

LOVE IN ISLAM

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الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ نَحْمَدُهُ وَنَسْتَعِينُهُ وَنَسْتَغْفِرُهُ. وَنَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنْ شُرُورِ أَنْفُسِنَا وَمِنْ
سَيِّئَاتِ أَعْمَالِنَا. مَنْ يَهْدِهِ اللَّهُ فَلَا مُضِلَّ لَهُ وَمَنْ يَضِلَّ فَلَا هَادِيَ لَهُ.
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا
عَبْدَهُ وَرَسُولَهُ.

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 all increase our devotion towards Allah the Almighty by performing all that He has decreed and abstaining from all that He has prohibited. Hopefully, Allah will be pleased with us in this world and in the Hereafter.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Feelings of love and affection between men and women is a part of human nature. Allah the Almighty created men and women to live as loving couples. Allah the Almighty said in the Quran in Chapter 30 (*Surah Ar-Rum*) verse (*ayat*) 21:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَمِنْ آيَاتِهِ أَنْ خَلَقَ لَكُمْ مِنْ أَنْفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً
وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ يَتَفَكَّرُونَ ﴿٥١﴾

Which means: “Another of His signs is that He created spouses from among yourselves for you to live with in tranquility: He ordained love and kindness between you. There truly are signs in this for those who reflect.”

The feeling of love between human beings has great value in Islam. In a *Qudsi Hadith* narrated by Imam Malik, Allah the Almighty said:

Which means: “My love is due to those who love one another for My sake, meet one another for My sake, visit one another for My sake and spend in charity for My sake.”

The feelings of love between a husband and a wife, children and parents, parents and children, among relatives, neighbors and close friends are all given great rewards by Allah. Let us prioritize loving our parents, spouses and children. Remember, Allah the Almighty loves us when we love other human beings.

In fact, any action taken to foster feelings of love and affection is encouraged such as giving gifts to the people we love. The Prophet (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said in a *Hadith* narrated by Imam al-Bukhari:

Which means: “*Give gifts to one another and you will love one another.*”

Such is the beauty of love in Islam that leads us to seek the blessings of Allah the Almighty.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Muslims today are influenced by a culture of love that contradicts Islamic values, such as celebrating Valentine’s Day. Based on the decision of the Pahang State Islamic Law Consultation Committee in 2012, it was determined that “Valentine's Day celebration is illegal and prohibited because it is related to other religions”. The celebration includes elements of Christianity and is mixed with immoral acts that are contradictory to and prohibited by Islam.

Let us together remind our youth to avoid Valentine’s Day celebrations. This celebration is an inappropriate culture adopted from the non-Muslim community. It is undeniable that there will usually be immoral practices which originated from the western society when Valentine’s Day is celebrated.

In our country, many cases of *khalwat* (close proximity) or fornication happen on the eve of Valentine’s Day. Therefore, it is appropriate that we are forbidden to celebrate Valentine’s Day. Remember what the Prophet (PBUH) said in a *Hadith* narrated by Abu Daud:

مَنْ تَشَبَّهَ بِقَوْمٍ فَهُوَ مِنْهُمْ

Which means: “*He who copies any people is one of them.*”

Islam does not forbid the expression of love, but there is no better way to express it than through marriage. The love and affection that are expressed through marriage come with the sense of responsibility and is blessed by Allah the Almighty. For those who have met a suitable partner, it is recommended to get married as soon as possible. The Prophet (PBUH) said in a *Hadith* narrated by Ibn Majah:

Which means: “*There is nothing like marriage, for two who love one another.*”

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May we be able to understand the true meaning of love and avoid getting involved in sin and immorality. Let us advise each other, especially parents with their children, to avoid mixing freely between boys and girls such as being unmarried couples, or girls riding on motorcycles or in cars with non-*mahram* men. Refrain from chatting about topics that may lead to immorality and fornication on social media.

Remember Allah the Almighty’s warning in the Quran in Chapter 17 (*Surah Al-Isra*) verse (*ayat*) 32:

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

وَلَا تَقْرَبُوا الزَّيْنَىٰ إِنَّهُ كَانَ فَحِشَةً وَسَاءَ سَبِيلًا ﴿٣٢﴾

Which means: “And do not go anywhere near adultery (fornication): it is an outrage, and an evil path.”

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