



Raising our Children with Moral Values First Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah who has made the raising of children, both boys and girls, the means by which one can enter Paradise. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One, who has no partners in His one-ness. And I testify that our Sayyid, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon whomsoever follows him in guidance until the Last Day.

To Continue: I advise you, O slaves of Allah and myself, with the Taqwa of Allah, for verily Allah says about His slaves: **وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ**

وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا

And those who say, "Our Lord, grant us from among our wives and offspring comfort to our eyes and make us an example for the righteous." [Qur'an: ٢٥:٧٤]

O Believers: Our children are the lights of our homes, the future guardians of their homeland and the builders of upcoming civilization. They are a gift from the Most Merciful, and an adornment of the worldly life for mankind, as Allah says: **الْمَالُ وَالْبَنُونَ زِينَةُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا**

Wealth and children are adornment of the worldly life.

[Qur'an: ١٨:٤٦]



Indeed, it is a great responsibility upon parents to ensure that their children are raised upon moral uprightness, for this is an immense trust that has been placed upon them. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

إِنَّ اللَّهَ سَائِلٌ كُلِّ رَاعٍ عَمَّا اسْتَرْعَاهُ، أَحْفَظَ أَمْ صَيَّعَ، حَتَّى يَسْأَلَ
الرَّجُلَ عَنْ أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ

Indeed, Allah will question every shepherd with regards to their flock, did they save them or did they cause them to become lost, such that every man will be asked about his household. [Ibn Hibban]

Slaves of Allah: Our children are like pure and unpolluted land, they are born with sound natural dispositions in their primordial state (Fitrah). They come into this world with their hearts being clean and untainted, as the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said:

كُلُّ مَوْلُودٍ يُوَلَّدُ عَلَى الْفِطْرَةِ

Every child is born upon the Fitrah. [Bukhari and Muslim]

The souls of children are receptive to imprints from their parents and they should be cultivated in the best of ways as they are amenable to every good trait. Indeed, from the greatest of things we can augment and nourish in the souls of our children is their attachment to their Lord, such that they be aware that their Lord is ever-aware of them. In this capacity, let us pay heed to how our Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) advised Ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) when he was still a young child



with the words: **يَا بُنَيَّ، أَحْفَظِ اللَّهَ يَحْفَظَكَ، وَأَحْفَظِ اللَّهَ تَجِدْهُ إِذَا سَأَلْتَ فَاسْأَلِ اللَّهَ، وَإِذَا اسْتَعَنْتَ فَاسْتَعِنْ بِاللَّهِ**

O young boy, be mindful of Allah and He will protect you. Be mindful of Allah and you shall find Him with you. When you ask (for anything), ask it from Allah, and if you seek help, seek help from Allah. [Tirmidhi]

Likewise, we should encourage our children as they approach the age of maturity to adhere to safeguarding their prayers by ensuring they pray them on time. Thus, it is important that parents be avid to ensure their children are raised in this regard, indeed this is something that Allah has encouraged His Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) to do with his own family: **وَأْمُرْ أَهْلَكَ بِالصَّلَاةِ وَاصْطَبِرْ عَلَيْهَا**

And enjoin prayer upon your family [and people] and be steadfast therein. [Qur'an: ٢٠:١٣٢]

In similar manner we should emphasize other aspects of worship and devotion that our children should do, such as the recitation of the Qur'an and its memorization, remembrance of Allah and His reverence, and the following of the guidance of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). From the most important of things we should inculcate in our children is good noble character and praiseworthy attributes. So, O Allah we pray that you accept all of us for Your obedience and bless us with obedience towards Your Messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), and obedience towards those whom You have ordered us to show obedience towards, in accordance with Your saying:



يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولِي الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ

O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the Messenger and those in authority among you. [Qur'an:

٤:٥٩]

I say this and I seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness, indeed He is the most forgiving, most Merciful.

Second Khutbah

All praises are due to Allah the One. And may peace and blessings be upon our Sayyid, Sayyiduna Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) and upon all of his companions. I advise you slaves of Allah and myself with the Taqwa of Allah.

O Believers: Indeed, the goodly upbringing and raising of our children spreads a beautiful example and produces excellent role models to be emulated from boys and girls. Such youth surpass others in their efforts, as they strive to excel in whatever it is that they do. Today we can see youths who have received such good upbringing having high spiritual ambition, who through support from the leadership of this country have achieved feats such as entering into space. They hold prominent positions in the fields of volunteerism and community service, serving as examples and successful young national models that other youth can aim to emulate. Such youth hold fast to beautiful manners and seek to emulate the best of what has been brought down to them, such that these moral values can continue to be passed down to our children and grandchildren. Sheikh



Zayed (may Allah bless him) used to say that the real prosperity of the country is its youth and others have said in this regard that youth are the mainstay of all virtues, for with their efforts, nations advance and become virtuous.

And with this we ask You O Allah that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, especially on the seal of them, our master, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon him, and upon his family, his companions, all of them. O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates and guide them to all that which is good and what pleases You. O Allah, bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum, Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to Your mercy. We ask you to admit them into Paradise by Your grace.

O Allah have mercy on those martyred for Your sake, and grant them intercession for their people, and grant their families patience and a great reward. And have mercy, our Lord, upon all of the believers, the living and the dead.

Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Be grateful for your blessings and you will be increased therein. So, stand up for prayer.

