



# *Sahifa Sajjadiyya*

## Du‘ā 24 on Parents

*Session 4: 20 Rabi‘ul Akhar 1436 / Feb 10, 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

وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِالْوَالِدَيْنِ إِحْسَانًا ۖ حَمَلَتْهُ أُمُّهُ كُرْهًا وَوَضَعَتْهُ كُرْهًا ۖ وَحَمَلُهُ  
وَفِصَالُهُ ثَلَاثُونَ شَهْرًا ۖ حَتَّىٰ إِذَا بَلَغَ أَشُدَّهُ وَبَلَغَ أَرْبَعِينَ سَنَةً قَالَ رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي  
أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ  
وَأَصْلِحْ لِي فِي ذُرِّيَّتِي ۖ إِنِّي تُبْتُ إِلَيْكَ وَإِنِّي مِنَ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

Q 46:15 *And We have enjoined upon man to be kind to his parents, His mother carried him with difficulty and in pain she gave him birth, and his bearing and weaning period takes thirty months. When he comes of age and reaches forty years, he says: My Lord! Inspire me to give thanks for Your blessing with which You have blessed me and my parents, and that I may do righteous deeds which may please You, and be gracious to me in respect to my offspring. Indeed I have turned to You and I am one of the submitting ones (Muslims).* Similar Du‘ā of Nabi Sulayman in Q 27:19

فَتَبَسَّمْ ضَاحِكًا مِنْ قَوْلِهَا وَقَالَ رَبِّ أَوْزِعْنِي أَنْ أَشْكُرَ نِعْمَتَكَ الَّتِي أَنْعَمْتَ عَلَيَّ وَعَلَىٰ  
وَالِدَيَّ وَأَنْ أَعْمَلَ صَالِحًا تَرْضَاهُ وَأَدْخِلْنِي بِرَحْمَتِكَ فِي عِبَادِكَ الصَّالِحِينَ

# Reflection on Q 46:15

Quranic command of *wa-wassayna* (*And We have enjoined . . .*) appears 5 times, 3 of which is in regard to parents (Q 29:8, 31:14 & 46:15). Mothers bear hardship & pain in pregnancy, delivery, suckling, nursing, etc. so she enjoys special rights and respect.

At forty man attains physical, mental & spiritual maturity.

It's time for thanking, serving & praying for parents with cognizance and realization. Pregnancy time can be only 6 months if we combine the above verse with Q 2: 233. Relevant story.

Why Sayyida Fatima (a) was reluctant to bear al-Husayn (a)

عَنْ أَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ ع قَالَ: لَمَّا حَمَلَتْ فَاطِمَةُ ع بِالْحُسَيْنِ جَاءَ جَبْرَائِيلُ إِلَى رَسُولِ اللَّهِ ص فَقَالَ  
إِنَّ فَاطِمَةَ ع سَتِلِدُ غُلَامًا تَقْتُلُهُ أُمَّتُكَ مِنْ بَعْدِكَ فَلَمَّا حَمَلَتْ فَاطِمَةُ بِالْحُسَيْنِ ع كَرِهَتْ حَمْلَهُ  
وَحِينَ وَضَعَتْهُ كَرِهَتْ وَضَعَهُ ثُمَّ قَالَ أَبُو عَبْدِ اللَّهِ ع لَمْ تُرِي الدُّنْيَا أُمَّ تَلِدُ غُلَامًا تَكْرَهُهُ وَلَكِنَّهَا  
كَرِهَتْهُ لِمَا عَلِمَتْ أَنَّهُ سَيُقْتَلُ قَالَ وَفِيهِ نَزَلَتْ هَذِهِ الْآيَةُ - وَوَصَّيْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ بِوَالِدَيْهِ حُسْنًا حَمَلَتْهُ  
أُمُّهُ كُرْهًا وَوَضَعَتْهُ كُرْهًا وَحَمْلُهُ وَفِصَالُهُ ثَلَاثُونَ شَهْرًا.

