

# “FEAR ALLAH REGARDING YOUR CHILDREN O MUSLIMS”

*From a Jumi'ah Khutbah given by the Allamah:*

*Shaykh Salih Fawzan*

*-May Allah the Most High Preserve him-*



# بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

## FIRST KHUTBAH:

*All praise is due to Allah Lord of all that is created,  
who made righteous children the apple of the eyes of the parents.*

*I testify and bare witness that there is none worthy of worship in truth except Allah,  
alone without any partners, we worship none besides Him and make the religion purely for Him,  
and I testify and bare witness that Muhammad is His Slave and Messenger,  
the truthful who is believed, may Allah send Salāt upon him and his household and companions, and  
those that follow them upon goodness until the day of Judgement, and many Salām.*

*As for what comes after:*

O people, fear Allah the Most High, and know that children are like wealth:

إِنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ

*Your wealth and your children are only a trial, whereas Allah! With Him is a great reward (Paradise).<sup>1</sup>*

Just as how a person is tested with wealth, they are also tested with children.

وَنَبْلُوكُمْ بِالشَّرِّ وَالْخَيْرِ فِتْنَةً وَإِلَيْنَا تُرْجَعُونَ

*And We shall make a trial of you with evil and with good, and to Us you will be returned.<sup>2</sup>*

Allah tests the parents with their children.

Will they stand to what rectifies them, and raise them upon goodness? Or will they cause them to waste away and be negligent in their regards?

Each of the two matters hold consequence; either good or either bad. Therefore the child is a test and a responsibility upon the father, will he take care of him or waste him? If he takes care of him he will become the apple of his eyes in this world, and in the hereafter, and if he wastes him, then he will be a cause of loss for him:

فَلَا تُعْجِبْكَ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُهُمْ إِنَّمَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيُعَذِّبَهُمْ بِهَا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا وَتَرْهَقَ أَنْفُسُهُمْ وَهُمْ كَافِرُونَ

<sup>1</sup> [Surah Al-Taghabun: Verse 15]

<sup>2</sup> [Surah Al-Anbiya: Verse 35]

***So let not their wealth or their children amaze you, in reality Allah's Plan is to punish them with these things in the life of this world, and that their souls shall depart (die) while they are disbelievers.***<sup>3</sup>

And verily goodness and evil both have means, they both are from the decree of Allah ﷻ; however this decree has means that can be taken by the slave, therefore if the parents proceed to cultivate their children upon uprightness from when they are young, then they will become upright, with the permission of Allah, because the father took the means, and Allah aided him upon that.

As for if he neglects them, and doesn't ask concerning them, they will be raised upon neglect, then it will become difficult for him to turn them back to correctness.

*"Indeed [young] branches if you straightened it, it would straighten \*\*\*\*  
but if it became wood then it wouldn't be able to bend"*

So give attention to your children, may Allah grant you success in raising them upon correction. Be cautious from wasting them, for verily you are in a time where you are being bombarded with trials, and desires, and doubts, as well as much calls to misguidance and evil by its people, through the avenues they use to spread it, so fear Allah regarding your children.

The Prophet ﷺ said:

كُلُّ مَوْلُودٍ يُوَلَّدُ عَلَى الْفِطْرَةِ، فَأَبَوَاهُ يُهَوِّدَانِهِ أَوْ يُنَصِّرَانِهِ أَوْ يُمَجِّسَانِهِ

***Every child is born upon the natural disposition (Fitrah) then it is his parents who make him a Jew, or a Christian, or a Magian***

The beginning of every child is that they are upon the natural disposition (fitrah), which is the religion, the religion of Islām.

فَأَقِمْ وَجْهَكَ لِلدِّينِ حَنِيفاً فِطْرَةَ اللَّهِ الَّتِي فَطَرَ النَّاسَ عَلَيْهَا لَا تَبْدِيلَ لِخَلْقِ اللَّهِ ذَلِكَ الدِّينُ الْقَيِّمُ وَلَكِنَّ أَكْثَرَ النَّاسِ لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

***So set you (O Muhammed) your face towards the religion of pure Islamic Monotheism Hanifa (worship none but Allah Alone) Allah's Fitrah (i.e. Allah's Islamic Monotheism), with which He has created mankind. No change let there be in Khalq-illah (i.e. the Religion of Allah Islamic Monotheism), that is the straight religion, but most of men know not.***<sup>4</sup>

Therefore if the father preserves the child's natural disposition and develops it with goodness, the child will become a youth upon it, and grow big upon it, and will continue upon it with the permission of Allah.

