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ففيهما فجاهد

Kindness to PARENTS

By

Abdul-Malik bin Muhammad
Ibn Abdur-Rahman Al-Qasim

Translated by

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In the Name of Allâh
the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

"And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of disrespect, nor shout at them but address them in terms of honor. And lower unto them the wing of submission and humility through mercy, and say: 'My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was young.' Your Lord knows best what is in your inner selves. If you are righteous, then, verily, He is Ever Most Forgiving to those who turn unto Him again and again in obedience, and in repentance." (17:23-25)

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Publishers Note

All the praises and thanks are due to Allâh, the *Rubb* of the worlds, and may Allâh exalt the mention of the Prophet Muhammad, the chosen, the trustworthy, and the mention of his Household and all of his Companions.

'*Kindness to Parents*' is very enlightening booklet by Abdul-Malik Al-Qasim, a renowned religious scholar and an expert of Arabic language. Kindness to Parents and relatives is lightly recommended in Islam.

Islam is the greatest favor of Allâh with which He has distinguished humankind to pay his or her duty in all aspects of Islamic culture, especially about parents and relatives. There are many *Ayât* and *Ahadith* (sayings of the Prophet ﷺ) and good advices from the *Salaf* that it is the duty of every Muslim to value his or her parents and encourage to pay respect to them. This cannot be accomplished without understanding all the aspects of religion, which should be based on the Qur'ân and the *Sunnah*. Allâh says:

> "Give thanks to Me and to your parents." (31:14)

In addition, He said:

> "And say: 'My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was young.'" (17:24)

The Messenger of Allâh ﷺ said:

> "There are three types of supplications that will not be rejected (by Allâh): the supplication of the parent with regards to his offspring, the supplication of a fasting person and the supplication of a traveler." (*Sahih Al-Jâmi'*)

From our *Salaf*, Mujahid also commented:

> "If the parents grow old and end up urinating and answering the call of nature on themselves, do not feel disgusted or say *Uff* to them. Rather, remove the urine and feces from them, just as they used to do when you were young without feeling disgust in doing that for you."

In view of its importance, Darussalam has rendered this booklet into the English language with prior permission from the author. Brother Jalal Abualrub accepted the task of translation, and performed it very well.

Finally, I am grateful to all brothers who have contributed in bringing about this valuable book. May Allâhaccept our sincere efforts regarding the propagation of His religion throughout the world —*Âmin*!

Abdul Malik Mujahid
General Manager

Introduction

All thanks are due to Allâh, Who has created everything, and then proportioned it, and Who has measured preordainments for everything and then guided mankind the right as well as the wrong paths. And may Allâh's peace and blessings be on the most honorable Prophet and Messenger, who perfectly fulfillled his mission in statement, deed, good conduct and kindness.

In obedience to the Command of Allâh, the Exalted and Ever-High, the believers are to help each other in righteousness and piety, as well as give sincere advice to all Muslims. Therefore, I dedicated to the commandment that Allâh gave to His slaves to be kind, forbearing, generous, obedient and dutiful to their parents.

In this book, I collected several stories and narrations that demonstrate the kindness and *Birr* (being dutiful) of our righteous *Salaf*[1] towards their parents, and their striving hard to satisfy their parents' needs and necessities, in obedience to Allâh's worship in sincerity.

Between the lines contained in this book, there is a kind word, a sigh of pain from a bleeding heart and a hot tear that falls down the cheek. Adding to the power of this subject and the soft emotions it stirs, I included several of the honorable *Ahadith* that should soften the heart, dissolve hardness, dissipate heedlessness and give parents

[1] The *Salaf* are the Companions of the Prophet ﷺ, the *Tabi'in* (second generation) and the *Tabb Tabi'in* (third generation of Islam), the best people as the Prophet ﷺ described them in authentic *Ahadith*.

their due honor and respect. This book also exposes the shortcoming and error of many among us who do not preserve the rights of their parents.

We ask Allâh to extend our delight in our parents' life, raise their grades, elevate their status, reward them generously, grant them dwelling in the High Paradise, and gather us and them in the Garden of Eden. In it, there is what no eye has ever seen, no ear has ever heard and no heart has ever imagined of delights.

