

# RAMADAN

## IMMERSION



Shaykh Daood Butt

### Ties of Kinship

#### Hadith #1

عَنْ أَبِي أَيُّوبَ الْأَنْصَارِيِّ، أَنَّ أَعْرَابِيًّا عَرَضَ عَلَى النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي مَسِيرِهِ، فَقَالَ: أَخْبِرْنِي مَا يُقَرِّبُنِي مِنَ الْجَنَّةِ، وَيُبَاعِدُنِي مِنَ النَّارِ؟ قَالَ: تَعْبُدُ اللَّهَ وَلَا تُشْرِكُ بِهِ شَيْئًا، وَتُقِيمُ الصَّلَاةَ، وَتُؤْتِي الزَّكَاةَ، وَتَصِلُ الرَّحِمَ.

*Abu Ayyub al-Ansari told him that a Bedouin came to the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, while he was traveling. He asked, "Tell me what will bring me near to the Garden and keep me far from the Fire." He replied, "Worship Allah and do not associate anything with Him, perform the prayer, pay zakat, and maintain ties of kinship."*

- This hadith is graded as an authentic hadith.
- Rahim (kinship) is a word that sounds like rahmah (mercy). Allah created rahim as a separate creation.
- Maintaining kinship is placed in the same stratosphere with the obligatory pillars of Islam. This tells us that Allah holds it in high regard.
- The Prophet (ﷺ) emphasizes on protecting the pillars of Islam and maintaining kinship as a means to be closer to Jannah and be saved from Jahannam.
- Ramadan is our chance to come closer to Allah and closer to Jannah. This hadith is a great reminder of what we need to do.
- When fulfilling our acts of ibadah, we need to do it for the sake of pleasing Allah. For example, we need to value our salah and be connected to Allah.

- The covenant between the believers that distinguishes us from the disbelievers is our prayer.
- Our wealth is entrusted to us by Allah, and we return it to Allah by giving it to the creation of Allah through paying zakah.
- Silaturrahim pertains to maintaining connection; it does not necessarily require closeness.
- It shows us the importance of keeping in touch with our family members and not cutting ties with them.
- As for the disobedient family members, we should always leave the door open for them in case they need anything from us.
- The Prophet (ﷺ) never abandoned his family members despite their disbelief. They rejected, banished and exiled him, yet he still continued to invite them to Islam and prayed for them.
- It is important to stay in touch with our family as long as they are not causing us harm and pulling us away from the Deen as well as jeopardizing our relationship with Allah.

### Hadith #2

- Abu Hurairah reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said,

خَلَقَ اللَّهُ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ الْخَلْقَ، فَلَمَّا فَرَغَ مِنْهُ قَامَتِ الرَّحِمُ، فَقَالَ: مَهْ، قَالَتْ: هَذَا مَقَامُ الْعَائِدِ بِكَ مِنَ الْقَطِيعَةِ، قَالَ: أَلَا تَرْضَيْنَ أَنْ أَصِلَ مَنْ وَصَلَكَ، وَأَقْطَعَ مَنْ قَطَعَكَ؟ قَالَتْ: بَلَى يَا رَبِّ، قَالَ: فَذَلِكَ لَكَ تَمَّ قَالَ أَبُو هُرَيْرَةَ: ااقْرؤوا إن شئتم: {فَهَلْ عَسَيْتُمْ إِنْ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ أَنْ تُفْسِدُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَتَقَطَّعُوا أَرْحَامَكُمْ}.

*"Allah Almighty created creation. When He had finished it, ties of kinship rose up. Allah said, 'Stop!' They said, 'This is the place for anyone seeking refuge with You from being cut off' Allah said, 'Are you not content that I should maintain connections with the one who maintains connection with you and I should cut off the one who cuts you off?' It replied, 'Yes indeed, my Lord.' He said, 'You have that.'"*

- This hadith is graded as an authentic hadith.
- In this hadith, we see rahim seeking refuge and coming to Allah for help.