And if he corrupted the child's natural predisposition then they will become corrupt, like the likeliness of pure soil that sprouts good and produces, if the soil was spoilt then verily it wouldn't produce, the fitrah is like that, the fitrah is set up to bring about good, accepting correction, and being good; but if it's afflicted with what causes harms, then it will corrupt.

And the cause of that is the father, therefore guard the fitrah of your children and develop it upon goodness.

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<sup>3</sup> [Surah At-Taubah: Verse 55]

<sup>4</sup> [Surah Ar-Rum: Verse 30]

The Prophet ﷺ said:

مُرُوا أَوْلَادَكُمْ بِالصَّلَاةِ لِسَبْعِ، وَاضْرِبُوهُمْ عَلَيْهَا لِعَشْرِ، وَفَرِّقُوا بَيْنَهُمْ فِي الْمَضَاجِعِ

***Command your children to pray when they become seven years old, and beat them for it (prayer) when they become ten years old; and arrange their beds (to sleep) separately***

Take gradual steps with the child from the time of discernability. If he reaches the age of seven, he is ordered to pray, this necessitates that he is accustomed to perform ablution and being in a state of purity.

Likewise that he has knowledge of the prayer, what's obligatory in it and what's Sunnah, until he becomes accustomed with it, and grows up upon it.

If he reached the tenth year, he either reached the point he has wet dreams or is approaching puberty, at this point; stage two in the cultivation proceeds, which is:

وَاضْرِبُوهُمْ عَلَيْهَا لِعَشْرِ

***And beat them for it (the prayer) when they become ten years old***

If they are negligent with the prayer then they are hit in its regard so that they recognise pain and punishment, in order for them to preserve the prayer and be persist upon it, this is what the Prophet ﷺ directed us to regarding children, we proceed with them in accordance to their ages.

And as for what's being propagated nowadays in that cultivating the child, or hitting and disciplining them is from domestic abuse, then this (ideology) has only come to us by way of our enemies from the west, the corrupt, those who wish to corrupt our wives and children. They call this domestic violence, whilst this is the Islamic nurturing that forms generations upon goodness and reformation.

And domestic abuse in reality is to waste away the women and children, this is the actual domestic abuse, as for their cultivation, then this is goodness, and goodness that our religion came with.

O slaves of Allah, verily the right of the child upon his parents precedes the right the parents have upon their child. Some people say "I have a right over the child", yes you do have a right, but the child also has a right upon you before your right, and that's to raise him.

Therefore if the child attains adulthood whilst being an upright man upon correct cultivation, and his parents reaching old age and requiring good treatment, Allah ﷻ commands the child to say:

(وَقُلْ رَبِّ ارْحَمُهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِي صَغِيرًا)

***And say: "My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was small"***

How will he treat them well if they don't cultivate him from when he is young? Do you hope from him good treatment?

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<sup>5</sup> [Surah Al-Isra: Verse 24]

No, no and a thousand times no. Indeed a righteous child is the apple for the eyes of his father, whilst his alive and when his passed away. In his life he treats him with goodness, and he serves him and stands for his wellbeing, especially when he becomes old. And after his death he supplicates for him and fulfills his wills and affairs set aside for good deeds (waqf), and takes on his affairs as a successor to his father.

The Prophet ﷺ said:

إِذَا مَاتَ الْإِنْسَانُ انْقَطَعَ عَمَلُهُ إِلَّا مِنْ ثَلَاثَةٍ إِلَّا مِنْ صَدَقَةٍ جَارِيَةٍ أَوْ عِلْمٍ يُنْتَفَعُ بِهِ أَوْ وَلَدٍ صَالِحٍ يَدْعُو لَهُ

***When a person dies all his good deeds come to an end except three: Ongoing charity (Sadaqah Jariyah), beneficial knowledge by which people benefit, and a righteous son who supplicates for him***

If the child was corrupt then they will supplicate against him and not for him, and this is due to the parents having wasted their child when they were small, so when they became older they will disobey him, regardless if the parent was alive or passed away.

