



## The Family's Care of Children

### First Khutbah

All praise is due to Allah, who has made children an adornment of this world. I testify that there is nothing worthy of worship except Allah, the uniquely One who has no partners in His one-ness. And I testify that our Sayyid, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad, is the slave of Allah and His Messenger. O Allah, send Your peace and blessings upon him and upon whomsoever follows him in guidance until the Last Day.

**To Continue:** I advise you, O slaves of Allah and myself, with the Taqwa of Allah, for verily Allah says:

وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ

**And have Taqwa of Allah that you may receive mercy.**

[Qur'an: ٤٩:١٠]

**O Believers:** Indeed, children are a precious gift from Allah that cannot be estimated. As Allah says:

يَهَبُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ إِنَاثًا وَيَهَبُ لِمَنْ يَشَاءُ الذُّكُورَ

**He gives to whom He wills female [children], and He gives to whom He wills males.** [Qur'an: ٤٢:٤٩]

Children are the joy of souls, for through them happiness enters into hearts, and felicity into homes. Childhood is one of the most important stages of human life and for this reason the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) was keen to sit with children, to show them compassion, give them confidence, and strengthen their character. It has been narrated by Usama bin Zaid (may Allah be pleased with them both) that

the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to embrace him and Hassan bin Ali bin Abi Talib and say: **اللَّهُمَّ ارْحَمَهُمَا، فَإِنِّي أَرْحَمُهُمَا**

**O Allah! Be Merciful to them, as I am merciful to them.**

[Bukhari]

So positive communication with children, including them in our concerns, showing them tenderness, and being kind in dealing with them, brings them much benefit. This helps their personality, enhances their self-confidence and makes them feel loved and protected. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have said:

**مَا كَانَ الرَّفْقُ فِي شَيْءٍ قَطُّ إِلَّا زَانَهُ**

**Gentleness was never present in anything except that it adorns it. [Muslim]**

So, from the obligation of every father and mother is that they take time out to sit with their children. To listen to them, to benefit them from their knowledge and experience. For the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) is reported to have said to Abdallah ibn Abbas (may Allah be pleased with them both): **يَا غُلامُ، إِنِّي أُعَلِّمُكَ كَلِمَاتٍ: احْفَظِ اللَّهَ يَحْفَظَكَ**

**O young boy! I will instruct you in some matters. Be watchful of Allah (by observing His Commandments), He will watch over you. [Al Tirmidhi]**

So children are in need of being raised up, being educated with gentleness, compassion and softness. And mothers and fathers should teach their children good etiquette and encourage them to emulate the best of manners. The parents should follow up on their wellbeing and stress for them that

there are set times in which they are allowed to use electronic devices. Children are in need of human company, someone to be gentle to them, someone to be able to encourage with kindly and positive words, to bring happiness to their hearts through correct guidance. The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to give gifts to children, for when he was approached with a ring made of Gold he immediately gifted it to his grand-daughter Umamah saying: "Wear this, O my daughter." O Allah bless us with our children, and grant us the ability to correctly raise and educate them. I say this and seek forgiveness for myself and for you, so seek His forgiveness for He is the most-forgiving, the Most Merciful.

## **Second Khutbah**

All praises are for Allah, the One, and may peace and blessings be upon our Prophet Muhammad, and upon his family and companions, and whomsoever follows them in the best of ways.

**O Blessed Parents:** If elder family members talk to the children and tell them stories and tales then this contributes to the development of their language skills, and teach them good manners and positive behaviour. The Nursery stage plays an important role for the integration of children in society, and for directing them towards the best of behaviour, just as taking care of our children in the age of adolescence contributes to their psychological stability and strength of personalities. Accordingly, the UAE has set amongst its priorities to support children in the early stages of their lives and has enacted laws that protect them and preserve their rights.

And with this we ask You Allah that You send Your prayers and blessings upon all of the Prophets and Messengers, and especially on the seal of them, our master, our Prophet, Sayyiduna Muhammad. O Allah send Your peace and blessings upon him, and upon his family, his companions, all of them.

**O Allah, grant success to the UAE President HH Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, to the Vice-President, the Crown Prince and his Brothers, their Highnesses, the Rulers of the Emirates. and guide them to all that is good and what pleases You. O Allah: Bestow your mercy on the late Sheikh Zayed, Sheikh Maktoum and the other late UAE Sheikhs who have passed on to Your mercy. We ask you to admit them into Paradise by Your grace. O Allah have mercy on those martyred for Your sake, and grant their families with patience and a great reward.**

And have mercy, our Lord, upon our fathers and mothers, and upon whoever has a right upon us. Please continue sending Your blessings and bounties upon this nation the UAE, and upon all the Muslims and the entire Ummah wheresoever they may be. O Allah, confer upon us Your blessings upon us and do not make us from those who despair. O Allah: aid us, help us, and bless us. O Allah: bless us in this life with that which is good and in the next life that which is good, and save us from the hellfire. Believers, remember Allah and He will remember you, forget Him not, lest you be forgotten. Let us align ourselves towards Him sincerely, and align our hearts. So, stand up for prayer.