***The Family***

***Written by:***

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**(1)**

**Allah said: "O you who believe, save yourselves and your families from a Fire."**

Moqatil said: "This is a duty upon a man for his soul, his children, his family, and his slaves, men and women.

The rule of parents and individuals of the family is to adopt means that will help them upright their world and Hereafter by Allah's permission.

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**(2)**

**Ibn 'Umar may Allah be pleased with them reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "Beware, every one of you is a shepherd and everyone is answerable with regard to his flock. A man is a guardian over the members of his family and shall be questioned about them. A woman is a guardian over the household for her husband and his children and shall be questioned about them." (Agreed Upon)**

This Hadith refers to the responsibility of the father and the mother and other individuals of the family. It also shows the necessity of their banding together and their cooperation.

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**(3)**

**Ibn 'Umar may Allah be pleased with them said: "The Messenger of Allah peace be upon him never failed to say these words in the morning and the evening: O Allah, I ask you for well-being in this world and the Next. O Allah, I ask you for pardon and well-being in my religious and worldly affairs, and my family and my wealth …"**

This supplication is among the more beneficial means to protect the family.

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**(4)**

**Allah said: "Enjoin prayer on your people, and be patient in offering them."**

Abdullah bin Qurt reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "The first thing for which the Muslim will be brought to account on the Day of Resurrection will be the prayer. If it is perfect, his other deeds will be perfect; and if it is imperfect, his other deeds will be imperfect." (Narrated by At-Tabrany)

Prayer is like the heart; upon which righteousness or corruption are based. Thus the educator should care for bringing his family up the prayer as prayer restrains from shameful and unjust deeds.

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**(5)**

**Allah said: "And those who supplicate: Our Lord, grant unto us wives and offspring who will be the comfort of our eyes."**

O parents! Depend on prayer and supplication for your family as this is the reason for the success of the family.

Allah said, narrating about Abraham peace be upon him: "O my Lord, make me one who establishes regular prayer, and also (raise such) among my offspring, our Lord, and accept my prayer (supplication)."

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**(6)**

**Allah said: "And women of purity are for men of purity, and men of purity are for women of purity."**

This is the beginning point for the family to lead a good life; whenever the parents are righteous, their life will be good, and their righteousness will be reason for righteousness of their children as they (the parents) are their role model. Allah has protected the two youths, and the reason for that was: "Their father had been a righteous man."

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**(7)**

**Allah said: "There did Zakaria pray to his Lord, saying: O my Lord, grant unto me from You a progeny that is pure: for You are He that hears prayer."**

A Muslim prays much to his Lord to grant him the righteous, pure and blessed progeny, and to help him get a righteous wife. He also continues in praying after marriage and after getting children, for preparation and providence are from Allah.

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**(8)**

**Ibn Abbas may Allah be pleased with them reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "If anyone amongst you intends to have (sexual intercourse) with his wife, he should say: 'By the Name of Allah, O Allah, keep us away from Satan and keep Satan away from the one You have bestowed upon us,' and if He has ordained a child for them, Satan will never be able to do any harm to him." (Agreed Upon)**

Ibn Abbas also narrated: The Prophet peace beupon him used to seek refuge with Allah for Al-Hasan and Al-Husain, and say: "Your father (Abraham) used to seek refuge with Allah for Isma'il and Ishaq by reciting the following: O Allah, I seek refuge with Your Perfect Words from every devil and from poisonous pests and from every evil, harmful, envious eye."

Seeking refuge with Allah is a means of protecting the family.

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**(9)**

**Allah said: "For each (such person) there are (angles) in succession, before and behind him: They guard him by command of Allah."**

Adherence to reciting prayers, supplications, and morning and evening supplications is a means of man's protection for himself and his family, and keeping away from every evil of evil people, so they are guided by command of Allah, while they are awakening and sleeping, from Jinn, human, pests, magic, envious eye, diseases, psychological and healthful problems, and so on. And this is a means of comforting the family.

