

FROM THE MINBAR

HONORING ONE'S MOTHER: EVERY DAY IS MOTHER'S DAY IN ISLAM

Khutbah delivered by Imam Dr. Zijad Delic at SNMC on May 11th, 2012 corresponding to Jumadath Thani 20th, 1433 H.

BACKGROUND

Indeed all praise is for God, Lord of the worlds. Peace and blessings of God be upon Muhammad (S), his family, Khulafai Rashidin, all his Companions, and all those who follow in their footsteps until the Last Day. All praise is for God! We praise Him. We seek His help and ask for His forgiveness. We seek God's refuge from evils of ourselves and from our evil actions. I bear witness that none has the right to be worshipped except God, alone, having no partner, and I bear witness that Muhammad (S) is His Messenger.

My dear brothers and sisters in Islam ~
As Salamu 'Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuhu.

INTRODUCTION

Amongst the clearest examples of Islam's honoring women is the great status of the mother in Islam. Islam commands kindness, respect and obedience to parents and specifically emphasizes and gives preference to the mother as shall be shown in this Khutbah.

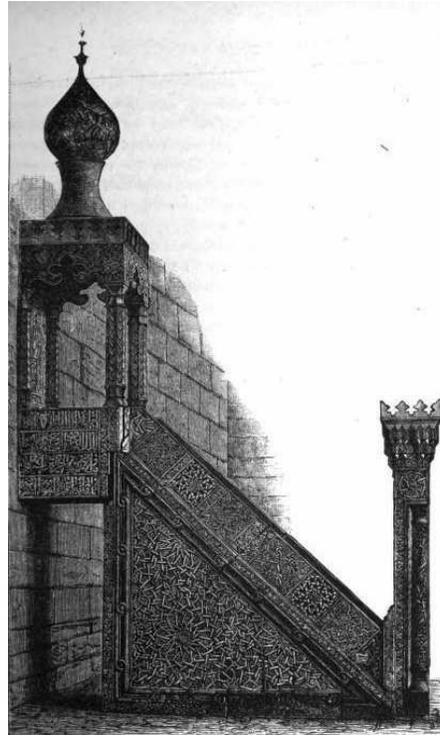
The command to be good to one's parents begins right from the Qur'an. The fact that God has mentioned parents in the same verse as Himself shows the extent to which we should strive in our efforts to serve the mothers and fathers who sacrificed so much for us. Doing so will help us to become better people.

Speaking in the Quran, God says: "Show gratitude to Me and to thy parents; to Me is thy final Goal." (31:14)

God also says: "Worship God and join not any partners with Him; and be kind to your parents..." [Noble Quran 4:36]

The Quran states: "And revere the wombs that bore you, for God is ever watchful over you." (4:1)

Although the first two verses are a command to do good to both the parents, the third verse refers only to the hardships suffered by the mother,



because they are unavoidable, and no child can be born without them. Every mother has to go through the problems of pregnancy and severe pains of delivery.

It was narrated that Abu Hurayrah (r.a.) said: "A man came to the Messenger of God (S) and said: 'O Messenger of God, who among the people is most deserving of my good company?' He said, 'Your mother.' He asked, 'Then who?' He said, 'Your mother.' He asked, 'Then who?' He said, 'Your mother.' He asked, 'Then who?' He said, 'Then your father.'" (Bukhari, Muslim)

A man once consulted the Prophet Muhammad (S) about taking part in a military campaign. The Prophet asked the man if his mother was still living. When told that she was alive, the Prophet said: "(Then) stay with her, for Paradise is at her feet." (Al-Tirmidhi)

WHAT TO DO FOR YOUR MOM

10 Things You Can Do For Your Mom

Often, moms do virtually all of the giving and very little, if any, of the taking from their families. They may not

say it, but most of them want to be appreciated in small ways. You don't have to buy them a car or a house (you could do that too), but it's the small things that count with mom.

Here are some ideas of how you can let mom know that all of her giving has and continues to be appreciated.

1. Give mom a vacation

Don't think Hawaii! Think of a day away from the kitchen, or the home! Give her a vacation from the home where for her, most of the seemingly endless housework is done daily. Or, if she doesn't want that, start doing your share around the house. Maybe you could start giving her one day of the week off, when she does no cooking or household chores. Remember, fathers and husbands work hard at the office, but they get a two-day weekend in most cases. Moms usually don't even get a full day off. And if they are also working outside, it's like two full time jobs.

