

# **ALI 212: Parent-Child Relationship in Sahifa Sajjadiyyah**

**Session Four - Dua no. 25**

**Questions for Reflection**

- 1) How are children assets in this world and in the Hereafter, according to this Dua?
- 2) What are the various duties that parents carry out for children?

# Desired Behavior of Children

- loving and affectionate
- approaching, inclining towards
- upright (steadfast)
- obedient
- respectful

# Training of children

Through:

- 1) Tarbiyat, correct upbringing
- 2) Ta'dib, teaching
- 3) Birr , being good to them

It is the right of your child to know that he is from you, and with all his virtue and vice, is connected to you in this world. You are responsible for instructing him in good manners, guiding him towards his Lord, helping him to follow His commands which concern you or him, and you will be rewarded or punished [according to how you fare in this responsibility]. Therefore you should endeavor in his training like the person who is going to be adorned by his good influence [upon his child] in this world and [wants to be] vindicated in the presence of his Lord concerning his responsibility about the child.

**Imam Zaynul Abidin (a) in *Risalatul Huqooq***

# Tarbiyat

## Islamic ways of training

1) Freedom in the first seven years, then training them for the next seven, and letting them work for you in the last seven.

2) Nurturing growth through:

- feeding (fulfilling needs)
- right environment
- pruning (disciplining)

3) Using gentle and loving ways to encourage good and discourage evil. It was the way of the Prophet (s).

*It is by the mercy of Allah that you are soft with them. Had you been harsh, hard-hearted, they would have fled from you. (3:159)*

# Ta'dib - Teaching

## 1) Importance of knowledge and learning

Advice of Imam Ali (a) to his son Imam Hasan (a):

I convey all this to you lest inordinate desires, temptations and inducement should start influencing you, or adverse changes of times and circumstances should drag your name in the mire or I should leave you like an untrained colt because a young and fresh mind is like a virgin soil which allows things sown in it to grow verdantly and to bear luxuriantly.

Then, I have made use of early opportunities to educate you and train you before your mind loses its freshness, before it gets hardened or warped, before you start facing life unprepared for the encounter, and before you are forced to use your decisions and discretions without gaining advantages of cumulated traditions, collected knowledge and experiences of others.

**Letter 31, Nahjul Balagha**

Children must be taught:

- a) Reading and Writing
- b) Holy Quran
- c) Good manners
- d) Wisdom

# Hadith

The Right of a child on the parent is that he give him a good name, teach him manners, and teach him the Quran.

**Holy Prophet (s)**

Teach your children three things; love for your Prophet, love of his family, and the recitation of Quran.

**Holy Prophet (s)**

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