175949 - Ruling on preparing wine in the college of pharmacy and tasting it

the question

I have a friend, he is a Pharmacy student, and one of their requirements in a subject is to ferment wine and after several months they will be tasting it to affirm the proper mixture.

We dont like to be cursed by the Prophet sallaAllahu alayhi wa sallam as long as we are studying(5 months/1 semester), because one day is not enough to prepare it, then they would be sinning for a long time.
According to what we read that the Prophet sallaAllahu alayhi wa sallam cursed 10 kinds of people associated with alcoholic beverages:

1. those who make it themselves

2. those who help make it

3. those who use it

4. those who carry it

5. those whom it is carried

6. those who give it to others

7. those who sell it

8. those who use the money made from it

9. those who purchase it

10. those from whom it is purchased

[Ibn Majah and At-tirmidhi]

What is the Ruling on making wine? and what are the necessary actions as a student, who were just sent by their parents to study, should they take when their Professor requires them to do such thing? We really seek your advice and please give a clear evidence with regard to this matter, for most of his Muslim classmates does not really follow without proper evidence. May Allah guide them and In sha Allah whatever may come unto us we will accept it, May Allah give us strong eeman and taqwa.

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

It is haram to consume, carry, sell or buy alcohol, and ten types of people are cursed with regard to it, as it says in the hadeeth narrated by at-Tirmidhi (1295) and Abu Dawood (3674) from Anas ibn Malik (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: The Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) cursed ten with regard to wine: the one who squeezes (the grapes etc), the one who asks for it to be squeezed, the one who drinks it, the one who carries it, the one to whom it is carried, the one who pours it, the one who sells it and consumes its price, the one who buys it and the one for whom it is bought.

Calssed assaheeh by al-Albani in Saheeh at-Tirmidhi

It is not permissible to manufacture alcohol for drinking or for medical purposes, because of the report narrated by Abu Dawood (3874) from Abu’d-Darda’ (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: The Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: “Allah has sent down the disease and the remedy, and He has created for every disease a remedy, so treat disease but do not treat it with anything that is haram.”

Classed as saheeh by al-Albani in Saheeh al-Jami‘, 1762

Muslim (1984) narrated from Wa’il ibn Hijr (may Allah be pleased with him) that Tariq ibn Suwayd

al-Ju’fi asked the Prophet (S) about khamr, and he forbade him or expressed his disapproval of his making it. He said: I only make it as a remedy. He said: “It is not a remedy, but it is a disease.”

This clearly indicates that it is haram to use alcohol for medicinal purposes and that it is not a remedy; rather it is a disease.

An-Nawawi said: This indicates that it is haram to use and produce alcohol, and it clearly indicates that it is not a medicine, so it is haram to use it for medicinal purposes, because it is not a remedy, so it is like consuming it for no reason. This is the correct view according to our companions. End quote.

Ibn Mas‘ood (may Allah be pleased with him) said: “Allah has not put your healing in that which He has forbidden to you.” It was also mentioned by al-Bukhari in a mu‘allaq report (5/2129)

If the alcohol is being made for drinking or to use as a remedy or as part of a remedy, it is not permissible for the student to take part in producing it, and he has to do announce his stance and show pride in his religion, and refuse to participate in something that is haram.

If it is being produced in order to find out the chemical properties of alcohol, and what is produced will be destroyed and not drunk or put into medicine, then it is permissible, but it is haram to taste it; tasting it should be left to non-Muslim colleagues.

Based on that, in order for the student to participate in this production experiment, it is stipulated that the alcohol should be destroyed and no one should be allowed to drink it or put it into medicine. If these conditions are accepted, there is nothing wrong with him participating; otherwise he should refrain from participating even if that will lower his grade. All the Muslim students should refuse to do that and ask the university to accommodate their religious needs.

And Allah knows best.