

Raising up of children

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[Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISbtteCGwzE>]

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Shaykh Muqbil bin Haadee al-Waadi`ee (رَجَمَهُ اللَّهُ)¹:

From the youth of the Companions are those who were younger than fifteen years old, and they loved and desired that they would go out and fight in the way of Allaah, and they held the Messenger of Allaah (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)² in high esteem.

And from the people of knowledge are those who became great scholars before their beards had grown, and they would teach [at such a young age].

So we should not neglect our children while they are young. We do not neglect them, until the point they are old enough that their moustaches have grown we [then] want to discipline them and supplicate for them. The Messenger (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said – as occurs in al-Bukhaaree and Muslim:

“There is not a child that is born except it is upon the natural disposition (fitrah); then his parents turn him into a Jew, or a Christian, or a fire-worshipper.”

And the Messenger (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) used to give concern to teaching the young children. It occurs in at-Tirmidhee that the Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) saw Hassan [his grandson] eating a date, so he entered his finger [into his mouth], removed it, and said:

“Spit it out, spit it out.” It is from the charity.

Also, showing gentleness to one's children; he (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) used to pray while holding his granddaughter – her name was Umaamah. Likewise, the narration “Keep your children and your mad people away from the mosques” is reported with a chain of narration from al-Haarith bin Nabhaan. And there is a consensus regarding its weakness. Because the Prophet (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said:

“I enter into the prayer and wish to prolong it, however I leave off prolonging it due to that which I hear from a child crying; out of mercy for its mother.”

¹ (رَجَمَهُ اللَّهُ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah have mercy on him

² (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallaahu ‘alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah be upon him

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So I advise you to take your child to the mosque with you and do not leave him unattended; and then when he grows a moustache, you then want to wrestle [and struggle] with a young man [who has strength] like a camel! No, rather this is what you should do [i.e. the aforementioned advice]

Likewise the Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) said to Ibn `Abbaas (رضي الله عنهما)³ [and he was young]:

'I will teach you some words that Allaah will benefit you by way of'

So it is important that we teach our children while they are young. You must fear Allaah regarding your child, and care for him from a young age. The singer's child begins singing before he can even talk; whereas the son of the student of knowledge takes a notebook while he cannot write, and I [i.e. the parent] show him how to write with the pen until he fills pages. Praise him, so when he comes to you saying: 'I have filled these pages'; [you say]: 'MaashaaAllaah!' and encourage him, saying 'May Allaah reward you with good, may Allaah place blessings in you'. You don't leave your child like a cat, and I don't mean that cats are like children – but a cat, whenever it wants to go out [it goes out], and whenever it wishes to return [it returns] – after two, three or four days. No, [this shouldn't be the case]. You must fear Allaah regarding your child[ren], and care for him from a young age. [Then] perhaps the child, if he heard songs – he would say 'A`oothubillaah (I seek refuge in Allaah)' He [the parent] should prevent him from this, such that the child sees his father preventing him from everything [evil]. So the same is true if he sees an uncovered, beautified woman and the like [i.e. the child would act in the same way due to the good upbringing he had been given]. However the one who is [always] careless, [remains] careless – and Allaah's aid is sought.

³ (رضي الله عنهما) (rad iyallaahu 'anhumaa) May Allaah be pleased with them both