



Sahifa Sajjadiyya: Du‘ā 24 on Parents

Session 1: 29 Rabi‘ul Awwal 1436 / Jan 20, 2015

The Du‘ās of the *Sahifa* contain great wisdom and guidance for daily life. Understanding and applying them can result in a transformation of thought and attitude. In this course we will study Imam Sajjād’s Du‘ā for his parents (No. 24). We will discuss family roles and responsibilities as outlined in these supplications, and see how believers can practically apply them in everyday life.

Holy Quran on Parents

وَقَضَىٰ رَبُّكَ أَلَّا تَعْبُدُوا إِلَّا إِيَّاهُ وَبِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا ۖ إِمَّا يَبُلُغَنَّ عِنْدَكَ الْكِبَرَ أَحَدُهُمَا أَوْ كِلَاهُمَا فَلَا تَقُلْ لَهُمَا أُفٌ وَلَا تَنْهَرَهُمَا وَقُلْ لَهُمَا قَوْلًا كَرِيمًا *
وَاخْفِضْ لَهُمَا جَنَاحَ الذُّلِّ مِنَ الرَّحْمَةِ وَقُلْ رَبِّ ارْحَمْهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِي صَغِيرًا

Q 17: 23 Your Lord has decreed that you shall not worship anyone except Him, and [He has enjoined] kindness to parents. Should they reach old age in your [life] – one of them or both – do not say to them, ‘Fie!’ And do not chide them, but speak to them noble words.

Q 17: 24 Lower the wing of humility to them, out of mercy, and say, ‘My Lord! Have mercy on them, just as they reared me during my childhood.

Other verses on Parents: Q 2:83, 180, 215; 4:36, 135; 6:151; 14:41; 19:14, 32; 27:19; 29:8; 31:14 – 15; and 46: 15, 17

How to appreciate the Du‘ā?

Refer to all relevant verses in the Holy Quran on the topic under discussion. In the previous slide we have quoted references to all Quranic verses on parents.

Look at few, about 10 – 12, Hadiths on the topic. We will discuss this in the next session, inshāAllāh. The last slide has three links to Hadiths on Parents.

Similar theme or topic in the Sahifa itself. For instance, check how many times has the Imam invoked Divine Blessings (salawat) on the Prophet and his family.

Du‘ā 24 on Parents: Passage 1

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ عَبْدِكَ وَرَسُولِكَ، وَأَهْلِ بَيْتِهِ الطَّاهِرِينَ،
وَاخْصُصْهُمْ بِأَفْضَلِ صَلَوَاتِكَ وَرَحْمَتِكَ وَبَرَكَاتِكَ وَسَلَامِكَ.

O Allah, bless Muhammad, Your slave and Your messenger, and his Household, the pure, and single them out for the best of Your blessings, Your mercy, Your benedictions, and Your peace!

- He invokes salawāt on Prophet Muhammad (s) and his progeny over 200 times in the entire work. In Du‘ā No. 20, he does it 20 times.
- What do you think could be possible reasons that the Imam repeats salawāt often in these supplications?



Sunni Hadiths on Benefits of Salawāt

- (1) The one who recites Salawāt (Durood) once Allah sends ten blessings upon him, eradicates ten of his sins and improves ten of his grades. (*Mishkat*)
- (2) On the Day of Judgement the nearest person to me, from amongst the people, would be the one who would have recited Salawāt the most in this (mortal) world. (*Tirmidhi*)
- (3) (Truly) a miserly person is he who (when) heard my name being mentioned did not recite Salawāt in my favour. (*Mishkat*)
- (4) You decorate your meetings by reciting salawāt on me because your salawāt would (turn out to) be the Divine Light for yourself on the “Day of Judgement.” (*Jamih us-Sahih*)
- (5) Recite salawāt on Friday in abundance because it is the “Day of presence of angels (for witness).” On this day Angels present themselves (in my court). And undoubtedly when any one from amongst you recites salawāt in my favour then before he has finished his recitation of salawāt in my favour, his salawāt reaches my court. (*Jamih us-Sahih*)
- (6) In the magnificent night of Friday (i.e. the night between Thursday and Friday) and the luminous day of Friday recite salawāt in my favour abundantly, because your recited salawāt is presented to me (by the Angels). (*Jamih us-Sahih*)
- (7) Recite salawāt on the day of "Friday" and the “Friday Night” (The night between Thursday and Friday) excessively because who-so-ever does that, I shall stand witness to him and would be his advocate on the “Day of Judgement.” (*Jamih us-Sahih*) <http://www.themodernreligion.com/prophet/salawat.html>

Shi'i Hadiths on Salawāt

Doubtlessly, among all the recitals mentioned for Ramadhan is the recitation of Salawāt during the day and night of this month. Only one narration is sufficient to realize its importance. Shaykh Saduq has, in his book *Amali*, narrated authentically that from the Asr time on Thursday, a number of angels holding books made up of heavenly silver and pens made of heavenly gold come down to the earth and they rise up by sunset on Friday. Their only job is to note down the Salawāt recited for Muhammad and his Progeny.

