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توجيهات للطفل الناشء

Guidelines for Raising Children

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In the Name of Allâh
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

“O you who believe! Ward off yourselves and your families against a Fire (Hell) whose fuel is men and stones, over which are (appointed) angels stern (and) severe, who disobey not, (from executing) the Commands they receive from Allâh, but do that which they are commanded.”
(Sûrat At-Tahrîm, 66:6)

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Publishers Note

There is no doubt that the family is the nucleus of society, it requires great care in order to ensure its welfare. This can be achieved by taking the right preparatory steps in terms of seeking the right spouse, or the parent to be in accordance with Prophetic instructions.

The warning of the Prophet ﷺ:

"If a suitor whose faith and conduct you are satisfied with comes to you, marry him your daughter. If you do not, there will be affliction on earth and gross corruption."

One may wonder how could affliction and corruption ensue on a universal scale from an affair which involves only two people. This would be a valid question to be asked by those who look at marriage from a narrow perspective. This matrimonial union which involves a couple, constitutes the core of society. Its state of affairs is reflected on the society positively or negatively. A pious couple provides pious offspring with the Will of Allâh. Were every guardian to insist on choosing a committed spouse, non-committed people would have no choice but to be good Muslims, otherwise, they would not find any family to associate with them. But unfortunately, wealth, lineage, social status and similar factors top the priority list for marriage.

As for the affliction and corruption that are mentioned in the above *Hadith*; they are the direct result of marriages of non-committed Muslims who are not keen on raising children according to Islamic standards. We know that children learn more by example than by words. No one among us says I am a non-committed Muslim, yet telling our children what to do and not showing them by good example is the action of a non-committed Muslims. This is hypocritical and drives children to confusion and away from us. The result is that the number of such non-committed Muslims increases and affliction and

corruption become rampant.

It gives pious parents great pleasure to see their children as good Muslims and adhering to the Right Path even better than them. Similarly, they would be most miserable to see them corrupted and wretched. Thus, one must take great care of his children and seek all means that help him provide the society with God conscious members. The first and foremost means is to seek the help of Allâh by supplicating to Him earnestly: "O our *Rubb* (Lord), grant us from our spouses and posterity, a source of pleasure and make us follow those before us, so that we become an example for those who will come after us."

It is for this reason we are presenting this booklet as a guideline for those parents who are concerned about their present and future offspring. I ask Allâh, the Exalted, to accept it as a humble effort on our part and render it beneficial, *Âmeen*.

Abdul Malik Mujahid
General Manager

Preface

All the praises and thanks are due to Allâh, the *Rubb* (Lord) of the worlds. And may Allâh Exalted the mention of the Prophet Muhammad, the chosen, the trustworthy, and the mention of his Household and all of his Companions.

Islam takes great care of the child even before their coming into existence by recommending making the right decision with regards to choosing the right spouse. Allâh, the Exalted, says:

﴿وَلَا تَنْكِحُوا الْمُشْرِكَاتِ حَتَّى يُؤْمَنَّ وَلَا أَمَةٌ مُؤْمِنَةٌ حَتَّى يُؤْمَنَ مِنْ مُشْرِكَةٍ وَلَا تُعْجَبَتْكُمْ وَلَا تُنْكَحُوا الْمُشْرِكِينَ حَتَّى يُؤْمِنُوا وَلَعَبْدٌ مُؤْمِنٌ خَيْرٌ مِنْ مُشْرِكٍ وَلَوْ أَعْجَبَكُمْ﴾ [البقرة: ٢٢١]

"And do not marry *Al-Mushrikât* (idolatresses) until they believe, for a believing slave woman is better than a (free) *Mushrikah* (idolatress), even if you admire the latter. And do not give in marriage believing women to polytheist men until they believe, for a believing bondsman is better than a polytheist even if you admire him." (V. 2:221)

The Prophet ﷺ said:

"A woman is sought for marriage for four reasons: for her wealth, lineage, beauty and faith. Win the woman of faith,¹ may poverty be your lot."²

He also said:

"If a suitor whose faith and conduct you are satisfied with comes to you, marry him your daughter. If you do not, there will be affliction on earth and gross corruption."