So fear Allah regarding your children and don't waste them. Some people think that raising children is to give them money, to buy them a car, and to assist them with their desires, then they say: "Wallahi I haven't fallen short regarding my children", rather you have fallen short, this is falling short and wasting your children, this money that you are giving him, and the car that you are buying him, it's wasting him.

*"Indeed youth, free time, and luxury\*\*\*\* is harmful for a man to a high extent"*

You yourself have given him the means of corruption, you filled his pockets with money, and have given him a car of which he can take anywhere he wants, so you have presented with opportunities for corruption.

Yes, we say give to your children, spend upon him, buy him a car; however keep your eye on them, monitor their actions, don't neglect them.

Don't neglect your child until they've become an adult.

Until he becomes a man and is able to spend upon himself, as long as he hasn't reached puberty then he is still under your responsibility, and you will be asked about him by your Lord and how he corrupted because of you and your negligence.

So fear Allah regarding your children:

يُوصِيكُمُ اللَّهُ فِي أَوْلَادِكُمْ

***Allah commands you regarding your children<sup>6</sup>***

Children are a trust, entrusted by Allah, therefore he should fear Allah regarding what he has been entrusted with.

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<sup>6</sup> [Surah An-Nisa: Verse 11]

Children no doubt require hard-work, they require patience, so whoever doesn't have patience and isn't patient with the hard-work regarding their child, then they will surely waste them.

Some of the people say: "There's nothing I can do" and "Guidance is in the hand of Allah", however you haven't even made an effort for you to say there's nothing I can do!

Guidance is in the hand of Allah, however if you take means to seek the guidance (then Allah will guide you), for verily Allah is *Qareeb* (Near), *Mujeeb* (Responsive); but if you neglect the means for guidance then you will not obtain guidance, rather the opposite will take place.

So fear Allah, O slaves of Allah, and let the father be a good role model for his child first and foremost. He himself being a good role model will make him a good role model (for others). So what then if the father is corrupt and practises evil?! Neglecting the prayer, sleeping during prayer, he doesn't attend to the household except to eat and drink, otherwise his indulging in entertainment, in lounges, in party halls, travelling and other than that, and nor does he ask regarding his children, is this a father? This father is an animal, not a father who bares his responsibility of what he will be questioned about in front of Allah, Exalted is He and the Most High. Be a good role model to your children above all, and also supplicate for your children.

Ibrāhīm, alayhi Salām, said:

وَاجْنُبْنِي وَبَنِيَّ أَنْ نَعْبُدَ الْأَصْنَامَ

*and keep me and my sons away from worshipping idols.*<sup>7</sup>

He included his son in the supplication.

رَبِّ اجْعَلْنِي مُقِيمَ الصَّلَاةِ وَمِنْ ذُرِّيَّتِي رَبَّنَا وَتَقَبَّلْ دُعَاءِ

*O my Lord! Make me one who performs As-Salat (Iqamat-as-Salat), and (also) from my offspring, our Lord! And accept my invocation.*<sup>8</sup>

Supplicate for your children along with taking means in cultivating them, supplicate to Allah to aid you and to correct them, free your house from paths to corruption, from corrupt means of communication, music, songs, and lewd images, otherwise your house will be a nest of evil.

Make your house pure, a place of worship and remembrance of Allah, whereby nothing is heard in it except the remembrance of Allah, recitation of the Qur'ān, good words, and clean upright speech.

Teach your children or give your child something to memorise of the Qur'ān, and choose for him a place of learning that's upright, from its principal, to its teachers and the students.

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<sup>7</sup> [Surah Ibrahim: and Verse 35]

<sup>8</sup> [Surah Ibrahim: Verse 40]

Choose for him a school that's upright, and follow him up in his studies, ask about him (to his teachers), and help him with studying and encourage him upon it.

If you gift something to one of your children then also gift the rest of them.

