

MIFTAAH SEMINAR

PRE-MARRIAGE GUIDE



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Islam's View on Marriage

وَلَقَدْ أَرْسَلْنَا رُسُلًا مِّن قَبْلِكَ وَجَعَلْنَا لَهُم أَزْوَاجًا وَذُرِّيَّةً ۖ وَمَا كَانَ لِرَسُولٍ أَنْ يَأْتِيَ بِآيَةٍ إِلَّا بِإِذْنِ اللَّهِ لِكُلِّ أَجَلٍ كِتَابٌ (13:38)

(13:38) We indeed sent many Messengers before you and We gave them wives and children; and no Messenger had the power to produce a miraculous sign except by the command of Allah. Every age has its own (revealed) Book.

- As believers in Islam, we are allowed to marry, have children, and have a family.
 - Not only are we allowed to, but we are encouraged to do this.
- The Prophet SAW said, "Nikkah is from my sunnah."
- In one narration, a companion said that they would pray all night. Another companion said that they would fast every day. Another companion stated that they would never get married. The Prophet SAW heard this and said, "By Allah, I am most fearful of Allah and most conscious of Him, however, I fast and break my fast, pray and sleep, and I marry. Whoever turns away from my way of life is not from me."
- If a person fears that they will commit haram acts and they have the ability to get married, then it becomes an obligation upon them to get married.

- If a person is unable to get married, it is recommended that they fast.
 - Not only does fasting help to control a person's desires, but it makes us more aware of Allah SWT.
- The Prophet SAW said, "Oh young men, whoever of you has the ability should wed, for it lowers the gaze and protects the private parts. Whoever does not have the ability should fast and that will be his shield."

Which Woman is Best to Marry?

- The Prophet SAW said, "A woman is married for one of four reasons: her wealth, her lineage, her beauty, and her religiousness."
 - The fact that the Prophet SAW mentioned all 4 of these elements means that we should look at all of them when searching for a spouse, however, religiosity is the most important.
- In terms of wealth, people come from different backgrounds and have different expectations.
 - One person may be used to purchasing certain expensive things while another person may not desire to have those things.
 - When looking for a spouse, we should ensure that we are marrying someone whose financial standards we can meet.
- In terms of lineage, one should look at her culture and her family.
 - Does she come from a family that is focused on the deen or the dunya?
 - What type of family does she come from?

- Some people are able and willing to mesh their culture with their spouse while others are not.
- Although it is important to look at the family as a whole, a person must also look at the individual who they are marrying because they might be much different than their family.
 - There may be someone whose surroundings and family seem less righteous, but she herself is very righteous.
 - There may be someone else whose surroundings and family seem righteous, but she herself is not righteous.
- Then the Prophet SAW mentioned beauty as something that should be looked at when looking for a wife.
 - It is important to marry someone who you are attracted to.
 - However, as time goes on, people grow older and their looks will change.
- The Prophet SAW ends the hadith by saying, "So obtain the one who is religious and may your hands be filled with dust (meaning may you prosper)."
 - The most important element is deen because the beauty, lineage, and wealth will all eventually go.
 - The only thing which will remain is their religion.
 - When someone has a strong connection with Allah SWT, you will love them for their deen even if the other 3 elements disappear.
 - We should look for a person who has good character and good deen.
- The Prophet SAW said, "Marry those woman who are child bearing and loving for I shall boast about your numbers among the nations (on the Day of Judgement)."
 - The Prophet SAW encourages marriage with a person who you can have children with.

Which Man is Best to Marry?

- The Prophet SAW said, "If someone whose religion and character you are pleased with comes to you (to marry your daughter) then marry her to him. If you do not do so, there will be commotion on the earth and wide spread evil."
- If a man has deen, he will make sure that all of the things which he has to provide for her is met.
 - He will fear Allah's punishment if he does anything wrong to her.
 - A man who is conscious of Allah SWT will think several times before harming anyone else physically or emotionally.
- The Prophet SAW gave this advice to the wali of the woman, not just the woman.
 - The wali of the woman should not stop her from marrying someone with good deen and character if she wants to marry them.
 - If good people are prevented from being able to marry each other, there will be wide spread evil because people will start to get into haram rather than protecting themselves with marriage.
- When Hafsa bint Umar RA was widowed, Umar RA went to Uthman bin Affan RA and offered Hafsa RA to him in marriage. Uthman RA said that he would look into this matter and then he told him that he decided that he would not get married at this time. Umar RA then went to Abu Bakr RA and offered Hafsa to him. Abu Bakr RA remained silent and did not respond at all to Umar RA. Umar RA said that he was more upset with him than he was with Uthman RA.

- After a few nights, the Prophet SAW proposed to Hafsa RA and they got married. Abu Bakr RA then came to Umar RA and asked him if he was upset when he did not respond to his proposal. Umar RA said that he was upset. Abu Bakr RA said, "Nothing prevented me from responding except that I knew that the Messenger of Allah SWT mentioned her and I was not able to spread the secret of the Messenger of Allah SAW. If the Messenger of Allah SAW did not marry her I would have done so."
 - This shows that it is permissible for the wali of the female to propose her to the man.
 - It does not have to be the man who initiates the marriage.

The Proposal

- A person should know what the person they are proposing to looks like.
 - Females should not remove their hijabs if they are not islamically married to the person.
 - A person's deen should be the main focus, not their looks.
- When a proposal is accepted, it does not make the other person halal for you.
- It is not permissible for a man to interfere in another man's proposal.
 - If someone knows that a man already proposed to a woman, it is not permissible for him to propose to her at that time.
- It is not permissible to propose to a woman who is observing her 'iddah.
 - If a woman was divorced or a widow, she can not be proposed to until the time frame of her 'iddah is over.