# What to do for living parents?

Be good, benevolent and charitable to them (Q 2:83, 4:36, 6:151, 17:23, 29:8; 46:15); Include them in your inheritance (Q 2:180); Spend your wealth on them (Q 2:215); Do not favor your parents when rendering justice (Q 4:135); Pray for their forgiveness (Q 14:41, HP); Do not say Ooh (*uf*) out of annoyance or anger to them (Q 17:23, 46:17); Do not chide them or drive them away (Q 17:23); Speak noble words with gentleness (Q 17: 23); Respect them by being humble in their presence (Q17: 24); Pray for them: *My lord, have mercy upon them as they brought me up as a minor* (Q 17:24); Be dutiful to them (Q 19:14, 32); Thank Allah for favors granted to your parents (Q 27:19, 46:15); Thank Allah and your parents (Q 31:14); Do not obey them if they ask you to do *shirk* (Q 31:15); Keep honorable company of your parents, even if they are non-believers (Q 31:15);



# The *Sahifa*, Du‘ā 24, passage 7

اللَّهُمَّ اشْكُرْهُمَا تَرْبِيَّتِي، وَأَثِبْهُمَا عَلَى تَكْرِمَتِي، وَاحْفَظْ لَهُمَا مَا حَفِظَاهُ مِنِّي  
فِي صِغَرِي

S 24:7 [AM] O Lord reward them for bringing me up, and recompense them for loving me, and guard them as they guarded me in my infancy.

S 24:7 [WC] O Allah, thank them for my upbringing, reward them for honouring me, and guard them as they guarded me in my infancy!

Allah alone can reward the parents for their efforts and love for their children. We need to realize this.



# The Sahifa, Du'ā 24, passage 8

اللَّهُمَّ وَمَا مَسَّهُمَا مِنِّي مِنْ أَدَى، أَوْ خَلَصَ إِلَيْهِمَا عَنِّي مِنْ مَكْرُوهِ، أَوْ ضَاعَ قِبَلِي لَهُمَا مِنْ حَقٍّ فَاجْعَلْهُ حِطَّةً لِدُنُوبِهِمَا، وَعُلُوءًا فِي دَرَجَاتِهِمَا، وَزِيَادَةً فِي حَسَنَاتِهِمَا، يَا مُبَدِّلَ السَّيِّئَاتِ بِأَضْعَافِهَا مِنَ الْحَسَنَاتِ

S 24: 8 [AM] O Lord and whatever pain they may have received from me, or whatever displeasure may have been caused to them by me, or whatever duty owed to them was left unperformed by me, let that be a pardon of their sins and an exaltation of their rank and an addition to their good deeds, O You who dose change evil deeds into multiplied good deeds!

S 24:8 [WC] O Allah, and whatever harm has touched them from me, detested thing has reached them from me, or right of theirs which has been neglected by me, allow it to alleviate their sins, raise them in their degrees, and add to their good deeds! O He who changes evil deeds into manifold good deeds!

Holy Prophet (s): *One who pleases his parents has verily pleased Allah, and one who has angered his parents has verily angered Allah*

Imam Ali (a): *One who causes pain to parents, has angered them/ earned their disowning* (مَنْ أَحْزَنَ وَالِدَيْهِ فَقَدْ عَقَّهُمَا)



# The *Sahifa*, Du'ā 24, passage 9

اللَّهُمَّ وَمَا تَعَدَّيَا عَلَيَّ فِيهِ مِنْ قَوْلٍ، أَوْ أَسْرَفًا عَلَيَّ فِيهِ مِنْ فِعْلٍ، أَوْ ضَيِّعًا  
لِي مِنْ حَقٍّ، أَوْ قَصْرًا بِي عَنْهُ مِنْ وَاجِبٍ فَقَدْ وَهَبْتُهُ لَهُمَا، وَ جُدْتُ بِهِ  
عَلَيْهِمَا وَ رَغِبْتُ إِلَيْكَ فِي وَضْعٍ تَبِعْتَهُ عَنْهُمَا، فَإِنِّي لَا أَتَّهِمُهُمَا عَلَى نَفْسِي،  
وَلَا أَسْتَبْطِئُهُمَا فِي بَرِّي، وَلَا أَكْرَهُ مَا تَوَلَّيَاهُ مِنْ أَمْرِي يَا رَبِّ

