

Kindness to parents

In the name of Allah most Gracious most merciful.

One of the greatest rights of other slaves upon you are the rights of the parents and the rights of the relatives. Allah has placed that right or obligation immediately next to the rights of Allah which includes His and His messenger's rights. Allah said: {Worship Allah and do not associate anything with Him, and with your parents practice kindness and also with the relatives} 4:35. Allah also said: {and give thanks to me and to your parents} 31:14.

A mother becomes weaker as the fetus she carries grows and suffering tremendous agony during pregnancy and birth. Then nursing and milk feeding the baby for almost two years. The messenger (PPBU) was once asked: what deed is most loved to Allah? He said: "performing prayers on time". He was asked: and what's next? He said: "Treating the parents well". He was asked: and what's next? He said: "Jihad in the line of Allah". Notice how kindness to parents came before Jihad. The good treatment of parents includes not disobeying them, and keeping in contact with them, doing good for them, kindness and gentleness with them, and being obedient to them.

This is even extra true during their old age due to their weakness, sickness or disability. Providing the parents at their old age with what they used to provide individual when he/she was a baby. Do not become bored when taking care of them, do not show them anger or dissatisfaction. Do not give out to them with tough words and in threatening manner. On the contrary, the son or daughter is commanded to talk to them gently, giving them dignity and respect. Never use the words which show refusal and dissatisfaction like the word or jesture: “Oooff”. That word, when said to the parents is like a denial to the mercy, and forgetting the brining up they did.

Allah says: {Your Lord has decreed, that you worship none except Him, and that you show kindness to parents. If one of them or both of them were to attain old age with you, say not “Ooofff” to then nor repulse them, but speak to them a gracious word. And lower to them the wing of submission through mercy, and say: My Lord, Have mercy on them both, as they did care for me when I was little. Your Lord is Best Aware of what is in your minds. If you are righteous, then, He is ever Forgiving to those who turn to Him}17:23-25

One must be submissive towards the parents in words spoken, or in looks glanced, or with gestures made, or motions in action or expressive lack of moves, in sounds or in silence. Pray for them and ask Allah to

saturate them with His mercies. Feed them, dress them, protect them, and give them love and peace. Their sanctity and their rights were mentioned in all Allah's books: the Torah, the Bible, the Zabour, and the Quran. Allah told all His messengers about the sanctity of parents, and that He will be pleased if they are pleased, and He will be angered if they are angered and saddened.

The messenger (PPBU) was asked once by a man: "Who of all people is the most deserving of my best treatment?" the messenger said: "Your mother". The man said: "and who next?" the messenger said: "Your mother". The man said: "and who next?" the messenger said: "Your mother". The man said: "and who next?" the messenger said: "Your father". The scholars say that this is a clear indication of the preference of the mother to the father in the acts of kindness.

3a-asha asked the messenger once: "Who of all people has the greatest right upon a woman?" The messenger said: "Her husband". And she said: "Who of all people has the greatest right upon a man?" He said: "His mother".

In fact kindness to parents has a higher status than the Jihad in the line of Allah. A man came to the messenger (PPBU) once and said "I am seeking reward from Allah by making a pledge to you to

immigrate and fight in the line of Allah.” The messenger said: “Are any of parents alive?” The man said: “Yes, both of them.” The messenger (PPBU) said to him: “and are you really seeking reward from Allah?” The man said: “Yes. I am.” The messenger (PPBU) said “Then go back to your parents and be a good company to them”

A man once came to the messenger (PPBU) and said: “I would love to fight for Allah but I am unfit to do so.” The messenger (PPBU) asked him: “are any of parents alive?” The man answered: “Yes, my mother is alive”. The messenger (PPBU) said: “Meet Allah in treating her well. If you do that then it is as if you have done Hajj, and Amrah, and Jihad in the line of Allah”

Even if the parents are not Muslims one is commanded to treat them with kindness and give them all their rights, except not to obey them if they asked you to loose faith in Allah.

Kindness to parents is in words, and deeds and money. Show kindness to your parents, and your children will show you kindness. Remember that nothing makes your life longer, and your income greater than kindness to the parents, and keeping in contact with the kin.