2. Let's hear her life story: a mom's circle

She may have read you bedtime stories when you were small, but now it's time for her to tell you a different story-about herself. Make a mom's circle at home in which you ask her to tell her life story. Mom's circle may actually turn into a project: one family member could write this up into a report, another could make a story book out of it and a third could video/audio record it. A mom's circle may become an ongoing family tradition.

This Issue 'From The Minbar' presents:

⇒ **Honoring One's MOTHER:
Every Day is Mother's DAY**

⇒ In next issue: **UNITY OF PURPOSE**

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Please EMAIL your comments to the author

3. Try beating mom's cooking

While most moms ask their kids what they want to eat, turn the tables around and do the same for her. Is there special food your mom likes? Buy or prepare that food for her (if you are not the best of cooks, maybe it's safer to just buy it).

4. Is your mom in a nursing home?

If your mom is in a nursing home, why not plan to bring her home for a weekend visit to stay with you. Even better, why not make this a weekly, or twice a month set up, so you can spend more time with her and she can be around those who really love her more often? Of course the ultimate gift will be if you can liberate her from that nursing home so she can stay in her room in your own home.



5. Arrange a mammogram for her

More than 40% of women in Canada will develop cancer during their lifetime. That woman could be your mom. A woman's chances of developing breast cancer increases with age.

The National Cancer Institute recommends women age 40 and over be screened with mammography every one to two years. It also advises that women at higher risk of breast cancer get medical advice before they are 40 about when to begin screening and about the frequency of their screening. Do this for your mom, so you can see her spend the rest of her life in good health, *Insha Allah* (if God wills).

6. Is your mom a bookworm?

If so, buy a small cabinet and buy all of the books you can afford. Then take it to her home and set it up for her.

7. If your mom is a non-Muslim

If your mom is a non-Muslim, try fasting for a day (Nafil or extra fasting), and keep thinking and praying for her. Ask God that He guides her and ask Him

what you can do to help her understand her own Creator.

8. If your relationship has not been the best with your Mom

If your relationship with your mom has not been the best, sit down in front of a year-long calendar or planner and mark down dates and things which you can plan to improve this relationship. Start off by making a formal first appointment. Then pick dates on which you can keep contact with her and build your relationship on a regular basis.

9. If mom is not alive

If your mom is not alive, visit her relatives and friends and ask what you can do for them. Consider these two Hadiths (sayings of the Prophet Muhammad peace and blessings be upon him):

a. The Messenger of Allah said: When a person dies, his actions come to an end, except for three things: a continuing Sadaqa (charity), knowledge from which benefit is still being derived, and a righteous child who prays for her or him (translated meaning from Muslim).

b. Abu Usaid Saidi said: We were once sitting with Rasulullah when a man from the tribe of Salmah came and said to him: O Messenger of Allah! do my parents have rights over me even after they have died? And Rasulullah said:

Yes. You must pray to Allah to bless them with His Forgiveness and Mercy, fulfill the promises they made to anyone, and respect their relations and their friends (Abu Dawud and IbnMajah).

10. Pick up her feet and spread the word

The Prophet Muhammad said: Your Heaven lies under the feet of your mother (Ahmad, Nasai, Tirmithi). Ask your mom to lift her feet, so you can locate where Jannah is. Then tell others about your discovery by sharing what Islam has to say about moms and their importance in our lives.
<http://soundvision.com/Info/mothers/10thingsyoucando.asp>

CONCLUSION

After God, my mother has been the source of my strength, my success, my life-force. Everything I am I owe to her. She taught me how to be a man; how to be a husband; how to be a father; how to be a son.

Most importantly, she gave helped me to be closer to God, and she taught me how to worship and see Him in everything that I do.

She ingrained in me the importance of developing a personal relationship with God and developing that relationship throughout my life. She helped me realize the importance of good relationship with people around me.

Had it not been for my mother, I most probably would not have either known or discovered the beauty of the worship and love of God as well as good relations with others.

For me then, Islam is the best reminder of my mother's presence. With daily encouragement from the Quran and the living example of the Prophet Muhammad, I know if she is alive, I will always be close to her; however, if she has passed away, I will keep her memory close to my heart.

She is my Rahem, my connection to the divine. May God help us be dutiful to our mothers and guide us to the best in our Din.

AN ACTION ITEM

If YOU like this *Khutbah* and what we, at your SNMC, do, PLEASE:

Support our activities & projects

Please Donate ONE Prayer Spot for \$2,500 and be the ONE who will build the *Masjid* and the Center so that it could help us and our children maintain Islamic Identity and build strong Canadian National Identity, *Insha Allah*.



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