

ALI 212: Parent-Child Relationship in Sahifa Sajjadiyyah

Session Two

Dua no. 24 - Questions for Reflection

- 1) What recompense does Imam talk about for the rights overlooked by both parents and children?
- 2) What are the best ways to pray for parents?
- 3) The last paragraph gives hope of uniting in the Hereafter. What will happen to family ties at that time?

Agenda

- Failure to discharge duties in the Parent-Child relation
- Impossibility of Justice regarding parents
- Praying for parents
- Intercession in the Hereafter

Attitude towards Parents

- 1) Awe : Respect + Fear
- 2) Devotion ; kind and compassionate
- 3) Pleasure at serving them
- 4) Preferring them over the self
- 5) Considering their devotion as much
- 6) Considering my devotion as little

Physical Manifestations of Respect

The attitude of the human being is revealed through the body. Whatever is felt in the heart cannot be hidden for long.

Imam Ali (a) says: Often your utterances and expressions of your face leak out the secrets of your hidden thoughts.

The following are outward signs of the respect a believer feels for parents:

- 1) Low voice
- 2) Good/Kind words
- 3) Mild temper
- 4) Soft heart
- 5) Friendship

Failure to discharge duties

Both parents and children will make mistakes in their relationships, not fulfilling the rights due to the other.

Imam(a) talks about each:

- 1) For the Parents, the wrongs done by the child will:
 - a) alleviate their sins
 - b) raise their status
 - c) add to their good deeds

God changes evil deeds into good deeds.

Regarding the wrongs done by the parents a child;

- a) does not take it into account
- b) prays for removal of negative consequences
- c) does not consider them against him
- d) considers all their rights on him
- e) acknowledges their favors
- f) understands the impossibility of recompense

Praying for Parents

A believer prays for his parents all the time, whether they are alive or have passed away.

Holy Quran: And say, my Lord have mercy on them as they brought me up when I was little. (al-Israa, 17:24)

Hadith: A man came to the Prophet and asked; O Messenger of Allah, now that my parents are dead, is there any act of dutifulness left for me to do towards them? The Prophet answered; Yes. There are four things; Supplication for them and praying that they are forgiven, fulfilment of their wills, being kind to their friends, and maintaining good relations with those of your relatives with whom your kinship is established only through them.

Parents in the Hereafter

1) Goodness to parents leads to success in the hereafter:

The Holy Prophet (s)

- They [parents] are your Paradise and your fire
- He who is good to parents will not enter the fire
- The pleasure of Allah lies in the pleasure of parents

2) Parents and children will intercede for each other on the Day of Judgment

3) Unrighteous children are not considered family. Allah tells Nabi Nuh (a): *Verily, he is not of you family. His work is unrighteous.*(11: 45)

Verses of the Quran on Parents

- 1) Sura al Baqarah, verse 83
- 2) Sura an-Nisaa, verse 36
- 3) Surah al-Anam, verse 151
- 4) Sura Luqman, verse 14
- 5) Sura al-Israa, verse 23

Allah - Parents

Scholars give the following points regarding why Allah talks about gratitude to Himself, and then to parents in the same verses:

God

- Source of greatest favors
- Actual source of existence
- Does not ask for reward for

His Favors

- Does not withhold His favors even when not deserved
- Always wants what is best for the human being

Parents

Next source of favors
Dhaheri source of existence

same

same

same