

PARENTS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ -

الحمد لله رب العالمين -
الصلوة والسلام على رسوله الكريم -
وعلى آله وصحبه اجمعين

وعلى كل من تبعهم باحسان الى يوم الدين - اما بعد -

My dear respected brothers and elders,

If a person was to come up to you and give you a present, or a gift or if a person was to carry out a favour for you, then its in the nature of human beings and its a matter of common courtesy that you feel obliged to him. You feel a sense of gratitude towards him. Verbally you'd say thank you and automatically you will start to display signs of appreciation. Your heart will start to create a slight affection and liking for this person. It happens. Its a natural characteristic, that us human beings have.

If that's the case, then what do you think our relationship should be, with those people who have given us the best ever gift? Those people who have not just done one favour for us, not two, not three, but our entire life they've been doing favours for us. What should our relationship be, with those people who gave us, the gift of life?

Allah is the creator, our existence comes from Allah. But its through the means of our parents, our mother, our father, that we have entered into this world. We are an offshoot of their existence. We are the arrows sent forth by our parents. We are the fruits of the garden of their unparalleled affection. Surely what other gift can be better, than the gift of life?

And favours? Who has done more favours for us than our parents? From changing our nappies to wiping our nose. From putting food into our mouth, to dressing us up. From providing us with shelter to taking us to school. What other favours can be better than what our mother and father have done, and are doing right now, even today, right from the day we were born?
and are still doing, even 2 day.

Have we forgotten? Only because today, we're all grown up, strong and healthy, have we forgotten the period in our life, when we were once helpless and weak? Have we forgotten the period in our life, when we were lacking strenght and always in need?

Only because today, we're all grown up and have acquired certain credibility in life, have we forgotten the period in our life when we couldn't even clean up after going to the toilet? Have we forgotten the period in our life when we couldn't eat, or talk, or walk?

Each and every achievement of a person throughtout his life, from the basics all the way until he becomes the biggest lawyer, the best doctor, when the spotlight of fame and the high status post shines on him, the roots, the foundation, all trace back to the hardship, the love, the sacrifice of two golden gems. 2 priceless precious jewels. Your mum and your dad.

Let me remind you of what exactly they have gone through for me and you.

That mother who had to undergo great trials in the phenomenon of our survival.

That mother who had to remain vigilant and protective for 9 whole months carrying us.

That mother who's every week of the month, would make her grow weaker and weaker.

كَلِمَةُ أُمِّهِ وَقَلْبًا عَلَى وَجْهِهِ (31-14)

That mother who's every day of the week, would bring her immense discomfort.

That mother who despite the hardship of carrying another human life around,

... كَلِمَةُ أُمِّهِ كُرْمًا

that very same mother braved through, having to endure and tolerate, agonising, labouring, excruciating pain, the process of delivering us,

وَوُضِعَتْ كُرْمًا (46-15)

so that today, me and you can be sitting here!

similar to 20 bones getting fractured a time

Don't think this was an easy process! ^{It's confirmed that human being can bare up to 745 del units of pain at the time of giving birth, a woman feels up to 57 del of pain.} If anyone here has previously fractured a bone before, will know the pain and how much it can really hurt. A mother ^{of a person who is} during the time of delivering a child feels the same pain ~~as if~~ 20 bones are being fractured and crushed at the same time! This is the pain barrier level she undergoes

Truly speaking, we can never repay the hardship and sacrifice of a mother.

On an occasion, a companion of the prophet, Hadrat Ibn Umar (RA) saw a man performing tawaf with his mother on his back. He was carrying her around on his back. Those days they never had wheelchairs! Anyone who's ever been hajj or umrah and gone around the house of Allah, tawaf, will understand how hard it is. The large crowd, the scorching heat, takes effort, takes time, but this man all the way was carrying his mum on his back and doing tawaf!

So then this man saw Ibn Umar (RA) and asked him, "Have I repaid the debt to my mother, by doing this?" Ibn Umar (RA) replied, "You have not even paid back one twinge of the pain she felt, whilst giving birth to you!"

no complaint no signs of any pain

A mother's love really is unparalleled. No one will give you the same love. Even in the animal kingdom we see this. You try stealing a baby chick from a hen, you see what it starts doing to you! You will see a mother bird tenderly shielding her young ones protecting them.

The first time your mother held you in her arms, imagine, just imagine, the tears of joy and the smile of happiness, that she must have going through.

Even after your birth! The mother handles the task of feeding you. ^{that in case baby wakes up feels hungry} Not an easy task. She needs to remain on standby, sometimes all night long. She goes through sleepless nights so that her child can have sleepfull nights.