The Prophet ﷺ said:

اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَاعْدِلُوا بَيْنَ أَوْلَادِكُمْ

*Fear Allah and be just between your children*

A man from the Sahāba gave a gift to one of his children, so his mother said not until the Messenger of Allah ﷺ witnesses this, so he went for the Messenger of Allah to witness what he has given his child, then the Prophet ﷺ said:

أَكَلَ وَلَدِكَ أَعْطَيْتَهُمْ مِثْلَ هَذَا

*Have you given all your children the same as this?*

The man said: "No", then the Prophet ﷺ said:

أَشْهَدُ عَلَى هَذَا غَيْرِي، فَإِنِّي لَا أَشْهَدُ عَلَى جَوْرٍ

*Take someone else as a witness for this, for verily I will not be a witness to injustice*

And the Prophet ﷺ said:

أَيَسْرُكَ أَنْ يَكُونُوا لَكَ فِي الْبِرِّ سَوَاءً

*Would you like them to be equal in their kind treatment of you?*

The man replied: "Yes", then the Prophet ﷺ said:

فَلَا إِذَا

*"Then don't do that"*

*Meaning:* don't give some of them something whilst leaving off the others. Even when it comes to talking to them when they're in your presence; don't just narrow your speech to one of them and only laugh with one, only praising him; rather notice and speak with them all, encourage them all, address them all, even if some are below the level of what pleases you, for verily they are all still your children, and they all have a right upon you.

So fear Allah O slaves of Allah.

Keep an eye on your children; but what's the case now? The father doesn't even know his children, either due to chasing money, seeking money and business, or due to being in places of amusement and heedlessness, and staying up late in leisure, in lounges of play, on trips, and other than that, he does not ask about his children.

And also the mother; the mother also has become like a man, she doesn't remain in the house, she leaves to go work, she leaves to go to her studies, she leaves to go to her colleagues and leaves her children.

So where do her children end up going?

To child minders, to be raised by childminders who have no mercy nor compassion for them, they will be raised by those who do not have a concern for them, just mere hired employees like the one who herds a flock of sheep to keep them from escaping.

As for wanting them to teach your children morals and their religion, then this is a matter for the parents, an outsider won't care for their uprightness or if they will corrupt, they are just hired people like the herder of sheep only having concern for them not escaping.

So have fear of Allah O slaves of Allah, and observe your children, for verily you are living in a time of severe trial.

Have fear of Allah O slaves of Allah, I seek refuge with Allah from the accursed Shaytaan:

وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا فُرَّةَ أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا

*And those who say: "Our Lord! Bestow on us from our wives and our offspring who will be the comfort of our eyes, and make us leaders for the Muttaqun<sup>9</sup>*

May Allah bless me and you all, by way of the Great Qur'an, due to what is in it of verses and wise mentionings, I say this statement of mine, I see forgiveness from Allah for me and you all and all the Muslims, seek forgiveness from Him, for He is Al-Ghafuur Oft-Forgiving Ar-Raheem Most Merciful.

## **SECOND PART OF THE KHUTBA:**

**All praise is to Allah for His Virtues and His Bounties,  
I thank Him for His Success and His Blessings,  
I testify and bare witness there is none worthy of worship in truth besides Allah,  
alone without any partners,**

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<sup>9</sup> [Surah Al-Furqan: Verse 74]

**and I testify and bare witness that Muhammad is His Slave and Messenger, may Allah send Salāt upon him and his household and his companions, and many Salām.**

**As for what comes after:**

O people, fear Allah the Most High.

Verily from the harmful effects of poor cultivation and negligence, is what you are seeing now from the behavior of the youth, their poor behaviour.

The mentality of them, or many of them, is to speed with a car in the streets, harming himself and others, disturbing people and neighbours, and exposing them to harm.

How much (harm) has taken place because of this speeding?! How many fatalities has it caused?! How much money has been wasted because of it and wreckages of cars?! And what's the end result of it? But the child wants something to fill his time with as his not occupied with anything beneficial, and isn't occupied with anything virtuous, instead his been given a path to corruption and then left (to do as he pleases), so he takes this car to the streets and harms the people with it and exposes himself and the people to danger.

Imagine what takes place from the people of supplications against his father. Rather some of them curse him, they curse the father who has left his son to cause them harm with this behaviour and exposing them to danger.

