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Our Children And Memorization of the Qur'aan

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the Name of Allaah, the Most Gracious,

the Most Merciful

All praise is due to Allaah, the Lord of all that exists, and may prayers of blessings and peace be upon the noblest of the Prophets and Messengers. To proceed:

Indeed Allaah has favored us with great bounties, and tremendous blessings. From the greatest of these blessings is the blessing of children, who are a delight for their parents and congratulations for the souls. Their position is between the statements of Allaah when He said,

﴿الْمَالُ وَالْبَنُونَ زِينَةُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا﴾ [الكهف: ٤٦]

"Wealth and children are the adornment of the life of this world." (18:46)

And His statement,

﴿وَأَعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ﴾ [الأنفال: ٢٨]

"And know that your wealth and your children are only a trial." (8:28)

And His statement,

﴿يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَخُونُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ وَتَخُونُوا أَمْنَكُمْ
وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ﴾

[الأَنْفَال: ٢٧]

"Oh you who believe! Do not betray Allaah and the Messenger, and do not betray your trusts while you know it." (8:27)

From the blessings of Allaah upon us is that He made the Magnificent Qur'aan easy to memorize in the schools for Qur'aanic memorization. There are also circles for memorization of the Qur'aan in the Masjids that have been arranged for children, which also serve this purpose. There are also classes for memorization of the Noble Qur'aan in the evenings for women. The proof has been established and the means have been made easy for our sons and daughters to be carriers of the Book of Allaah. How fantastic this would be for you, oh father, if your son were to become the *Imaam* (prayer leader) of the Sacred Masjid in Makkah, or the Prophet's Masjid in Madinah, or any Masjid from the Masjids (of the world).

These *Imaams* (of the Masjids) only came from these blessed circles that Allaah has benefited the people with.

Khabbaab bin Al-Aratt ؓ said to a man, "Draw near to Allaah as much as you are able, and know that you will never draw near to Him with anything more beloved to Him than His Words (i.e. the Qur'aan)." (*Al-Haakim*)

Ibn Mas'ood ؓ said, "Whoever loves the Qur'aan, then he loves Allaah and His Messenger ﷺ." (*At-Tabaraanee*)

Al-Haafidh As-Suyootee said, "Teaching the children the Qur'aan is a fundamental from the fundamentals of Islaam. By it the child will grow up upon the *Fitrah* (natural Islaamic monotheism), and the lights of wisdom will rush to their hearts before the desires are able to settle in them and darken them with the cloudiness of disobedience and misguidance."

Ibn Taymiyyah رحمه الله said, "Concerning seeking to memorize the Qur'aan, it has precedence over much of what the people call knowledge, and is either falsehood or of little benefit."

So that the joy of the parents will be complete, they should know what is in store for their children by knocking at this great door (i.e. the door to memorization of the Qur'aan). For indeed Allaah has guaranteed and

promised many fruits (i.e. benefits and blessings) for memorizing His Book. Below is a list of some of these benefits.

1. Elevation of their status in this life and in the hereafter. This is due to the statement of the Prophet ﷺ,

«إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَرْفَعُ بِهَذَا الْكِتَابِ أَقْوَامًا، وَيَضَعُ بِهِ آخَرِينَ»

[رواه مسلم ح: ٨١٧]

"Indeed Allaah will elevate some people with this book and he will degrade others with it." (*Muslim*)

So congratulations to you that your son or daughter will be of those whose status this Magnificent Qur'aan elevates and exalts.

2. Allaah intending good for your children. This is due to the statement of the Prophet ﷺ,

«مَنْ يُرِدِ اللَّهُ بِهِ خَيْرًا يُفَقِّهْهُ فِي الدِّينِ»

[رواه البخاري ح: ٣١١٦، ٧٣١٢]

"Whoever Allaah intends good for He gives him the understanding of the religion." (*Al-Bukhaaree*)

The greatest understanding of the religion (Islaam) is the recitation and memorization of Allaah's Book, because it is the first source of legislation.