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**(10)**

**Abu Umamah may Allah be pleased with him reported: I heard the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him saying: "Allah has appointed for everyone who has a right what is due to him."**

Among the means of tranquility and happiness of a family are that each individual should perform his duty towards the other, of a father, mother, husband, wife, daughters' husbands, servants, and so one; and that they should advise each other; and that they should join together in the mutual teaching of Truth and of Patience and Constancy.

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**(11)**

**Abdullah bin Abbas may Allah be pleased with them reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "There are two blessings in which many people incur loss. (They are) health and free time (for doing good)." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari)**

Success of the family is based on making use of these two blessings in doing ambitious scientific and professional projects that benefit individuals of the family, young and old, and that lack joint planning and modern education means.

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**(12)**

**Jabir reported: I heard the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him saying: "When a man enters his house and mention Allah's Name on entering and on his food, the devil says to his companions: 'You have no place to spend the night and no evening meal'; but when he enters without mentioning Allah's Name on entering, the devil says: 'You have found a place to spend the night', and when he does not mention Allah's name at his food, he says: 'You have found a place to spend the night and an evening meal." (Narrated by Muslim)**

Supplications and etiquettes during businesses of day and night; such as supplications of food, drink, hospitality, sleeping, latrine, wearing clothes, and so on, and teaching them to individuals of the family, these supplications and etiquettes are means of their happiness and tranquility, and of protecting them from evil and harm of devils.

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**(13)**

**Al-Aghar Abu Muslim said: I witness that Abu Hurairah and Abu Saeed Al-Khudri witnessed that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "When a group of people assemble for remembrance of Allah, the angles surround them (with their wings), (Allah's) mercy envelopes them, tranquility descends upon them, and Allah makes a mention of them before those who are near Him." (Narrated by Muslim)**

Assembling of individuals of the family for a scientific or sermonic lesson that contains remembrance of Allah is a great means of tranquility of their hearts, peace of their souls, attendance of the angles at their assembly, and getting out of the devils from their houses.

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**(14)**

**Ali reported that Fatimah complained of the suffering caused to her by the hand mill, so she asked the Prophet peace be upon him for a servant. Thereupon, the Prophet peace be upon him said: "Shall I teach you a thing which is better than what you have asked me? When you go to bed, say: 'God is Greatest' thirty-four times, and 'Glory be to Allah' thirty-three times, and 'Praise be to Allah' thirty-three times, for that is better for you both than a servant." (Agreed upon)**

This shows that adherence of individuals of the family to say these supplications brings them strength and power. Each shall know that free time is a suitable climate of Devilish insinuation.

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**(15)**

**Ma'qil bin Yasar may Allah be pleased with him reported: I heard the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him saying: "Any man whom Allah has given the authority of ruling some people and he does not look after them in an honest manner, he will never feel even the smell of Paradise." (Agreed Upon)**

In another narration: "If any ruler having the authority to rule Muslims subjects dies while he is deceiving them, Allah will forbid Paradise for him." (Agreed Upon)

It is a duty upon father and mother towards individuals of their family to exert their efforts to bring them up on an Islamic manner, and to purify their house from means of corruption and destruction, and to do their best to bring good and to remove evil.

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**(16)**

**Allah said: "Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allah has given the one more (strength) than the other, and because they support them from their means."**

Knowing legal rights and duties between the spouses and children, boys and girls, and avoiding mixing and doubling these rights and duties, and understanding the nature of each other; all these are means of success. Guardianship is upon man, whether he is a sane father, husband or brother. And woman has rights similar to the rights against them, according to what is equitable. But man has a degree of advantage over the woman for the superiority his nature. And the best men are those who are best to their wives, and being patient upon crookedness of woman is a legal order.

