



**Islamic Religious Council of Singapore**

**Friday Khutbah**

**16 August 2019 / 15 Zulhijjah 1440H**

**Values in the Quran: Positive Interaction Within the Household**

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَرْسَلَ رَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَىٰ وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ بَشِيرًا  
وَنَذِيرًا، وَدَاعِيًا إِلَى اللَّهِ بِإِذْنِهِ وَسِرَاجًا مُنِيرًا، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا  
اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ،  
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَصَحْبِهِ وَسَلِّمْ تَسْلِيمًا  
كَثِيرًا. أَمَّا بَعْدُ، فَيَا عِبَادَ اللَّهِ، اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تَقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا  
وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ

**Blessed Friday congregation,**

Let us increase our taqwa in Allah s.w.t.. Let us obey His commands and abstain from His prohibitions. We ask Allah to fill our households with love and compassion so as to attain His pleasure. InshaAllah, Amin.

**Brothers,**

In line with this month's Friday khutbah theme, which examines verses from the Quran beginning with (يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا), let us observe another verse from the Quran:

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا لَا يَحِلُّ لَكُمْ أَنْ تَرِثُوا النِّسَاءَ كَرْهًا وَلَا  
تَعْضُلُوهُنَّ لِتَذْهَبُوا بِبَعْضِ مَاءِ أَتَيْتُمُوهُنَّ إِلَّا أَنْ يَأْتِيَنَّ بِفَاحِشَةٍ  
مُبَيِّنَةٍ وَعَاشِرُوهُنَّ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ فَإِنْ كَرِهْتُمُوهُنَّ فَعَسَى أَنْ  
تَكْرَهُوا شَيْئًا وَيَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ فِيهِ خَيْرًا كَثِيرًا ﴿١٩﴾

Meaning: “O you who have believed, it is not lawful for you to inherit women by compulsion. And do not make difficulties for them in order to take [back] part of what you gave them unless they commit a clear immorality. And live with them in kindness. For if you dislike them - perhaps you dislike a thing and Allah makes therein much good.” (Surah An-Nisa', verse 19)

This verse contains numerous lessons, but allow me to bring your attention to one important lesson, which is the obligation that Allah places upon men to treat their wives honourably.

**My brothers,**

Look at how this verse specifically addresses men. What is the wisdom behind this?

**Firstly: To fulfil our responsibilities towards others rather than expecting our rights to be fulfilled.**

This, I believe, is an important reminder. Remember, my brothers, that there are two categories of rights that we must fulfil. The first is that of Allah's, and the second is that of Allah's creations.

For the rights of Allah upon us, we need to put our best efforts in carrying out all that He has made obligatory upon us, and thinking positively of Allah s.w.t., that He will accept our deeds and forgive our sins because He is the Most Generous, the Most Forgiving and the Most Compassionate.

The second category of rights that we have to fulfil are those of the creation of Allah. This includes our responsibilities towards our parents, neighbours and, of course, the responsibilities of a husband and wife towards each other.

We may find that this second type of responsibility difficult to fulfil. Why is this so? It is because in deciding to do good towards others or in fulfilling their rights, some of us tend to first look at how the other party treats us. We choose to treat the other party

well, only if we have been treated well, and we choose to fulfill their rights, only when they have fulfilled ours.

Had they not treated us well, it is likely that we may choose to neglect our responsibilities towards the other party.

Subhanallah! Since when does Islam teach its followers to receive before giving? Or to expect our good deeds to be appreciated or reciprocated? My brothers, the Prophet Muhammad s.a.w. taught us to carry out our responsibilities towards others, including our wives. Whether or not our rights are being fulfilled by them, we have no excuse to neglect our obligations. Let's observe what the Prophet s.a.w. has said in this regard:

لَيْسَ الْوَاصِلُ بِالْمُكَافِي

Meaning: *“The one who maintains good relations does not expect recompense.”*

### **Secondly: Be the first to extend a good deed to others**

The verse recited at the beginning of this khutbah serves as a reminder to every individual that preserving good relations demands effort from both parties.

In fact, the command is directed to men, as a reminder to play both an active role within their families and to take the first initiative in creating a harmonious household filled with love and compassion. We should treat others the way we want to be treated. The Prophet s.a.w. says:

أَكْمَلُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ إِيمَانًا أَحْسَنُهُمْ خُلُقًا وَخَيْرُكُمْ خَيْرُكُمْ لِنِسَائِهِمْ

Meaning: *“The most complete of the believers in faith, are those with the best character among them. And the best of you are those who are best to your women.”* [Narrated by At-Tirmizi]

The message which the Prophet s.a.w. conveyed to us is quite clear; the manner in which we interact with others is a reflection of our faith and it mirrors the relationship we have with our Creator. In other words, if one mistreats his wife, it is a representation of his connection with Allah.

### **Thirdly: Managing marital challenges**

Brothers, the last portion of the verse recited earlier is a reminder from Allah on how to approach challenges in a marriage, for marriage is not all moonlight and roses.

The Prophet s.a.w. gives us guidance in another hadith: *“A believer must not hate a believing woman (his wife); if he dislikes*

*one of her characteristics he will be pleased with another".*  
[Narrated by Muslim]

Subhanallah, this is a precious advice on how we should appreciate our spouses – by seeing the good in them. If it is good we seek, it is only good we will find. Conversely, if we choose to nitpick only on our spouses' mistakes and flaws, even the smallest of problems can threaten to end our marriage.

Disagreements and misunderstandings happen – such is the nature of life. However, Islam teaches us to view our spouses in the best possible light even in such situations. We need to learn how to focus on the good rather than the bad, to appreciate everything that our spouses have contributed and sacrificed, and to seek resolution by communicating positively with each other.

May Allah grant us His rahmah and compassion, and may He preserve our relationships with our spouses. Amin Ya Rabbal 'Alamin.

بَارَكَ اللهُ لِي وَلَكُمْ فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَنَفَعَنِي وَإِيَّاكُمْ بِمَا فِيهِ مِنَ  
الآيَاتِ وَالذِّكْرِ الْحَكِيمِ، وَتَقَبَّلْ مِنِّي وَمِنْكُمْ تِلَاوَتَهُ إِنَّهُ هُوَ السَّمِيعُ  
الْعَلِيمُ، أَقُولُ قَوْلِي هَذَا وَأَسْتَغْفِرُ اللهَ الْعَظِيمَ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ  
الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ، وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ، فَاسْتَغْفِرُوهُ فَيَا  
فَوْزَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ وَيَا نَجَاةَ التَّائِبِينَ.