S 24:9 [AM] O Lord and that speech in which, they were unjust to me, or that action in which they were extravagant against me, or such of my claims as they failed to satisfy, or such debts as they failed to discharge; verily, I forgive it to them, and favour them therewith: and I turn unto You with a view to removing the penalty thereof from them: For, verily, I do not accuse them falsely of having done something to my hurt, nor do I deem them negligent in doing good to me, nor do I despise the care they took of me O Lord!

Holy Prophet (s): *Travel for two years, so as to do good to parents.*



# Parents' rights per *Sahifa* 24:1-9

Invoke blessings on the Prophet and his family to derive guidance to fulfill all the duties (24:1, 3, 4, 11, 12, 14); Pray to Allah for your parents as follow: Grant them Divine honor and blessings (p. 24:2); Pray to be inspired about the obligations of parents & act on this inspiration (p.3); Gather complete knowledge on how to behave with them (p.3); implement what you have learnt, not overlooking their duties (p. 3); avoid laxity or tardiness in fulfilling parental duties (p.3); have the awe of the parents, similar to the awe of a despot (p. 5); be devoted to them, like a compassionate mother (p.5); be glad & happy when offering your devotion (p.5); give priority to their inclinations over your own (p. 5); do not compare your devotion to theirs, for it's always great (p. 5); never raise your voice (p.6); use gentle words which are agreeable to them (p. 6); rein your temper (p. 6); have a tender heart (p. 6); be a kind loving friend & companion (p. 6); seek divine help & reward to thank them for their upbringing & for respecting you (p. 7); seek divine protection for them (p. 7); pray for their lessening of sins and elevation of ranks in lieu of any harm which may have reached from you (p. 8); let neglecting of their rights by you add to their good deeds (p. 8); overlook and forgive their short comings towards you, and exchange these with your sincere prayers in their affairs (p. 9).





# The *Sahifa*, Du'ā 24, passage 10

فَهُمَا أَوْجَبُ حَقًّا عَلَيَّ، وَأَقْدَمُ إِحْسَانًا إِلَيَّ، وَأَعْظَمُ مِنَّةً لَدَيَّ مِنْ أَنْ  
أَقَاصَهُمَا بَعْدَلٍ، أَوْ أُجَازِيَهُمَا عَلَيَّ مِثْلَ، أَيْنَ إِذَا يَا إِلَهِي طُولَ شُغْلِهِمَا بِتَرْبِيَّتِي  
وَأَيْنَ شِدَّةَ تَعْبِهِمَا فِي حِرَاسَتِي وَأَيْنَ إِقْتَارَهُمَا عَلَيَّ أَنْفُسِهِمَا لِلتَّوَسُّعَةِ عَلَيَّ

S 24:10 [AM] Because, their claim upon me is so great, and their benevolence to me so magnificent, and I am so highly obliged to them, that I cannot fairly meet it, nor repay them as they deserve. O my God, how can I repay them for their tedious employment in bringing me up! And for their hard labour in guarding me! And for their self-denial to lavish comfort upon me!

S 24:10 [WC] They have rights against me which are more incumbent, precedence in beneficence toward me that is greater, and kindness toward me that is mightier than that I should settle accounts with justice or repay them with equivalents. Where then, my Allah, would be their long occupation with bringing me up? Where the hardships of their toil in taking care of me? Where the stinting of themselves to provide me with plenty?