Look at the walls, the walls of the homes, how young kids (who are meant to be) pupils, tamper it with words and writings of evil. If you read it and see that it's lewd writings, it indicates they have some corruption in their minds, they transcribe it upon the walls and write it up in the walls.

O slaves of Allah, fear Allah.

From them are those who go to natural terrains (for car play); they call it "off roading". It has spoiled much of the areas, such that the area can no longer produce anything, and are no longer to any use, due to them having spoilt it with this so called "off roading" as what they call it, this a corrupt uselessness.

So fear Allah O slaves of Allah.

Watch your children, don't waste them, for indeed these are clear crimes from the effects of poor cultivation, which appear publicly to the people.

The disbelievers, by Allah we notice they raise their children in their countries; Although they cultivate them upon worldliness, they raise them with having determination in that. You don't find anything, while they have many children, you don't find just mere heedlessness in the streets, in cars, anywhere else, whilst they are disbelievers, so how then can the Muslims have this bad image?

So fear Allah slaves of Allah.

Watch your children and take care of them, and know that they are a test for you; which you cause for them to be upright or corrupt, and that you will be asked about them in-front of Allah. Thus if they are upright they will be the apples of the eyes of their parents, even in paradise. Allah Exalted is He, said:

وَالَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَاتَّبَعَتْهُمْ ذُرِّيَّتُهُمْ بِإِيمَانٍ أَلْحَقْنَا بِهِمْ ذُرِّيَّتَهُمْ وَمَا أَلَتْنَاهُمْ مِنْ عَمَلِهِمْ مِنْ شَيْءٍ كُلُّ  
أَمْرٍ إِيمَانٍ بِمَا كَسَبَ رَهِيْنٌ

*And those who believe and whose offspring follow them in Faith, to them shall We join their offspring, and We shall not decrease the reward of their deeds in anything. Every person is a pledge for that which he has earned.<sup>10</sup>*

**The people of Tafsir said:**

Indeed if a child is in paradise, as well as his father, and his father was to be at a higher station than him, verily Allah will raise the child to the station of his father, in order to make him happy and to bring pleasure to his eyes. Making him the apple of his father's eyes in this world and in the hereafter.

Slaves of Allah, indeed the best of speech is the book of Allah, and the best guidance is the guidance of Muhammad ﷺ, and the worst of affairs is the newly introduced ones, and every innovation is a misguidance, and upon you all is the Jamā'ah, for indeed the hand of Allah is upon the Jamā'ah, and whoever deviates, deviates to the fire.

Stick to the Jamā'ah at the time of trials and evil, stick to the Jamā'ah of the Muslims and the Imaam of the Muslims.

Hudayfa bin Al-Yamaan, may Allah be pleased with him, when the Prophet ﷺ mentioned the trials which will occur, he said: "What do you command us to do a this O Messenger of Allah?"

To which he ﷺ said:

أَنْ تَلْزَمَ جَمَاعَةَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَإِمَامَهُمْ

**To stick to the Jamā'ah of Muslims and their Imaam**

Then he (Hudayfa) said: "What if there was no Imaam and no Jamā'ah?"

To which he ﷺ said:

اعْتَزِلْ تِلْكَ الْفِرْقَ كُلَّهَا وَلَوْ أَنْ تَعَضَّ عَلَى أَصْلِ شَجَرَةٍ حَتَّى يُدْرِكَكَ الْمَوْتُ وَأَنْتَ عَلَى ذَلِكَ

**Stay away from all those groups, even if you had to bite on to the roots of a tree, until death was to befall upon you while you was in this state**

And also the Jamā'ah (congregation) of the prayer and then Masjids, for indeed the hand of Allah is upon the Jamā'ah, strive upon the congregational prayers and the Jumu'ah prayer in the Masjids.

So that you will obtain the mercy from Allah, the Exalted and the Most High, for indeed the hand of Allah is upon the Jamā'ah, whoever deviates; deviates to the fire and removes the knot of Islam from his neck, as found in the hadith.

<sup>10</sup> [Surah At-Tur: Verse 21]

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Translated by:  
Abu Ibrāhim Nāsir bin Rāshid Al-mamry