

## **Youth and Lack of Religious Knowledge**

Good morning respected Principal, teachers, and my dear friends.

Let me start with a simple question.

We spend years studying subjects like maths, science, business, and history.

But how much time do we actually spend understanding our own religion?

Today, I want to speak about an important issue - youth and lack of religious knowledge.

We live in a fast-moving world full of information, opinions, and influence. Today's generation is smart, active, and connected. We know what's trending, what's viral, and what's happening around the world.

But there is one serious question we need to ask ourselves:

Are we truly aware of the religion we follow?

Many young people follow religion emotionally, but not intellectually.

We practice rituals, repeat slogans, and defend beliefs - but very few of us truly understand what our religion actually teaches.

Religion, in its true form, teaches values like compassion, truth, justice, patience, discipline, and respect for humanity.

But when knowledge is missing, religion can become just a tool in the hands of others.

And this is where the real danger begins.

When youth lack proper religious understanding, they become easy targets for manipulation. Political leaders, influencers, and even some community figures can twist religious teachings for their own benefit.

They may use religion to divide people, spread hatred, create fear, or gain power.

And the biggest problem is this:

If a young person does not know the true teachings of their religion, they cannot question what is being told to them.

They simply follow blindly - believing they are doing something right -while in reality, they may be going against the values their religion teaches.

Think about it.

Every religion teaches good values.

Most religions teach peace, kindness, honesty, and unity.

Yet, without proper understanding, people can be convinced to hate others in the name of religion.

That is not faith.

That is misuse of faith.

Knowledge acts like a shield.

When you truly understand your religion, you begin asking important questions:

"Is this really what my religion teaches?"

"Does this message promote peace or division?"

"Am I being guided toward truth, or being used for someone's agenda?"

Now let us think about something practical.

Every day, we dedicate hours to studying academic subjects.

We prepare for exams, careers, and future success.

But shouldn't we also dedicate at least a little time to understanding our own religion?

Even 15 to 20 minutes a day can make a difference.

Read your religious texts.

Understand their meaning.

Learn from authentic and knowledgeable sources.

(Ask questions.. Seek understanding., Because religion should not be followed blindly., It should be understood with wisdom.)

As youth, we have a huge responsibility.

We are the future of society.

The choices we make today will shape tomorrow's world.

If we choose ignorance, division will grow.

If we choose knowledge, unity will grow.

Before defending religion, we must first understand it.

Because religion should unite hearts, not divide people.

**Abdul Ahad,  
I BBA-C,**