3. They will be of the People of Allaah and His Chosen Ones. This is due to the statement of the Prophet ﷺ,

«إِنَّ لِلَّهِ تَعَالَى أَهْلِينَ مِنَ النَّاسِ، أَهْلُ الْقُرْآنِ هُمْ أَهْلُ اللَّهِ وَخَاصَّتُهُ»

[رواه أحمد ٣/١٢٧، ١٢٨، ١٤٢، وابن ماجه ح: ٢١٥]

"Verily, Allaah the Exalted has people from among mankind, and the people of the Qur'aan are the People of Allaah and His Chosen Ones." (*Ahmad and An-Nasaa'ee*)¹

4. Honoring them is a form of honoring Allaah. This is due to the statement of the Prophet ﷺ,

«إِنَّ مِنْ إِجْلَالِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى إِكْرَامَ ذِي الشَّيْبَةِ الْمُسْلِمِ، وَحَامِلِ الْقُرْآنِ غَيْرِ الْغَالِي فِيهِ وَالْجَافِي عَنْهُ»

[رواه أبو داود ح: ٤٨٤٣]

¹ This hadeeth was graded authentic (*Saheeh*) by Shaikh Al-Albaanee in *Saheeh Al-Jaami' As-Sagheer*, Vol. 1, no. 2165. It was also collected by *Ibn Maajah* and *Al-Haakim*. A.W.

"Verily, it is a form of honoring Allaah, the Most High, that the gray-haired Muslim (i.e. elderly) is respected and the one who carries (i.e. memorizes) the Qur'aan without exaggerating in it, nor neglecting it (is respected)." (*Abuu Daawood*)²

5. They are given precedence in leadership of the prayer (*As-Salaah*). This is due to the statement of the Prophet ﷺ,

«يَوْمَ النَّاسِ أَفْرُؤُهُمْ لِكِتَابِ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى»

[رواه مسلم ح: ٦٧٣]

"The people should be lead (in prayer) by the best of them in the recitation of the Book of Allaah the Most High." (*Muslim*)

6. They are given precedence in burial. Jaabir bin 'Abdullah ؓ narrated that the Prophet ﷺ used to put two men together of those who were killed at the battle of Uhud (i.e. in one grave). Then he would say,

«أَيُّهُمَا أَكْثَرُ أَخْذَاً لِلْقُرْآنِ؟» فَإِنْ أَشِيرَ إِلَى أَحَدِهِمَا

² This *hadeeth* was graded good (*Hasan*) by Shaikh Al-Albaanee in *Saheeh Al-Jaami' As-Sagheer*, Vol. 1, no. 2199, with the addition: "and honoring the just ruler." A.W.

قَدَّمَهُ فِي اللَّحْدِ. [رواه البخاري ح: ١٣٤٣، ١٣٤٥، ١٣٤٦]

"Which of them memorized more of the Qur'aan?"
So if one of them was pointed out (as knowing more Qur'aan) he would be placed in the niche (*Lahd*) of the grave first. (*Al-Bukhaaree*)

7. Your children, boys and girls, will be protected from Shaytaan (Satan) and his schemes. The Prophet ﷺ said,

«إِنَّ الشَّيْطَانَ يَنْفِرُ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ الَّذِي تُقْرَأُ فِيهِ سُورَةُ الْبَقَرَةِ»

[رواه مسلم ح: ٧٨٠]

"Verily Shaytaan flees from the house in which *Surah Al-Baqarah* is recited." (*Muslim*)

8. They are safe from the trial of the *Dajjaal* (the great deceiver or false messiah). The Prophet ﷺ said,

«مَنْ حَفِظَ عَشْرَ آيَاتٍ مِنْ أَوَّلِ سُورَةِ الْكَهْفِ عُصِمَ مِنَ الدَّجَالِ»

[رواه مسلم ح: ٨٠٩]

"Whoever memorizes ten verses from the beginning of *Surah Al-Kahf*, he will be protected from the *Dajjaal*." (*Muslim*)