

## PROHIBITION OF DENYING THE RIGHTS OF WIFE AND CHILDREN

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ لِيُظْهِرَهُ عَلَىٰ الدِّينِ  
كُلِّهِ وَلَوْ كَرِهَ الْمُشْرِكُونَ، أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ،  
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدَهُ وَرَسُولَهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَىٰ  
سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَىٰ آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَىٰ يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.  
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ.

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَىٰ فِي كِتَابِهِ الْعَزِيزِ

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

إِنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ ﴿١٥﴾

Let us increase our righteousness to Allah the Almighty by doing all that He prescribes and leaving all that He prohibits. May our lives be blessed by Allah the Almighty in this life and the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters

Islam has determined that a husband or father is the head of his family. Allah the Almighty has bestowed upon him the wife and children as a place of affection for him and at the same time the wife and children are a great trust to be guarded by him. Allah the Almighty says in chapter 30 (Surah al-Rum) verse 21:

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً

وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٢١﴾

Which means: *And of His signs is that He created for you from yourselves mates that you may find tranquillity in them; and He placed between you affection and mercy. Indeed in that are signs for a people who give thought.*

As the head of the family, the husband or father plays a major role as a leader who guides his family like a captain steering his ship in a distant voyage. As a leader, the head of the family will be questioned in the hereafter regarding his leadership of every member in his family. The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam Muslim:

أَلَا كُتُّكُمْ رَاعٍ، وَكُلُّكُمْ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ، فَالْأَمِيرُ الَّذِي عَلَى النَّاسِ رَاعٍ،  
وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ عَنْ رَعِيَّتِهِ، وَالرَّجُلُ رَاعٍ عَلَى أَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ، وَهُوَ مَسْئُولٌ  
عَنْهُمْ،...

Which means: *Every one of you is a shepherd and is responsible for his flock. The leader of people is a guardian and is responsible for his subjects. A man is the guardian of his family and he is responsible for them...*

The head of the family must carry out certain responsibilities to his wife and children. Among these responsibilities are to provide halal sustenance, hamony, suitable accomodation, food and clothes for his family. Children must be provided with academic and religious education.

The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam al-Tabrani:

حَقُّ الزَّوْجِ عَلَى الزَّوْجَةِ ، أَنْ لَا تَهْجُرَ فِرَاشَهُ ، وَأَنْ تَبْرَأَ قَسَمَهُ ، وَأَنْ تُطِيعَ  
أَمْرَهُ ، وَأَنْ لَا تَخْرُجَ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِهِ ، وَأَنْ لَا تُدْخِلَ عَلَيْهِ مَنْ يَكْرَهُ.

Which means: *The husband's rights on his wife is she should not leave his bed and should rejoice over his gifts and obey his instructions and not leave the house without his permisssion. She should not permit anyone whom he dislikes to enter his house.*

This hadith clearly shows that Islam forbids the wife to bring in anyone whom the husband does not like to his home. Similarly, in the context of the world today, wives are prohibited from uploading or downloading anything that the husband does not like about anything that can break the harmony of the household for example having communication with men through intermediaries such as the telephone or internet.

Lately, there have been cases of divorce due to cheating couples who have relationships with others. Sometimes adultery happens when couples meet old lovers through school reunions or university alumni either through whatsApp, facebook and so on.

The head of the family must have tight control over his wife and children on their use of gadgets in order to protect them from negative elements. Children should be at home and not loitering aimlessly outside especially at night. They should be encouraged to go to mosques during magrib and isya' prayer time and read the quran.

Islam also commands that the head of the family be a *qudwah* or a good example to his family member. Do not just blame the wife and children for the use of gadgets and other communications, while as head of the family, a husband or father does not show good example.

Dear brothers and sisters

To end this sermon, let us as husbands and fathers be righteous to Allah the Almighty in executing our duties dilligently as heads of our

families. Remember that in the hereafter, we will be questioned by Allah the Almighty as to whether we have performed our mandate well to our wives and children. If we betray this trust, the grievous punishment of Allah the Almighty awaits us in the hereafter.

Allah the Almighty says chapter 8 (surah al-anfal) verse 27:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ  
يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا لَا تَخُونُوا اللَّهَ وَالرَّسُولَ وَتَخُونُوا أَمْنَتِكُمْ  
وَأَنْتُمْ تَعْلَمُونَ

Which means: *O you who have believed, do not betray Allah and the Messenger or betray your trusts while you know [the consequence].*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْءَانِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ الْآيَاتِ  
وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلَ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ  
قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ،  
وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْعَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.