# Parents' rights in *Sahifa* 24:10-11

i) Rights of parents are more obligatory (awjab) than their duties towards their children; ii) Doing good to them takes precedence than expecting services from them; iii) Their kindness towards their children is mightier. iv) Therefore, there is no way we can repay them or render justice.

أَيْنَ إِذَا يَا إِلَهِي طُولُ شُغْلِهِمَا بِتَرْبِيَّتِي وَأَيْنَ شِدَّةُ تَعَبِهِمَا فِي حِرَاسَتِي  
وَأَيْنَ إِقْتَارُهُمَا عَلَيَّ أَنْفُسِهِمَا لِلتَّوَسُّعَةِ عَلَيَّ

*O my God, how can I repay them for their tedious employment in bringing me up! And for their hard labour in guarding me! And for their self-denial to lavish comfort upon me!*

هِيَآتَ مَا يَسْتَوْفِيَانِ مِنِّي حَقَّهُمَا، وَلَا أُدْرِكُ مَا يَجِبُ عَلَيَّ لَهُمَا، وَلَا أَنَا بِقَاضٍ وَظِيْفَةَ خِدْمَتِهِمَا

*24: 11 What an idea! I can never discharge their right against me, fulfil my obligations toward them, or accomplish the duty of serving them.*



# Remember Qiyama when dealing with parents

فَصَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ، وَاعْنِي يَا خَيْرَ مَنْ اسْتُعِينَ بِهِ، وَوَفِّقْنِي يَا أَهْدَى مَنْ  
رُغِبَ إِلَيْهِ، وَلَا تَجْعَلْنِي فِي أَهْلِ الْعُقُوقِ لِلْآبَاءِ وَالْأُمَّهَاتِ يَوْمَ تُجْزَى كُلُّ نَفْسٍ  
بِمَا كَسَبَتْ وَهُمْ لَا يُظْلَمُونَ

So bless Muhammad and his Household

And help me, O Best of those whose help we seek!

Give me success, O Most Guiding of those whom we beseech!

Place me not among the people of disrespect to fathers and  
mothers

on the day *when every soul will be repaid for what it has earned, they shall  
not be wronged* (Q 45:22)



# The *Sahifa*, Du'ā 24, passage 12



اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ وَذُرِّيَّتِهِ، وَاخْصُصْ أَبَوَيَّ بِأَفْضَلِ مَا  
خَصَّصْتَ بِهِ آبَاءَ عِبَادِكَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَ أُمَّهَاتِهِمْ، يَا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ .

S 24:12 [AM] O Lord bless Mohammad and his Al (family) and his descendants, and peculiarly distinguish my parents, with the best distinctions which You have conferred upon the fathers and mothers of Your true believing servants, O Most Merciful!

S 24:12 [WC] O Allah, bless Muhammad, his Household, and his progeny and single out my parents for the best which You have singled out for the fathers and mothers of Your faithful servants, O Most Merciful of the merciful!

O Allah, they are not only my parents but your believing servants, so grant them the best.

# The *Sahifa*, Du‘ā 24, passage 13



اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ، وَ اغْفِرْ لِي بِدُعَائِي لَهُمَا، وَ اغْفِرْ لَهُمَا بِرِسْمِهِمَا  
بِي مَغْفِرَةً حَتْمًا، وَ ارْضَ عَنْهُمَا بِشَفَاعَتِي لَهُمَا رِضًى عَزْمًا، وَ بَلِّغُهُمَا  
بِالْكَرَامَةِ مَوَاطِنَ السَّلَامَةِ .

S 24:13 [AM] O Lord, do not let me forget to remember them after my *Namaz* (the regular prayers) and at every time of my night, and at every hour of my day.

S 24:13 [WC] O Allah, let me not forget to remember them after my ritual prayers, at every time throughout my night, and in each of the hours of my day!