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**(17)**

**Allah said: "Serve Allah, and join not any partners with Him; and do good to parents, kinsfolk, orphans, those in need, neighbors who are near, neighbors who are strangers, the companion by your side, the wayfarer (you meet), and what your right hands possess."**

The main reason for happiness and association of the family is to perform well worship to Allah and dealing with Him, and then with those you live with, live beside and make friendship with; of parents, children, relatives, spouses, fellow wives, stepdaughters, wives of your sons, brothers and sons-in-law, fathers and mothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, daughters-in-law, servants, and so on.

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**(18)**

**Al-Nu'man bin Bashir may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Fear Allah, and act equally between your children." (Agreed Upon)**

Acting equally between children is a means of tranquility, association and sympathy of the family. While being unjust in dealing with children is a reason for dissociation, disagreement and worrying dispute. Allah said: "You know not whether your parents or your children are nearest to you in benefit."

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**(19)**

**Abu Hurairah reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "When a man has two wives and he is not just between them, he will come on the Day of Judgment with one side drooping."**

Being just in dealing with wives is a main issue for tranquility of family life. While tending to one of the wives is a main reason for causing worries, disputes, hostilities, dissociation and enmity between wives (fellow wives) and children, especially between consanguine brothers or uterine brothers.

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**(20)**

**Allah said: "And obey Allah and His Messenger; and fall into no disputes, lest you lose heart and power depart; and be patient and preserving: For Allah is with those who patiently preserve."**

Strong and long discordance between individuals of the family removes harmony, and it is a reason for failure and weakness of the family. Thus individuals of the family should be coincide with each other, and should leave disputes to be united, to join their opinion, to strengthen them, and not to be separated.

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**(21)**

**Allah said: "Hold to forgiveness; command what is right; but turn away from the ignorant. \* If a suggestion from Satan assail your (mind), seek refuge with Allah; for He hearth and knows (all things). \* Those who fear Allah, when a thought of evil from Satan assaults them, bring Allah to remembrance, and (indeed) they then see (aright)."**

What is this great manner in the life of a Muslim! This manner should be the first thing that a person should apply with individuals of his family to gain them.

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**(22)**

**Allah said: "Those who restrain anger, and pardon (all) men; for Allah loves those who do good."**

Ibn 'Umar reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "The most beloved people to Allah are those who benefit others. and the most beloved deeds to Allah is a pleasure you bring to a Muslim by removing his trouble, or repaying his debt, or drive hunger away from him. And to help a brother fulfil his need is more beloved to me than to stay for worship in this Masjid (Masjid in Madinah) for a month. And whoever restrains his anger, while he can carries it out, then Allah will fill his heart with satisfaction on the Day of Judgment. And whoever helps his brother (in religion) fulfill his need, then Allah will make his feet firm on the Day when feet slip."

The more appropriate field to apply these manners for is the family, and the kinfolk is more deserving than stranger; and there is a reward for each of that.

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**(23)**

**Abu Hurairah reported that a person said: "Allah's Messenger, who amongst the people is most deserving of my good treatment?" He (the Prophet) said: "It is your mother, again your mother, again your mother, then your father, and then your nearest relatives according to the order (of nearness)." (Narrated by Muslim)**

The most deserving people of your good manner, good deeds, charitable deeds, generosity, affection, kindness, smile, and good word are individuals of your family according to their grades. But the fortune of some people towards his family are misfortune, adversity, impoliteness, rudeness, frowning, and greed; we seek refuge with Allah from these things.

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**(24)**

**Allah said: "Whoever works righteousness, man or woman, and has Faith, verily, to him will We give a new Life, a life that is good and pure."**

By educating the family, disciplining its individuals upon Faith and righteous deed, and bringing them upon the Islamic manner to perform obligatory prayers regularly, to provide themselves with supererogatory acts, to practice values and principles of Islam, not to exceed limits of Allah, and not to violate His prohibitions; by doing these matters, their life will be pleasant and good.