Sacrifice! If only we really knew what that word really meant. A story comes to mind

A small girl narrates, "my mum only had one eye. I hated her so much. She was such an embarrassment! If my mates ever came round, then she'll just enter our room and scare my mates away! It looked disgusting. Sometimes I'd even say it in front of her face, "mum, i hate you! Why couldn't you be normal, like everyone else?" I know she would get upset so i would stop shouting but come on, she was ruining my life.

But the day she came into college to look for me, that day i became the angriest ever. "Get lost!" Some of my mates saw her and started laughing and making her. I wish she would just stay home!"

And then that was it! I decided im leaving home, moving out. make my life elsewhere.

Years passed by, i got married and had beautiful children of my own. Life was really good. Sometimes i would remember my mum, but that would just get me angry! Anyway after some time i had to go back to my old town for some job, so afterwards i decided to quickly just go and visit my old mum. I reached my old house and knocked on the door, but a young man opened the house.

"Can I help you?" so i explained everything to him and he said she had passed away along time ago but left a note for her daughter if she ever did return. He went and got me the note, and i started to read it,

"It has been many years, I hope you are good. I am very ill and doctors say due to the illness i may die soon. I want to say im sorry. Really sorry that I was an embarrassment to you. You see, when you were very little, you got into an accident and you lost your eye. As a mother, I couldn't stand watching you having to grow up with only one eye. So I underwent an operation to give you mine. I was really happy, to see my daughter grow up seeing a whole new world, instead of me.

Everytime you shouted and swore at me, i never got upset. I always used to think to myself, maybe it's because she loves me." I miss you". and Love you very much!" As tears flowed down my eyes, my world began to shutter! Then I cried and cried for the person who lived for me. MY MOTHER."

Inspiring, yet heart touching. A mother really is something special. Once a companion asked the prophet, "Who is the most deserving of my fine treatment?" The prophet said, "Your mother." Companion asked, who next. "prophet again replied, "Your mother". Companion asked again, "Prophet replied your mother." And then after saying your mother three times, on the fourth time he replied, "Your father."

However, it doesn't go to say that one shouldn't love his father. Yes, the mother went through three extra stages, Pregnancy, Birth, Breast-feeding, but the father also deserves fine treatment!

- The father who works relentlessly, undergoing every effort so the child doesn't lack anything in life.
- The father who continuously ^{strives to} measure the safety and security of his child.
- The father ^{who is} always engaged in catering for his child.
- When the child becomes ill, in reality it also becomes the illness of a father. Every breath, every smile of his child motivates and pushes him to earn hard for his child's survival.
- The father who dreams, that one day my child will grow up and make me proud. So then he works hard to produce physical educational needs for his child.
- The father, that when it comes down to ~~the word~~ ^{in his} ~~hardship~~ ^{dictates} for his child, the word hardship doesn't exist.

He is a man whom regarding the prophet has said,

رضي الرب في رضى الوالد -
وسخط الرب في سخط الوالد -

We know for certain that paradise lies under the feet of a mother.

Once a companion wanted to go with the prophet on a military expedition. So the prophet asked him, "Is your mother still alive?" He replied yes. Prophet said, Stay with her. Paradise lies under the feet of your mother."

(OK, now we know where paradise is, But, how do you enter it?

If you were to enter a grand hotel or a spectacular mansion, you'd want to enter through the best door? No one wants to really go in through a back door, or through some tight door. Everyone desires to walk in with heads up high, the best door, the highest door, the grand door the middle door. And what did the prophet say, الوالد اوسط ابواب الجنة -

You want paradise? You want eternal bliss? You want forever luxury and comfort?

The means to
means to
attain
this

~~One of the best ways to attain this~~ ^{lies in} is in your very own homes. Your mum and your dad.

Now bearing all this in mind, all their love and sacrifice, we take these two golden gems for granted. We take these 2 jewels and we smash it.

When our parents talk to us, we shout back at them. They tell us to do something, we do the opposite. We slam the door behind them. We swear at them. ~~we show the finger.~~

Despite living in the same house, days will go by, weeks will go by and the parents don't get a chance to see their own children's face! Why?

Straight from school and on the PS3. Straight from work and upstairs on the phone. or straight back out to spend the night with mates.

Allah states in the Quran don't even utter a word of ^{أَفْ} towards them, but today we've made them our slaves! We treat our mother and father ~~as slaves~~ in such a manner that as if they have become our servants!

And it was exactly this the prophet warned us from, that when such a time draws close, ^{then he warned,} the day of judgement is really close.