Islam's care of the child starts from infancy and continues to the

¹ A woman of faith, is a committed *Muslimah*.

² This is just a figure of speech not a real wish, which is known among the Arabs.

age of puberty, all this to prepare him to become a good member of the community.

This booklet is based on a book titled '*Qawl-ur-Rashad*' by Dr. Sulaiman Al-Faifi, which contains Islamic rules regarding marriage, childbirth, and a child's rights upon his parents; and when grown up, their duties towards their parents. May Allâh reward the author for his great endeavor, and may He reward us for putting this work at the hands of the English-speaking Muslims. *Âmeen.*

Encouragement of marriage and having children

Islam encourages the young Muslims to get married and have children. The Prophet ﷺ said:

“O young people, whoever of you can afford it, let him get married. It helps restrain the eyes and preserve the private parts. But if he cannot afford it, let him fast, for it works as a preventative.”

He also said:

“Marry fertile women, I will be showing off your large number on the Day of Resurrection.”

Choosing the right spouse

These are the main characteristics that should be sought when choosing a spouse:

The Deen: It is the first thing to look for according to the Prophet's instructions. This does not mean choosing any Muslim but the one who applies Islam throughout his daily life, not just a nominal Muslim.

Conduct: A woman or a man who has good manners is considered as a grace from Allâh. The Prophet ﷺ said:

“There is nothing more beneficial to a believer next to the fear of Allâh than a pious wife. When he commands her, she obeys him; and when he looks at her, she pleases him; and when he swears by Allâh that she should do a thing, she would; and when he is away, she guards herself and his property.”

This also applies to the husband with regard to good conduct and fear of Allâh, for raising children requires the efforts of both parents not just one of them. Since man is the head of the family,

it is his responsibility to choose a pious woman to be mother of his children. Allâh says:

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ﴾

[التحریم: ٦٠]

“O you who believe, protect yourselves and your families from a fire whose fuel is man and stones.”
(V. 66:6)

And He says:

﴿وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا﴾ [طه: ١٣٢]

“And enjoin *As-Salât* (the prayer) on your family, and be patient in offering them [i.e., the *Salât* (prayers)].”
(V. 20:132)

When Allâh’s Messenger ﷺ was asked about the greatest sins, he replied:

“You should associate an equal to Allâh ﷻ while He created you, that you kill your child out of fear that he would eat from your food, and that you commit adultery with your neighbor’s wife.” (*Al-Bukhâri and Muslim*)

The prohibition of killing one’s children is a necessary consequence of having mercy for them and protecting their body, minds and soul from harm.

Some rules regarding infants

The piety of parents is a fundamental condition for raising good offspring. The *Shari’ah* provides certain instructions that parents are advised to follow.

Supplication upon receiving a new wife

Du’â or supplication is a means of having needs and wishes fulfilled. The Prophet ﷺ instructed us to recite this *Du’â* upon receiving one’s wife for the first time.

“O Allâh, I ask you of her goodness, and the goodness of the nature with which you have created her, and I seek your protection against her evil, and the evil of the nature with which you have created her.”

Supplication prior to intercourse

Shaitan is a clear enemy to man against which Allâh warns us saying:

﴿إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ كَاتِلٌ لِلْإِنْسَنِ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ﴾ [الإسراء: ٥٣]

“Verily, Shaitan is to man a plain enemy.” (V. 17:53)

One of the devil’s satanic schemes is to participate with man during intercourse if the latter does not guard himself by invoking the Name of Allâh. The Prophet ﷺ said:

“When one of you approaches his wife, let him say: ‘I begin with the Name of Allâh. O Allâh, keep us away from Shaitan, and keep Shaitan away from what You provide us. If Allâh has foreordained that a child be born to them, Shaitan will never harm him or her.’ ”

Adhân and Iqâmah

Allâh’s Messenger ﷺ said:

“No human infant is born but is goaded by Shaitan and