

# *The Daughter and the Sister*

- The basic rights of every daughter include getting gentle treatment and education, in addition to having her health cared for, having her needs attended to, being kept an eye on throughout the different stages of her life, and getting help in managing her duties in a way that matches her interests while maintaining religious and moral values.
- The basic rights of every sister include being cared for and supported throughout the different stages of her life, even if she gets married. In addition, the sister should be given continuous guidance and assistance, and her interests and choices should be considered and respected, as long as they are in line with religious and moral values.

Treating daughters as sisters and sisters as daughters in a manner that respects their rights and interests will safeguard them against any future attempts of the media, Internet, or any other medium to tamper with their thoughts or behaviours. It especially protects them from media professionals, actors, intellectuals, and other prominent figures who falsely claim that they support the rights and freedom of women while, in reality, they are deliberately teaching women how to give up their morals and ethics and how to disagree—only for the sake of disagreement—with people who are closest to them.

Our duties towards our daughters and sisters are not bound by their age or marital status but are commitments that we should hold to until our last breath. In no circumstances should we neglect those duties, even if our daughters or sisters get married, have adult children, or become rich. Our relationship with our daughters and sisters is a perpetual one, and we should try our best to preserve this relationship and maintain our responsibilities towards it.

Both daughters and sisters are entitled to several privileges, most important of which is that they should be given precedence by their fathers, brothers, and older sisters over other members of the family. It is unacceptable for your wife to be more important to you than your sister, for your son to become more important to you than your daughter or sister, etc.

Both daughters and sisters need constant support throughout their lives. They are continuously in need of someone to look out and care for them. Even if they become mothers, they will always be looking for guidance and support from their brothers, fathers, older sisters, and loving husbands.

Nowadays, with the spread of selfishness and egocentricity in society, in addition to the increasing lack of communication and running away from responsibilities, people come up with excuses to justify neglecting their sisters and daughters, including such things as:

- When in need, I always find my wife beside me!
- I have a busy life, and she is already married and has someone taking care of her!

## OURSELVES AND THE REALITY

- I only care about my wife and children. Besides, my wife does not get along well with them!
- She is already married and has her husband to look out for her. She doesn't need my support or even my existence in her life!
- Her brother has the right to punish her as he pleases. We were raised this way, and we will raise them in the same way!
- Her children and she have great needs; I try to avoid them as much as I can. I should be spending the money I make on myself and my kids!
- She does not need me to monitor her behaviour; this is so old-school. She has my trust, and if she makes a mistake, I will deal with her.

Some people live for the sole purpose of satisfying their ambition, which originates from their humanity, to live in isolation, without any communication with others. These people reach an extent in their lives where they shirk their most important duties and indirectly hand their daughters and sisters, with their pure hearts and souls, to others. In other words, the daughter/sister will lend her thoughts to those who talk about the necessity of respecting her and giving her rights. Those people include media people, intellectuals, or celebrities, although they might be liars who claim 'transparency' and 'righteousness'.

There are some who absentmindedly give the opportunity to others to prey on the daughter/sister using different social media available today. One reason a daughter/sister might become a victim of trouble or exceed unethical boundaries is that you gave the chance to one of the filthy hackers to get close to her. As a result of your dereliction, those hackers show up disguised in the form of psychotherapists,

friends, counsellors, etc., who have wiggled their way through different sorts of social media, including smartphone applications and websites, or even through the workplace.

Be honest and logical with yourself; if your daughter or sister makes a mistake or takes a wrong decision as a result of your negligence, then you definitely bear part of the responsibility. Do not come up with lame excuses like assuming that she is already grown-up and therefore should solely be accountable for her choices.

The rights of daughters/sisters are asserted in all religions and social norms, so do not commit the grave mistake of giving up your duties towards them in any way. Namely, do not boast of granting your daughter/sister complete freedom and trust, when actually, you are simply trying to free yourself from your responsibilities and duties towards her. Therefore:

- ✓ Truth: We have no right to grant the daughter/sister absolute freedom and trust in all matters.
- ✓ Truth: Life is not worth much if you do not have a daughter or a sister, so cherish the blessing that Allah bestowed on you.
- ✓ Truth: Committing to your duties and rights towards your daughter/sister will bring you welfare and prosperity in the world and in the hereafter, and it will make your life full of happiness.
- ✓ Truth: Daughters and sisters are like diamonds; their values increase with time. They should always be protected from people, even those closest to them.

- ✓ Truth: If a daughter/sister suffers from emotional or intellectual problems in dealing with you, it is your duty to stand by her and hold on to your obligations towards her and not take this as an excuse to drift away from her.
- ✓ Truth: The ideas that intellectuals, media people, and celebrities preach to her will only make matters worse. Those people are already in the rock bottom of their ethics, and they suffer from severe familial disintegration and wish the same to all people.
- ✓ Truth: Always be forgiving of your daughter's or sister's offenses. Do not allow selfishness to drive you away from her because of those offenses and make you neglect your responsibilities towards her, which are greatly rewarded by Allah SWT.

### Revenge

The ancient Japanese have a saying that 'revenge does not make things better, but makes them worse'.

This saying simply conveys the relationship between an action and a much more aggressive reaction. In this adage, the Japanese are crossing the line between the desire for revenge and the ability to forgive and relent for the sake of making matters better. This is what Islam and other religions call for. It is one of the priorities we should keep in mind in dealing with others as well as our surroundings.

Unfortunately, some societies and affiliations raise their children on the art of revenge and go to the extreme extent of giving social and financial rewards when a child successfully commits the crime of revenge. It is as though these societies

are looking to go back in time to the era when there were no religions and no humanity. These times were not governed by any religion, law, or norm. Strangely and unethically, some intellectuals advocate for different methods of revenge in their writings and describe which ones are most severe. They do this deceptively, masking their ideas in the form of pivot points that they address in their writings or training courses in areas such as management and negotiation skills, economics, self-development, etc.

Some people connect the fundamentals of success to revenge or manhood, to the point that it makes you feel that in order to be a real man, you have to be capable of vengeance. They believe that if you were offended in any way, then the way to redeem your dignity would be through revenge, and they believe that would leave you feeling successful and convinced that this crime of revenge will satisfy your ego and self-confidence. Yet these people are intellectually short-sighted, since the consequences of your revenge, you vengeful man, will leave you feeling weary and stressed out; it will influence many of your future decisions.

Excuses and justifications for committing the crime of revenge vary according to the different forms and degrees of revenge, which are also connected to how strong the impact of the grudge and vengefulness in the hearts and minds of the vindictive is:

- Revenge makes you look stronger in the eyes of everyone!
- No matter what the consequences are, never give up your rights!
- If you were offended and do not seek revenge, everybody will walk all over you in the same way!