Abdul-Malik bin Muhammad
Ibn Abdul-Rahman Al-Qasim

Dutiful to your Parents

Allâh, the Exalted and the Most Honored said in His Noble Qur'ân:

﴿وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوٓا۟ إِلَّآ إِيَّاهُ وَبِٱلْوَٰلِدَيْنِ إِحْسَٰنًا ۚ إِمَّا يَبْلُغَنَّ عِندَكَ ٱلْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَآ أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُل لَّهُمَآ أُفٍّ وَلَا تَنْهَرْهُمَا وَقُل لَّهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا ۝ وَٱخْفِضْ لَهُمَا جَنَاحَ ٱلذُّلِّ مِنَ ٱلرَّحْمَةِ وَقُل رَّبِّ ٱرْحَمْهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِى صَغِيرًا ۝ رَّبُّكُمْ أَعْلَمُ بِمَا فِى نُفُوسِكُمْ ۚ إِن تَكُونُوا۟ صَٰلِحِينَ فَإِنَّهُۥ كَانَ لِلْأَوَّٰبِينَ غَفُورًا﴾ [الإسراء: ٢٣-٢٥]

"And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him, and that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them *Uff* ('Fie', a word of disrespect), nor shout at them but address them in terms of honor. And lower unto them the wing of submission and humility through mercy, and say: "My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was young." Your Lord knows best what is in your inner-selves. If you are righteous, then, verily, He is Ever Most Forgiving to those who turn unto Him again and again in obedience, and in repentance." (17:23-25)

Ad-Daylami narrated that Al-Husain bin 'Ali رضى الله عنهما narrated that the Prophet ﷺ said:

«لَوْ عَلِمَ اللهُ شَيْئًا مِنَ الْعُقُوقِ أَدْنَىٰ مِنْ (أُفٍّ) لَحَرَّمَهُ».

"Has there been an act of *'Uquq*[1] less than saying *'Uff'* (Fie), Allâh would have disallowed it as well."

---

1 *'Uquq*, here pertains to disrespectful, unkind and undutiful

Furthermore, Ibn 'Abbas رضى الله عنهما commented on the meaning of Allâh's Statement:

﴿ فَلَا تَقُل لَّهُمَآ أُفٍّ وَلَا تَنْهَرْهُمَا ﴾

"...say not to them *'Fie'* nor shout at them..."

'*Fie*' is a word that demonstrates dislike (to do something the parents asked, or disliking an odor that comes from any of them, and so forth.), while Muqâtil said that this *Âyah* pertains to disrespectful rude words.

It is also said that a child, no matter how old he or she becomes, is never allowed to say: '*Uff* (Fie),' if he smells a bad odor coming from his parents or one of them. Consequently, all that represents a greater disrespect sternly disallowed.

Mujahid also commented:

> "If the parents grow old and end up urinating and answering the call of nature on themselves, do not feel disgusted or say: *Uff* to them. Rather, remove the urine and feces from them, just as they used to do when you were young without feeling disgust in doing that for you."

Urwah bin Az-Zubair commented on Allâh's Statement:

﴿ وَٱخْفِضْ لَهُمَا جَنَاحَ ٱلذُّلِّ مِنَ ٱلرَّحْمَةِ ﴾

> "And lower unto them the wing of submission and humility through mercy." (17:24)

"Its means, one should not deny his parents any request." [1]

Allâh said:

treatment of parents.

1 *Ad-Durr Al-Manthur*, vol. 5, p. 259

﴿ وَقُل رَّبِّ ٱرْحَمْهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِى صَغِيرًا ﴾

> "And say: My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was young." (17:24)

In this *Âyah*, Allâh specifically mentioned rearing or bringing up, so that children remember the tremendous kindness and care their parents had while rearing them, might that they feel pity and kindness towards their parents.

We should mention that Allâh has disallowed invoking Him for forgiveness for dead disbelievers. Therefore, if the parents of a Muslim were Christians or Jews, he or she must deal with them in the manner that Allâh ordained, except invoking Him for mercy for them if they died while still disbelievers.[1]

Imam Abu Bakr Al-Jassâs said:

> "If a Muslim's parents die while disbelievers, he should wash them, follow their funeral and bury them. This is included in Allâh's Command to behave with them kindly." [2]

Allâh has emphasized the rights of parents when He said:

﴿ وَإِذْ أَخَذْنَا مِيثَٰقَ بَنِىٓ إِسْرَٰٓءِيلَ لَا تَعْبُدُونَ إِلَّا ٱللَّهَ وَبِٱلْوَٰلِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا وَذِى ٱلْقُرْبَىٰ وَٱلْيَتَٰمَىٰ وَٱلْمَسَٰكِينِ ﴾ [البقرة: ٨٣]

> "And (remember) when We took a covenant from the Children of Israel, (saying): Worship none but Allâh (Alone) and be dutiful and good to parents, and to kindred, and to orphans and *Al-Masâkîn* (the poor)." (2:83)

1 *Tafsir Al-Qurtubi*, vol. 10, p, 244

2 *Ahkâm-ul-Qur'ân*, by Al-Jassâs, vol. 2, p. 236