

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

وَالَّذِينَ يَقُولُونَ رَبَّنَا هَبْ لَنَا مِنْ أَزْوَاجِنَا وَذُرِّيَّاتِنَا قُرَّةَ

أَعْيُنٍ وَاجْعَلْنَا لِلْمُتَّقِينَ إِمَامًا.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

يَا مَعْشَرَ الشَّبَابِ! مَنْ اسْتَطَاعَ مِنْكُمْ الْبَاءَةَ فَلْيَتَزَوَّجْ،

فَإِنَّهُ أَغْضُ لِلْبَصْرِ وَأَخْصَنُ لِلْفَرْجِ.

STARTING A FAMILY

Honorable Muslims!

Established upon Allah's (swt) commandment and the Prophet's (saw) utterance, marriage contract is a sunnah. As befits our nature and via a legitimate contract, entering into a marriage is a chance for all of us to be thankful. Being a part of a happy family and growing up in a family environment that fosters trust is such a great blessing. Having the support of our family members is a source of tremendous delight and provides meaning to our lives.

Dear Mothers and Fathers!

In this hour of Friday when supplications are accepted, I call on you: Building a secure future is only feasible through families filled with love and compassion built on strong religious and moral foundations. What falls upon us is to strive to establish a family worthy of paradise for our divinely entrusted children. To take as reference the Messenger of Allah's (saw) following hadith while building that family: **يَسِّرُوا وَلَا تُعَسِّرُوا وَبَشِّرُوا وَلَا تُنْفِرُوا**

“Make things easy and do not make things difficult. Calm people and do not arouse their aversion.”¹

Assurance of Our Independence and Future, Dear Youth!

I am also calling on all of you. You are our future, hope, greatest strength and wealth. Our greatest delight is that you establish a family that is as brilliant as your eyes. Your peace and happiness makes us quite happy. Our beloved Prophet (saw) provides the following advice for you: "O young

people! Whoever among you can marry, should marry. Because it helps him lower his gaze and guard his modesty."²

Dear Young Brother and Sister!

Follow the advise of our Prophet (saw) to form a family that is consistent with our values. While forming and maintaining a family as such, never compromise on love and respect, affection and compassion, and kindness and gentleness. In accordance with the Almighty Allah's (swt) commandment, **“They are**

clothing for you and you are clothing for them.”³, surround your family with love and care, and protect them from all forms of evil. Never breach the line between halal and haram in Islam by claiming "I am just going to have a wedding once." Let our Lord's (swt) following verse be your guide always: **"O you who have believe! Do not prohibit the good things which Allah has made lawful to you and do not transgress. Indeed, Allah does not like transgressors.”**⁴

Dear Muslims!

Let us all enjoy the peace that comes with having a family, which our Lord (swt) has provided as a chance for us to have an abundance of His divine blessings. As usual, let us avoid alcohol consumption, which dulls the mind, celebrations with firearms, which convert weddings into tragedies, and invasions of privacy. As parents and young people, let us make getting married as easy as possible. Let us let our engagement, marriage ceremony, and wedding be simple and modest. Let us keep our requirements within reasonable bounds. Let us seek peace and happiness not in pomposity and ostentation, but in courtesy and sincerity, love and respect, understanding and sacrifice, in short in the pleasure of our Lord (swt).

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following du'a the Almighty Allah (swt) has taught us: **"O our Lord! Grant us from among our wives and offspring comfort to our eyes and make us an example for the righteous.”**⁵

¹ Bukhari, 'Ilm, 11.

² Bukhari, Nikah, 3.

³ Baqarah, 2/187.

⁴ Ma'idah, 5/87.

⁵ Furqan, 25/74.