Think back, when was the last time any of us raised our hands towards the heavens and prayed for their security = ^{-prayed to Allah to forgive them.} prayed to Allah to grant them blessings and good health. When was the last time we prayed,

رَبِّ ارْحَمْهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيْتَنِي صَغِيرًا ۝

"That the way mum and dad showed merciful towards me when i was young, Oh Allah show mercy to them ^{for them,}

Instead of lowering the wings of humility and respect, love and compassion, we look down at them as a burden feeling irritation and annoyance.

A story comes to mind...

A father and his son were sitting on a bench in their back garden. His son all grown up, well educated was sat reading a book, whilst his father was quietly observing the scenery of his garden.

Later on the father saw a crow fly onto around the trees and then the crow perched on a certain branch of a tree.

The father looked at his son and asked him, whilst pointing at the bird, "What is that?" The son looked up and calmly replied, "it a crow," and went back to reading. After a minute or so the father asked his son, "What is that?" again pointing at that same bird. "Dad, its a crow!" the son was smiling.

Again after another minute the father asked again. the son replied. Fourth time he again asked the same question. The son was now feeling a bit annoyed and when he replied, some statement of irritation was felt. "It's a crow!"

After another minute, the dad asked the SAME question! This time the son couldn't hack it! he replied with a tone of anger, "Why are you always repeating the same question!? It's a crow dad! Blimey! Don't you understand?"

The father didn't say anything. Kept quiet. He silently got up from his seat and went inside. Soon after he came back with a photo ^{diary} album. He sat next to his son and opened the ~~album~~ ^{diary}. "You know when you were a child, whilst playing in the garden, a crow sat on a branch. And you asked me, "dad what is that?" and I answered back. Not once, not twice, but 25 times! you asked! And I replied each time. And ~~one~~ ^{every} time i felt affection for my innocent child. Not even once did i feel irritated or annoyed.

And what is our state today?

The importance of obeying and respecting your parents really, i dont know how much i can stress on it. It is so important that wherever it mentions that you should be good towards your parents in the same sentence and verse Allah says, "dont worship anyone else but me!" *

This really does reflect the importance of this subject. Where it talks about ~~ta'awud~~ ^{ta'awud} it talks about parents.

And if someone does disobey, be rude to their parents then the level of sin is in the same wavelength of killing someone or stealing or committing adultery or fornication. It is regarded as a major sin.

Allah (SWT) keeps on repeating ordering us to be good with our parents.

• ووصينا الانسان بوالديه احسانا (29:8)

• ان اشكرن ولو الديق (31:14)

• ووصينا الانسان بوالديه احسانا (46:15)

* لا تعبدون الا الله والوالدين احسانا (2:83)

• وعبدوا الله ولا تشرقوا به شيئا وبالوالدين احسانا (4:36)

• قل تعالوا اتل ما نزل من ربكم عليكم ان لا تشرقوا (6:151)

• لا تعبدوا الا اياهم وبالوالدين احسانا (17:23)

The reward and virtues that await for that person, really says something!

Ibn Abbas (RA) narrates that the prophet said,

Those that treat their parents well, each time they look at their parents with love, Allah writes for him the same reward as an accepted Hajj!

(The companions asked, what about if you keep looking at them 100 times a day.

The prophet replied, "Allah is great!"

Imagine, accepted Hajj reward! ~~Forget~~ applying for visa and buying tickets long process the same reward is waiting for you at home! But us, never mind smiling at them, we don't even get time to look at them!!)

(In another hadeeth the prophet says that the person who treats his parents well, on the day of Judgement he will be under the shade of the Throne of Allah on what will be the most hottest day anyone will ever experience.)

Allah (SWT) gives easy death and paradise to three type of people, who have 3 certain qualities, and one of them is a person who shows affection to his parents.

(On an occasion, Ibn Masud (RA) asked the prophet, "Which deed is the most beloved to Allah? Prophet replied, "Observing prayer on time. Being dutiful to ones parents". Imagine in the sight of Allah being good to your parents is seen as a beloved action of a person!)

If we have parents who have grown old and weak, then there has never been a more better time to seize the opportunity to make Allah and your parents happy. Helping them, serving them, fulfilling their needs should now be the duty of a child. The way your parents took care of you when you was a child, now its your turn to look after them. Never ever consider them as a burden.

if u show
dont
care
attitude!

As the saying goes... "As you sow, so will you reap." You do your part, show kindness to your parents, in the future, when you grow up, get married and have children, your children will do the same for you. On the other hand, you show disrespect, be rude now, then when your old, and your child does the same to you, there will be none else to blame but yourself.

(Our lives are an extension of our parents, and our children will be the extension of ours. The lineage will carry on. The progeny will continue. Future generations will come by, with an everlasting effect of what our behaviour is, today.)

