Show all your best side in everything you say and do.
- ▶ Avoid gatherings or parties where behaviour forbidden in Islam may take place.
- ▶ Do not allow yourself to be tempted by certain women, through whom Satan will lead you away from the path of righteousness toward sin and STDs (Sexually Transmitted Diseases).



My Advice to You

Friends

- ▶ Be proud of being a Muslim. Be yourself.
- ▶ Choose your friends carefully, on the basis of their good manners, righteousness, seriousness and positive attitude towards studying. Do not waste your time with careless and frivolous people or those who may wish to take advantage of you.
- ▶ Seek out well-behaved fellow Muslims to befriend. Remember that Allah is always watching over you. If you disobey Him, your problems might increase and you will never feel happy.
- ▶ Do not get involved in heated arguments that may lead to violence, trouble with authorities, or other negative consequences.



My Advice to You

Practical Matters

- ▶ Open a checking account (preferably a free checking account) to deposit your money and for the Company to transfer your allowances.
- ▶ Safeguard all your important documents; namely, your passport, ticket, license, certificates and your money. Keep several copies of all your documents just in case you lose them. By the way, keep some copies of your national ID card. Consult your advisor in your location if you need to register with the Saudi embassy upon your arrival or later. Consult him on other matters that might be important. Do not delay this action.



My Advice to You

Practical Matters

- ▶ Never drive without a license. Take your Saudi license with you and better yet get an international license from here.
- ▶ Do not violate the traffic regulations or laws of the country. This will affect your insurance policy and you may be deported from the country or your residence might be revoked if you commit too many violations.

My Advice to You

Personal Safety

- ▶ Do not go out late at night. If you need to go out at night, take one of your friends with you. Stay away from areas where crime is common.
- ▶ When you arrive, work on getting a local license.



- ▶ When withdrawing money from ATMs, do this in daylight and not at night. Use ATMs that are in public places such as shopping malls where there are plenty of people. Withdraw only small amounts. Do not show off cash or luxury items so as not to expose yourself to theft or injury.



My Advice to You



Your Faith

- ▶ Fear Allah and be conscious of Him in every step you take. Be with Allah and He will be with you.
- ▶ Fulfil all your Islamic duties without being extreme. Remember to enjoy yourself and relax in ways that are lawful and consistent with Islam. Do your prayers on time and always remember Allah.
- ▶ Respect the laws of the country so long as they do not clash with your principles, and pay special attention to the traffic rules.
- ▶ Do not rush into things without sound advice. Seek guidance from advisors or friends before embarking on any plan or project. Do not deceive yourself by saying that you are old enough to make your own decisions. Before taking any decision do two Rakat of Istikhar prayers and ask Allah to guide you toward the best path of action.
- ▶ Do not deviate from the best Way of life, Islam. Remember that you have a loving family waiting for you and a country that needs you. Your country



is full of opportunities and has everything that you need to succeed in your blessed life, God willing.



My Son,

Please take heed of my words of advice, given to you by a father who dearly loves his son and prays to Allah for his safe return.

I hope that my words will be of use to you and will always guide you to success in this life and the Hereafter.

I await the day when you will return with your head held high, proud of your accomplishments.

May Allah, Glory be to Him, grant you success. March on my son on the Way of righteousness till you realize your goals.

May Allah
bless &
protect you...



A Message from Father to Son

Tips on Studying Abroad

To my Dear Son...
May Allah protect you.



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