

Love for our Parents

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ سَيِّئَاتِ
أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يُضِلِّ اللَّهُ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.

وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ
وَرَسُولُهُ.

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَأَصْحَابِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ.
أَمَّا بَعْدُ،

فِيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَأُوصِيكُمْ وَإِيَّايَ بِتَقْوَى اللَّهِ، فَقَدْ فَازَ الْمُتَّقُونَ.

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

Dear brothers and sisters,

Indeed, love for our parents is highly commanded in Islam after obedience to Allah and His Messenger. The command for us to love and do good to our parents has been set by Allah the Almighty through His command in chapter 4 (surah an-Nisa) verse 36:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَأَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُوا بِهِ شَيْئًا^ص وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَبِذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ

وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَالْجَارِ ذِي الْقُرْبَىٰ وَالْجَارِ الْجُنُبِ

وَالصَّاحِبِ بِالْجَنبِ وَابْنِ السَّبِيلِ وَمَا مَلَكَتْ أَيْمَانُكُمْ^ظ إِنَّ اللَّهَ لَا

يُحِبُّ مَنْ كَانَ مُخْتَالًا فَخُورًا ﴿٣٦﴾

Which means: *Worship Allah alone and associate none with Him. And be kind to parents, relatives, orphans, the poor, near and distant neighbours, close friends, needy travellers, and those bondspeople in your possession. Surely Allah does not like whoever is arrogant, boastful.*

Allah the Almighty commands all of us to do good and be devoted to our parents. Therefore, those who have surviving parents should do their best to make their parents happy and love them for as long as they are given the opportunity to do so as commanded by Allah and His Messenger. Let us not regret not being able to give our parents love after they are deceased; whereas during their lifetime, we neglect to give them love and devotion.

Remember the message of the Prophet (pbuh) regarding deeds that pleases Allah the Almighty as narrated by Imam Bukhari and Muslim:

أَيُّ الْعَمَلِ أَحَبُّ إِلَى اللَّهِ؟ قَالَ: الصَّلَاةُ عَلَى وَقْتِهَا. قُلْتُ: ثُمَّ أَيُّ؟ قَالَ: بِرُّ

الْوَالِدَيْنِ. قُلْتُ: ثُمَّ أَيُّ؟ قَالَ: الْجِهَادُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ.

Which means: *Abdullah Ibn Mas'ud Radiallahu Anhu said, I asked the Prophet(pbuh): 'What is the practice that Allah likes the most?' He replied, "Praying on time". 'Then what?' I said. He replied, "Do good to both parents". I asked again, 'Then what?'. He replied, "Jihad in the way of Allah."*

Dear brothers and sisters,

Let us reflect on the story of what happened to three young men trapped in a cave, in which the cave's door finally opened because of the good deeds they did and among them doing good to both parents. The Prophet (pbuh) said in a hadith narrated by Imam Bukhari and Muslim r.a. which means: The third young man then said, *"O Lord, my parents were very old, and I used to offer them their nightly drink of milk before my children and the other members of the family. One day I had milked the animals and brought their nightly drink to them. They were fast asleep, but I did not like to disturb them, nor would give any part of the milk to my children and other members of the family till after my parents had their drink. Thus, with the vessel in hand, I awaited their awakening till the flush of dawn, while the children cried out of hunger at my feet. When they woke up, they had their drink. O Lord, if I did this thing seeking only your pleasure, then do relieve us of the distress wrought upon us by this rock"*. Thereupon, the rock moved to let them pass through.

This story is a lesson for us to love our parents more than we love others including our wives and children and friends. Love our parents, and may we be loved by Allah the Almighty in this world and the hereafter.

Dear brothers and sisters,

Indeed, the sacrifices of parents for their children cannot possibly be reciprocated; it can only be repaid by the childrens' devotion and good deeds to their parents especially in their old age. Allah the Almighty said in chapter 17 (surah Al-Isra) verse 23:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا ۚ إِنَّمَا يَبْغُنَّ عِنْدَكَ

الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا أُفٍّ وَلَا نَهْرَهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا

قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا ﴿٢٣﴾

Which means: *For your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And honour your parents. If one or both of them reach old age in your care, never say to them even ‘ugh,’ nor yell at them. Rather, address them respectfully.”*

بَارَكَ اللَّهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ
الْعَلِيمُ. أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ

المُسلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ
الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ.