



# Marital Harmony

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Tarbiyyat Department  
MKA USA



# How to use this presentation?

## Instructions to Local Nazim Tarbiyyat

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### Do's

- Use the presentation as a means for starting a conversation. Use the points mentioned in the presentation to invoke discussion. Remind people of the Quranic verses, Hadith etc.
- Engage and involve khuddam. Make it Interactive.
- Ask khuddam question, ask them to explain what they understand from this material
- Keep the workshop to about 30 minutes or so
- Help us make the presentation better. Submit interesting questions/issues raised to [tarbiyyat@mkausa.org](mailto:tarbiyyat@mkausa.org).

### Don'ts

- Don't pick on individuals or personal issues in your knowledge. Respect people's privacy.
- Do not make this as an imposing lecture. Idea is to make this a thought-provoking exercise



# Marriage: Sacred Institution

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- Marriage in Islam is a sacred commandment of Allah and a Sunnah of The Holy Prophet (saw)
- The Holy Prophet (peace and blessing of Allah be on him) said:
  - "Marriage is my precept and my practice. Those who do not follow my practice are not of me."  
And
  - "When a man has married, he has completed one half of his religion."



# Purpose of Marriage

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- To enable a man and a woman to live together and experience love and happiness, within Islamic law.
- To produce children, and provide a stable and righteous environment for their upbringing.
- To provide a legal union which safeguards society from moral and social degradation.

The Holy Quran says:

- And of HIS Signs is that HE has created wives for you from among yourselves that you may find peace of mind in them, and HE has put love and tenderness between you. In that, surely, are Signs for a people who reflect (30:22)

This verse signifies that marriage is meant for the attainment of peace of mind and mutual love and affection



# Garments for Each Other

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- Allah has also said that marriage is the means of attaining piety and of guarding one's chastity. He says:
  - ....They are a sort of garment for you and you are a sort of garment for them.... (2:188)
- When God declares each of them to be a garment for the other, He wishes it be known how they should discharge their duties towards each other which are as follows:
  - To cover up one another's weaknesses and shortcomings from others.
  - To act as an adornment and embellishment for one another.
  - Just as clothes protect us from the severity and inclemency of the weather, so in the same way the wife and the husband should stick together through thick and thin



## Equal Status, Rights but different Responsibilities

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- The Holy Quran says in this regard:
  - And ALLAH has made for you mates from among yourselves.... (16:73)

This verse shows that the Holy Quran has given the same status to men and women.

The Holy Quran declares in another verse:

  - ....And they (the women) have rights similar to those (of men) over them in equity; but men have a degree of advantage above them.... (2:229)
- The above verses tell us that
  - As far as rights are concerned, men and women have equal rights, but as the whole responsibility, according to Islam, of affording the household amenities rests with the husband and therefore he has a rank above the wife in this respect.



# Kindness towards Wife

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- Holy Quran says : "and consort with them in kindness; and if you dislike them, it may be that you dislike a thing wherein Allah has placed much good".(4:20)
- The Holy Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be on him) said:
  - "The most perfect believer in the matter of faith is he whose behavior is best; and the best of you are those who behave best to their wives."
  - "Let no Muslim man entertain any rancor against a Muslim woman. Should he dislike one quality in her, he would find another which is pleasing."
  - "If a believer puts a morsel in the mouth of his wife out of love, Allah will reward him for it, because it is an act which will please his wife who would feel her husband loved her dearly."
- The Promised Messiah (as) has said "anyone who ill-treats his wife is not of my community."



# Duties of Husband

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- Be a source of comfort for his wife
- Provide for all her reasonable needs within his means
- Consult his wife in all matters of importance to the family
- Help her with household chores
- Should not be suspicious of his wife as if he has no confidence in her
- Overlook minor shortcomings of his wife and be forgiving
- Should not let small things become big issues
- Should not deliberately do things that displease his wife
- Be with her in her time of distress
- Be respectful to her family and friends



# Scenario 1

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- ***Khadim A recently got married, but finds that his heart is not in this relationship. He thinks that his wife was his parent's choice and not his. He is having second thoughts now. What should he do?***
- He should've found his own soul-mate instead of his parents doing it for him. It is better for him to rectify this mistake as soon as possible. Get a divorce and start over!
- He should realize that
  - He should pray to Allah to change his heart since man doesn't have control over his own heart but Allah does.
  - Marriage is a sacred covenant. He had full right to refuse the proposal before the marriage but he didn't. Now he must try his absolute hardest to make the relationship work
  - Life is not a romance movie. A man must work hard to strengthen his marriage. From this strength will sprout mutual love, trust and respect.
  - Divorce is an absolute last step that causes great harm to many people. Only if **the harm from sustaining a marriage is expected to be greater than the harm that divorce causes to so many people** should he consider this option. "Starting over" is no game!



## Scenario 2

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- ***Khadim A feels embarrassed when his Pakistani wife wears a burqa in front of his friends. He asked his wife to stop wearing it, and she doesn't want to. This is causing trouble in the marriage. What should he do?***
- His wife is from the stone ages! She should've left her burqa in Pakistan. He deserves to be made fun of.
- He should complain to Murabee sahib that his wife does not "obey" him
- **A** should realize that
  - He knew before the marriage that she observes Purdah. Now he has no right to forcibly change her ways against the commandments of Allah
  - It is probably his own inferiority complex that embarrasses him! His friends are likely respectful of his wife's choice to practice her faith the way she wants.
  - Allah's instruction to women that they should obey their husbands does not apply in cases where the husband openly asks his wife to disobey the commandment of Allah
  - Someone who mocks his wife can't be a good friend! Such "friends" come and go while a good marriage lasts a lifetime and beyond!



## Scenario 3

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- ***Khadim A works very hard to make ends meet, but his wife keeps asking for more money for shopping. This causes financial trouble as well as strain in marriage. What should he do?***
- What does he expect? A girl has got to have the best “accessories” money can buy.
- He shouldn’t complain and find ways of making more money. After all, Allah made him “guardian” over his wife.
- He should realize that
  - A family cannot run without the cooperation of both husband and wife. He should talk to her about their financial situation and get her buy-in for their long-term financial security. He can request some family elders to help her understand
  - He should avoid buying things on credit himself so as to set a good example for the family



## Scenario 4

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- ***Khadim A's sister told him that she heard from their aunt that she saw A's wife be disrespectful to his mother. What should he do?***
- What? Disrespectful to his mother?! This is simply unforgivable. He should chastise her right away and humiliate her in front of the family!!
- A should realize that
  - He should not rely on hearsay and trust his wife that she is very respectful to his mother
  - He should pray to Allah for help in tense moments so that He may resolve such complicated issues
    - Surah Al-Falaq: to seek protection from actions of jealous people (even within one's own family)
    - Surah An-Nas: to seek protection from any ill feelings that come into the heart through our own imaginations
  - In case he does observe himself that his wife was not giving his mother due respect, then he should
    - Respectfully communicate his feelings with his wife openly and with trust. May be his notion of "respect" is different from hers
    - Be very forgiving. Allah will forgive his faults as well.



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