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**(25)**

**Allah said: "If anyone withdraws himself from remembrance of (Allah) Most Gracious, We appoint for him an evil one, to be an intimate companion to him."**

Whosoever turns away from remembrance of Allah, His promise and His threat, then a cursed Satan will accompany him to misguide, seduce, make their (sinful) acts seem alluring to that person, make corruption endeared to him, and keep him away from good until he will become a devil like it. Such person is enough to turn the life of his family upside down; from happiness to misery. How about if all individuals of the family turns away from remembrance of Allah! Then the house will be a shelter of (human) devils and psychological crises will increase.

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**(26)**

**Allah said: "We send down (stage by stage) in the Qur'an that which is a healing and a mercy to those who believe."**

Qur'an is a healing, for it guides to that which is most right, it contains knowledge that removes ignorance, it is full of guiding, useful instructions that keep hearts firm, it is the Ruqayya from magic, envious eye, Jinn, and psychological diseases, and it contains all solutions and relievers for all various family problems.

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**(27)**

**Al-Miqdad bin Ma'dikarib may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Beware! I have been given the Qur'an and something like it."**

The Sunnah is like the Qur'an which is a healing for the diseases in the heats and guidance. Prophetic Hadith contain solutions to all family problems. So he who does not seek healing by the Qur'an and the Sunnah, may Allah does not heal him.

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**(28)**

**Abdullah bin Amr may Allah be pleased with them reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Successful is the one who enters the fold of Islam and is provided with sustenance which is sufficient for his day's need, and Allah makes him content with what He has bestowed upon him." (Narrated by Muslim)**

Satisfaction is an effective and strong instrument; whoever feels satisfaction with his self and his family in all affairs of life, he will gain tranquility and happiness. An example of content perspective is what 'Ubaidellah bin Mehsan reported about the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him who said: "Whosoever begins the day feeling family security and good health; and possessing provision for his day is as though he possessed the whole world." (Narrated by At-Tirmidhi who graded it as good)

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**(29)**

**Ibn Masood may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Shall I not tell you whom the (Hell) Fire is forbidden to touch? It is forbidden to touch a man who is always having polite and tender nature, near (to people) and easy (to deal with)."**

Understanding of the individuals of family to this Hadith, and practicing the principle of tolerance and forgiveness make their association strong and contribute in permanence of their love and continuation of their warm relation.

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**(30)**

**Abu Hurairah may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "May I inform you of something, if you do, you love each other. Promote greeting amongst you." (Narrated by Muslim)**

Ata' Al-Khorasani reported that the Prophet said: "Shake hands and rancor will disappear; give presents to each other and you will love each other and enmity will disappear."

Among means that contribute in association and union of the family are that its individuals should practice the principle of greeting, checking hands, communication, visits, and exchanging presents.

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**(31)**

**Mu'awyah may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Goodness is a (natural) habit."**

Abdullah bin Masood may Allah be pleased with him said: "Bring your children upon goodness, for goodness is a natural habit." Abu Hurairah may Allah be pleased with him also said: "Habituate yourselves to goodness."

It is a dutiful matter and a good way of education to bring individuals of the family upon good habits and religious and worldly beautiful manners; including respecting and appreciating each other, cooperation, volunteering, joking, and asking about each other and about their states.

It was said that a person grows upon what his father habituate him to.

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**(32)**

**Anas bin Malik may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "None amongst you believes (truly) until he loves for his brother (in religion) that which he loves for himself." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Muslim)**

In another narration for Ahmed: "… and until he hates for him that which he hates for himself."

If this speech is directed to brothers in religion, then how about brothers of religion and uterine!

Such values should be planted in the souls of brothers and sisters, and all brotherly heart deeds and manifestations of manhood should also be planted in their souls.