Recite Daily *salāt al-walidayn* (prescribed prayers for parents)

Pray 2 Rak‘at like the Fajr *salāt*. Make *niyyat* of *salāt* for *hadiya* of *walidayn*. In the first *Rak‘ah* after saying al-Fatiha, recite v. 14:41 10 times. In the second *Rak‘ah* after al-Fatiha, recite v. 71:28 10 times. After the *salām* recite رَبِّ ارْحَمُهُمَا كَمَا رَبَّيَانِي صَغِيرًا 10 times.

# The *Sahifa*, Du‘ā 24, passage 14

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ، وَ اغْفِرْ لِي بِدُعَائِي لَهُمَا، وَ اغْفِرْ لَهُمَا بِبِرِّهِمَا بِي  
مَغْفِرَةً حَتْمًا، وَ ارْضَ عَنْهُمَا بِشَفَاعَتِي لَهُمَا رِضًى عَزْمًا، وَ بَلِّغْهُمَا بِالْكَرَامَةِ  
مَوَاطِنَ السَّلَامَةِ .

S 24:14 [AM] O God, bless Mohammad and his Al (family), and forgive me for the sake of my prayers for them, and grant a sure pardon to them because of their goodness to me; And be perfectly satisfied with them through my intercession for them; and bring them by Your mercy into places of safety.

S 24:14 [WC] O Allah, bless Muhammad and his Household, forgive me through my supplication for my parents, forgive them through their devotion toward me with unfailing forgiveness, be well pleased with them through my intercession for them with resolute good pleasure, and make them reach through Your generosity the abodes of safety!



# The *Sahifa*, Du'ā 24, passage 15

اللَّهُمَّ وَإِنْ سَبَقَتْ مَغْفِرَتُكَ لَهُمَا فَشَفِّعْهُمَا فِيَّ، وَإِنْ سَبَقَتْ مَغْفِرَتُكَ لِي  
فَشَفِّعْنِي فِيهِمَا حَتَّىٰ نَجْتَمِعَ بِرَأْفَتِكَ فِي دَارِ كَرَامَتِكَ وَ مَحَلِّ مَغْفِرَتِكَ وَ  
رَحْمَتِكَ، إِنَّكَ ذُو الْفَضْلِ الْعَظِيمِ، وَ الْمَنَّ الْقَدِيمِ، وَ أَنْتَ أَرْحَمُ الرَّاحِمِينَ .

S 24:15 [AM] O God if Your pardon for them has preceded (my prayers) then make them intercessors for me; and if Your pardon for me has preceded (Your forgiving them) then make me an intercessor for them; so that we may be gathered together by Your mercy in the place of Your grace, and the place of Your pardon and mercy: For, verily. You are the one whose munificence is great, and whose kindness is eternal, and You are the most merciful!

S 24:15 [WC] O Allah, if Your forgiveness reaches them first, make them my intercessors, and if Your forgiveness reaches me first, make me their intercessors, so that we may gather together through Your gentleness in the house of Your generosity and the place of Your forgiveness and mercy! Verily You are Possessor of abounding bounty and ancient kindness, and You are the Most Merciful of the merciful!



# 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>



# Good articles on Parents

The Status of Parents in Islam by Syed Hasan Akhtar

[www.islamicity.com/articles/Articles.asp?ref=IR1006-4202](http://www.islamicity.com/articles/Articles.asp?ref=IR1006-4202)

Parents and Children by Sayyid Saeed Akhtar Rizvi

<http://www.al-islam.org/islamic-family-life-sayyid-akhtar-rizvi/parents-and-children>

Rights of Parents & Children in Islam

<http://navedz.com/2009/06/10/rights-of-parents-and-children-in-islam/>

Fifth Commandment – Honor your parents

[http://christianteens.about.com/od/Ten\\_Commandments/a/10-Commandments-Bible-Study-Honoring-Your-Parents.htm](http://christianteens.about.com/od/Ten_Commandments/a/10-Commandments-Bible-Study-Honoring-Your-Parents.htm)