You know, reality will strike when you yourself become a father or a mother. It will be then when it hits you. When you have to start staying awake all night for your child, when you have to go out and earn for your little ones and you start to find it difficult, you'll realise, only then, that, "this is exactly what our parents had to go through!"

The beauty of our religion is, that Allah and his messenger has left nothing unanswered. There is a solution to everything in Islam.

If we are unfortunate, and Allah swt has taken our parents into the next life, granted them death before us, doesn't mean the child can't do anything about it. No! We can also show kindness to our parents who have passed away.

unfortunate

Once a man asked the prophet, "Is there any kindness left that I can do to my parents after their death?" The prophet said "yes". Invoice blessings on them, carry out their final instructions after death, join ties of relationship which were dependent on them and honour their friend. From time to time one should visit their graves, ^{like 2 time} give charity in their name and on their behalf. One can compensate for any prayer or fast they might have missed out. You know, there is still so much a person can do. Pray and ask forgiveness for them. Fulfill their pledges. Make dua for 'em. Allah ~~gave~~ has granted us the best weapon, Dua. Use it! Pray to Allah to shower his mercy on them.

There is a man who passed away, and then was given a really high position in Paradise. He got surprised. "How did I attain this?"

Allah says to him, "It's because your son prayed for your forgiveness.

When a person dies all his deeds come to an end, except three. If the deceased left some sort of ongoing charity, or beneficial knowledge behind. And also if he left behind a righteous child. That child's dua for his parents will carry on, carry on raising the ranks of his parents in Paradise.

We should never take for granted things most closest to our hearts. ^{A day might come} Just one day we'll either be cherishing the thoughts or maybe crying with remorse and regret crying out, If only, If only.

A touch to the face in times of stress and illness and fear. The warmth of a loving mother's voice, the tender care and deep warm hugs, the safety and security provided by a father, cherish these moments and store them in the album of your heart.

Put enough time aside so you can at least sit down with them, even if it's only for 2 minutes throughout the day and just have a warm conversation with them.

"Mum how are you? ask them of their well-being. Listen to what your mother has to say.

"Dad, how's your work?" They might not show it, but by you just asking them they will be overwhelmed with joy and happiness deep inside. Always offer and extend a helping hand.
 at least my child is ^{acknowledging my presence.} cares to my well being

Remember, each smile of theirs really is like the sunshine. You see the sun shining brightly and suddenly it gets covered by clouds. Sometimes yes, our parents will get angry.

They might shout at us, scold us, but you know just like behind the clouds the sun carries on shining, ^(it will never stop shining) similarly ^{behind a} father's anger and a mother's scolding there is in reality, love, tenderness, wisdom and a lesson. Take it calmly. You might think otherwise but parents always think in the best interest of their child.

Differences in opinions and thoughts will exist. But they should never be obstacles and reasons for us to disobey our parents. In all cases we must follow their orders.

The most patient and forgiving people on earth are your parents. If the whole world was to turn against you and call you bad, your parents will stand strong next to you, supporting you all the way. They have the sensitivity to love ^{their} child in all circumstances.

If a question was to arise, who is the most strongest in the world?

Then who else has the strength to carry the world on their shoulders for their child?

And then if the question was to arise, who is the most gentle in the world?

Then who else has the gentleness to provide comfort and help through the anxieties and problems in life?

Truly speaking, we might have everything. Everything in the world. But to our parents, we are, their world. A fact, general fact. Nothing to do with religion. Nothing to do with culture. Just a normal general human civilisation fact, that there is no one on earth that will love you more than your parents.

In the future, if, if by mistake we do end up upsetting them, then just think. Think for a moment of what has been said today and ponder over ~~the~~ today's speech. R you really going to take out your anger management problems on your parents? R you really going to give preference to your friends than your parents? R you really ready to earn the anger and curse of Allah? Remember, it's not always necessary for parents to shed a tear to cry. Because sometimes, just sometimes they cry ^{ever} louder, which only their own heart can hear. _{but in their heart}

Honestly, we don't need only one day throughout the whole year just to make our parents feel special! ~~As~~ ^{for} Muslims, a fathers day and a mothers day is in reality, everyday.

- if ~~is~~ ^{our} parents ~~into~~ can hold our hands and teach us the first steps ^{in life. teaches how to walk, how to eat, how to talk, how to read, how to write, how to think, how to love, how to be a good person, how to be a good Muslim.}

→ if our parents have been the first step and the stepping stone for our success today, then let us not forget them look back at that first step. you might be on the 200th step so take them with you up the staircase of your life.