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**(33)**

**Abdullah bin Abbas may Allah be pleased with him reported: One day I was riding behind the Prophet peace be upon him, and he said: "O boy, shall I teach you some words that Allah will benefit you with?" I said: "Yes." He (the Prophet) said: "Be mindful of Allah, and He will protect you. Be mindful to Allah, and you will find Him with you. Get close to Allah at times of ease, and He will get close to you at times of adversity. When you ask (for anything), ask it from Allah; and when you seek help, seek help from Allah. The Pen had dried up (i.e. it wrote what is decreed and nothing will be changed). If all creation wants to benefit you with something that Allah has not decreed for you, they will not be able to do that; and if they want to harm you with something that Allah has not decreed against you, they will not be able to do that. Know that there is much good in being patient upon what you dislike. And know that victory comes with ease, relief with affliction, and ease with adversity."**

This Hadith is a guide and an approach in the life, when these words are inscribed in the hearts of individuals of the family, and when they recite them at each event.

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**(34)**

**Allah said: "Those who, when they spend, are not extravagant and not niggardly, but hold a just (balance) between those (extremes)."**

Allah also said: "Make not your hand tied (like a niggard's) to your neck, nor stretch it forth to its utmost reach."

Niggardliness is half of living way, and he does not become poor, who is niggardly. Extravagance reflects weakness of mind and lack of measuring, and niggardliness reflects lack of religion; for spending is a reason for sustenance, and niggardliness is a reason for destruction. Awareness of individuals of the family of this matter, and their understanding to the skill of saving, trade, investment, and being not in need to people are means of family success.

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**(35)**

**Allah said: "Are those equal, those who know and those who do not know?"**

Education and learning raise the grade of man. So, O father, do not neglect to teach your family their religious and worldly interests, and arrangements of their scientific and professional life affairs. Abu Hurairah reported that the Prophet said: "I am like father to you, and I teach you.

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**(36)**

**Abdullah bin Amr may Allah be pleased with them reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "It is a sufficient sin for a man that he neglects him whom he maintains."**

It is a duty upon a father to spend upon his wife and children, and upon those who are under his guardianship. And a mother shall prepare all what her family needs of food, clothes and so on. There are parents who neglect to secure necessities of the house and needs of their children because of their recurrent travelling and spending most night outside the house.

An antecedent said to his students: "If I knew that my children need a seed of a carrot, I would not sit with you (until I would fulfil their need)."

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**(38)**

**Sa'd bin Abi Waqas may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "You would better leave your inheritors wealthy than leave them poor, begging of people." (Agreed Upon)**

It is a dutiful matter that a man shall earn money by lawful means for his family, fulfil their need and make them be in no need to ask people. It is reported that the Prophet said: "Sound property is very excellent for a sound man." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari)

Thus a positive thought of head of a family is to make an endowment that would benefit his family after his death.

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**(38)**

**Allah said: "Verily, before that, they were indulged in luxury."**

Allah said about those who deny the Truth: "And on whom We had bestowed the good things of this life."

Allah has dispraised indulging in luxury and those who are indulged in it as the result of that is ungratefulness, arrogance and disobedience, and its end is punishment. Thus whoever Allah has increased his sustenance, he should show the sign of Bounties, for Allah is Beautiful, and He loves beauty, praise and thankfulness. And He (Allah) does not love excess in indulging in luxury, exceeding the limits of Allah, neglecting His obligations, and violating His prohibitions.

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**(39)**

**Abu Hurairah may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "Verily, Allah likes three things for you: that you worship Him and associate not anything with Him, that you hold fast the rope of Allah and be not scattered, and that you give good counsel to the one to whom Allah gives command over you." (Narrated by Muslim)**

Association and union of a family are means of its success and strength. It is reported that the Prophet said: "Verily, Satan is with one, and he is further away from two." In another Hadith: "Allah's Hand (aid) is with groups of people."

This Hadith also refers to introducing advice to the father and others.