It is mentioned in the book *Kashful Ghummah* that Imam Hasan said, “My father Amīrul Mu'minīn said that the Holy Prophet has said, ‘At any place and in any time you may be. Do not stop sending Salawāt on me as your Salawāt reach me.’” www.al-islam.org/moral-values-of-quran-tafsir-hujurat-ayatullah-dastaghaib/part-1

Experience of reciting salawāt

Once a believer, in Mecca, instead of every Du‘ā, sent Salawāt on the Holy Prophet during Tawaf (circumambulating) of Ka’ba. What he recited after concluding a prayer of Tawaf was Salawāt. During his Sa‘ee between Safa and Marwah was Salawāt. Everyone else was reciting particular supplications in Wuqoof at Mashar at Arafat and Mina but he was busy sending Salawāt. People asked him, “How is it that we do not hear anything from your mouth except Salawāt.” He said, “There is a story behind this. I had my father who fell ill and almost fainted during this very journey for Hajj. I saw that his condition was very serious and hard. His face had darkened like a grave. I sought refuge in God and prayed: O My Lord! Please do not make my father die in this condition (which shows Your anger). He (father) is weeping and crying: I am burning. It is a terrible fire. I took refuge in Almighty Allah and said: O My Lord! Please do not make my father die in this condition. It is disgraceful for me. Before long, I could see that in the last moments, his condition changed. His face gradually turned bright showing signs of relief instead of distress. Then he departed from this world with ease and in tranquility. Then I said: O My God! Shall I know how this change came about? Then I saw my father in a dream that he was very happy. I asked about his condition. He replied: My deeds and manners were the cause of my condition, which you saw earlier. But then came a voice from the Holy Prophet of the last age: O the one who sent many Salawāt on me during his life! Now is the time for me to recompense you. So all this rewards from Muhammad in return of Salawāt.” www.al-islam.org/moral-values-of-quran-tafsir-hujurat-ayatullah-dastaghaib/part-14

Best form of Salawāt - 1

My Lord, bless Muhammad and the Household of Muhammad, the distinguished, the chosen, the honoured, the brought nigh, with the most excellent of Your blessings, benedict him with the most complete of Your benedictions, and have mercy upon him with the most enjoyable of Your mercies!

My Lord, bless Muhammad and his Household with a fruitful blessing, more fruitful than which there is no blessing! Bless him with a growing blessing, more growing than which there is no blessing! And bless him with a pleasing blessing, beyond which there is no blessing!

My Lord, bless Muhammad and his Household with a blessing which will please him and increase his good pleasure! Bless him with a blessing which will please You and increase Your good pleasure toward him! And bless him with a blessing through other than which You will not be pleased for him, and for which You see no one else worthy! www.al-islam.org/sahifa-al-kamilah-sajjadiyya-imam-zain-ul-abideen/47-his-supplication-day-arafa

Du'ā 24 on Parents: Passage 2

وَإِخْصِصِ اللَّهُمَّ وَالِدَيَّ بِالْكَرَامَةِ لَدَيْكَ، وَالصَّلَاةَ مِنْكَ، يَا أَرْحَمَ
الرَّاحِمِينَ

And single out my parents, O Allah, for honour with You and blessings from You, O Most Merciful of the merciful!

- Who are the parents of Imam al-Sajjad (a)?
- Were they alive when this supplication was said?

His mother was Shahrbanu, the daughter of Yazdigird, the last Sasanian king of Persia... She is said to have died shortly after giving birth to her only son Ali

Zayn al-'Abidin had collected his supplications and taught them to his children, especially Muhammad al-Baqir (b. 57 AH) and Zayd (b. 76 AH). (Intro to Sahifa by W Chittick).

- According to Ayt S. M. B al-Sadr & S. S. Akhtar Rizvi – the reasons for the compilation of Sahifa indicate that it was done after Karbala.



Hadiths on Parents

There are many Hadiths on Parents. A few of them can be accessed at the following sites:

Parents and Children

<http://hadithdatabank.com/preview.php?mod=4&id=151>

Forty Hadiths on Parents

<http://www.al-islam.org/forty-ahadith-on-parents>

Kindness to Parents

<http://www.al-islam.org/a-bundle-of-flowers-sayyid-faqih-imani/kindness-parents>