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Islamic Etiquettes for a Newborn Child

Prepared by

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

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

All praise is due to Allaah, Who provided you with a fertile wife and made you of those whose children will succeed them. How many men and women are barren and cannot have any children? Thus, this is a great blessing.

[الكهف: ٤٦] ﴿الْمَالُ وَالْبَنُونَ زِينَةُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا﴾

“Wealth and children are the adornment of the life of this world.” (18:46)

Therefore, receive the gift of Allaah with happiness, delight, thanks and praise, whether the child is a boy or a girl. It a sufficient blessing for you that the child has all of its limbs, is normal in its growth, and free of illnesses. Therefore, Blessed be Allaah, the Best of creators, Who granted and bestowed by His munificence and His grace.

﴿ يَهَبُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ إِنثًا وَيَهَبُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ الذَّكَوْرَ ۝ أَوْ يُزَوِّجُهُمْ ذُكْرَانًا وَإِنثًا وَيَجْعَلُ مَن يَشَاءُ عَقِيْمًا ۝ ﴾

[الشورى: ٤٩، ٥٠]

"He bestows female (offspring) upon whom He wills, and bestows male (offspring) upon whom He wills. Or He bestows both males and females, and He renders barren whom He wills." (42:49-50)

The Prophet ﷺ had four daughters born to him. When the *Imaam* of *Ahlus-Sunnah*, Ahmad bin Hanbal رحمه الله had a daughter he said, "The Prophets were the fathers of daughters, and you already know what has been reported (in the *hadeeths*) concerning daughters." He meant, concerning the virtue in raising them and taking care of them. The practice of disliking the birth of daughters is from the customs of the pre-Islamic days of ignorance. However, in Islaam they are from the means of attaining Paradise (in the hereafter). The Prophet ﷺ said,

«مَنْ عَالَ جَارِيَتَيْنِ حَتَّى تَبْلُغَا، جَاءَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَنَا وَهُوَ هَكَذَا» وضم أصبعيه .

[رواه مسلم ح: ٢٦٣١]

"Whoever takes care of two girls until they reach maturity, he and I will come on the Day of Judgement like this." And he joined his two fingers together. (*Muslim*)

Raising and rearing sons is counted in the scale of your good deeds if you raise them properly. The Prophet ﷺ said,

«إِذَا مَاتَ ابْنُ آدَمَ انْقَطَعَ عَمَلُهُ إِلَّا مِنْ ثَلَاثٍ» وذكر منها
«أَوْ وَلَدٍ صَالِحٍ يَدْعُو لَهُ»

[رواه مسلم ح: ١٦٣١، وأبو داود: ٢٨٨٠، والترمذي ح: ١٣٧٦

واللفظ له، والنسائي ح: ٣٦٨١ وأحمد: ٢/٣٧٢]

"When the son of Adam dies his deeds are cut off except for three." Among these three things he mentioned, "The righteous child who supplicates for him."¹

The Prophet ﷺ also said,

¹ The author did not reference this *hadeeth*. It was recorded in *Muslim*, *Aboo Daawood*, *At-Tirmitheeh*, *An-Nasaa'ee*, and *Al-Bukhaaree* in *Al-Adab Al-Mufrad*. *Al-Albaanee* confirmed its authenticity in *Saheeh Al-Jaami' As-Sagheer*, Vol. 1, no. 793. A.W.