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**(40)**

**Allah said in the story of Dawood peace be upon him: "This man is my brother: He has nine and ninety ewes, and I have (but) one: Yet he says, 'commit her to my care,' and he is (moreover) harsh to me in speech. \* (Dawood or David) said: 'He (your brother) has undoubtedly wronged you in demanding your (single) ewe to be added to his (folk of) ewes: truly many are the partners (in business) who wrong each other: Not so do those who believe and work deeds of righteousness, and how few are they?' "**

You should avoid partnership with your brothers in properties, responsibilities and tasks as possible, for this partnership almost causes family discordances and disputes, except if it (partnership) is clear, précised, with discretion and kindness.

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**(41)**

**Allah said: "Verily in Joseph and his brothers are signs for seekers (after truth). \* They said: 'Truly Joseph and his brother are loved more by our father than we: But we are a goodly body! Really our father is obviously in error. \* Slay you Joseph or cast him out to some (unknown) land, that so the favor of your father may be given to you alone: (there will be time enough) for you to be righteous after that'."**

Jealousy and sensitiveness between children is severe. Thus parents shall be precise in dealing with them in order that a child does not feel that he is less than his brother in love or treatment. The parents may fall into error when they prefer the last child over others.

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**(42)**

**Allah said: "Recite to them the truth of the story of the two sons of Adam. Behold, they each presented a sacrifice (to Allah): It was accepted from one, but not from the other. Said the latter: 'Be sure, I will slay you' …"**

It is a duty upon parents to plant piety in the hearts of siblings, and to seek to instill the spirt of brotherhood, closeness, love, affection, and sacrifice between them in order that Satan does not excite rebuked competition, selfishness, greed and love of preoccupation between them, for the results of these matters are disgraced, and the end may be committing crimes.

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**(43)**

**Anas may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "You should not wrong one another." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari and Ibn Majah)**

Oppression and aggression are forbidden, whether they are little or much. And unfortunately, they may happen between individuals of a family. They (oppression and aggression) may occur from wife of a daughter towards the mother of her husband, from a mother towards the wife of her son, from a sister towards the wife of her brother and vice versa, and from wife of a father towards the children of her husband and vice versa. And oppression will turn into excessive darkness on the Day of Resurrection."

Allah said: "Fear Allah, and keep straight the relations between yourselves."

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**(44)**

**Jabir bin Abdullah reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "Do not invoke curses on yourselves, and do not invoke curses on your children, and do not invoke curses on your servants, and do not invoke curses on your property, lest you happen to do it at a time when Allah is asked for something and grants your request." (Narrated by Muslim and Abu Dawood)**

In another narration for Muslim: "Do not supplicate for yourselves anything but good, for angles say 'Amen (O Allah, accept the supplication)' to what you say."

Among great reasons for righteousness and success of a family is to supplicate good for it, and among reasons for its destruction is to supplicate evil for it.

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**(45)**

**Abu Hurairah reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "He who desires ample provisions and his life be prolonged, he should maintain good ties with his blood relations." (Narrated by Al-Bukhari)**

Keeping good ties between individuals of a family is a successful project in the world and the Hereafter, so keep good ties with each other, even if you are living in one house, by sitting with each other, choosing good words, giving presents, gathering regularly, and being aware of disagreement because of quarrels between young children and because of sensibility between women.

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**(46)**

**Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Prophet peace be upon him said: "The relationship of a believer with another believer is like (the bricks of) a building, each strengthens the other." He (the Prophet) illustrated this by interlacing the fingers of both his hands. (Agreed Upon)**

The more deserving people who should apply this Hadith are individuals of a family by helping each other in their religious and worldly affairs; a brother should stand beside his brother and sister, a son beside his father, a father beside his son, and so on. They should support each other.

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**(47)**

**Al-Nu'man bin Bashir may Allah be pleased with him reported that the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him said: "The believers in their mutual kindness, compassion and sympathy are just like one body. When one of the limbs suffers, the whole body responds to it with wakefulness and fever." (Agreed Upon)**

Individuals of a family are in a great need to this Prophetic guidance. They should be like one body; feeling pains and worries of each other, like one group; feeling love, mercy, sympathy, and affection towards each other.

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