- Those who cut their ties off with their kinship, Allah cuts off their ties with them. And He will maintain connection with those who maintain their connection with their kinship.
- The Prophet (ﷺ) has also warned us against over maintaining ties of kinship. Having too much of a connection that is impermissible can lead to danger.
- Narrated `Uqba bin 'Amir: Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) said,

"إِيَّاكُمْ وَالذُّخُولَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ". فَقَالَ رَجُلٌ مِنَ الْأَنْصَارِ يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ أَفَرَأَيْتَ الْحَمُوَ. قَالَ " الْحَمُوُ الْمَوْتُ "

*Beware of entering upon the ladies." A man from the Ansar said, "Allah's Apostle! What about Al-Hamu the in-laws of the wife (the brothers of her replied: The in-laws of (ﷺ) husband or his nephews etc.)?" The Prophet the wife are death itself. (Sahih al-Bukhari)*

- It is important to analyze who our relatives are, know who has a right over us that we have to fulfill.
- We need to respect our family members and please Allah, not go overboard.
- In conclusion, preserving ties results in our relationship with Allah being preserved. While cutting ties, results in our relationship with Allah being compromised.

### Hadith #3

عَنْ أَبِي هُرَيْرَةَ قَالَ: أَتَى رَجُلٌ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فَقَالَ: يَا رَسُولَ اللَّهِ، إِنَّ لِي قَرَابَةً أَصْلُهُمْ وَيَقْطَعُونَ، وَأَحْسِنُ إِلَيْهِمْ وَيُسِيئُونَ إِلَيَّ، وَيَجْهَلُونَ عَلَيَّ وَأَحْلُمُ عَنْهُمْ، قَالَ: لَئِنْ كَانَ كَمَا تَقُولُ كَأَنَّمَا تُسِيقُهُمُ الْمَلَّ، وَلَا يَزَالُ مَعَكَ مِنَ اللَّهِ ظَهِيرٌ عَلَيْهِمْ مَا دُمْتَ عَلَى ذَلِكَ.

*Abu Hurairah said, "A man came to the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, and said, 'Messenger of Allah! I have relatives with whom I maintain ties while they cut me off. I am good to them while they are bad to me. They behave foolishly towards me while I am forbearing towards them.' The Prophet said, 'If things are as you said, it is as if you were putting hot ashes on them and you will not lack a supporter against them from Allah as long as you continue to do that.'"*

- This hadith is graded as an authentic hadith.
- If we are trying to maintain a relationship with our family members but they do the opposite, they are displeasing Allah.
- The analogy of hot ashes refers to Allah's anger. Those who cut off ties with their family will receive Allah's wrath.
- Allah will continue to support and reward the person for their patience and perseverance in dealing with such family members.
- Our goal is to try our best to maintain the ties with our family members. If we face difficulties in doing so, we ask for Allah's help and leave the rest to Him.
- If we have wronged a family member, it is necessary to step out of our comfort zone and apologize to them, then, humble ourselves before Allah and make tawbah.
- If they do not accept our apology, we should not behave badly towards them but instead, we should continue to make du'a for them. Allah is the controller of all hearts.
- The believer should always hold themselves to a high standard. We should raise our rank and strive to follow in the footsteps of the Prophet (ﷺ).

#### Hadith #4

- Anas ibn Malik reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said,

مَنْ أَحَبَّ أَنْ يُبَسِّطَ لَهُ فِي رِزْقِهِ، وَأَنْ يُنْسَأَ لَهُ فِي أَثَرِهِ، فَلْيَصِلْ رَحْمَتَهُ.

*"Anyone who wants to have his provision expanded and his term of life prolonged should maintain ties of kinship."*

- This hadith is graded as an authentic hadith.
- Having good health is a part of provision; from this Allah extends our life.
- If we want to live long and have shifa, we should be good to our family and take care of them. Only then, Allah will give us the best of this life and the next life.



- Maintaining family ties elicits two things; health and wealth. Imam Bukhari listed four hadith in a row about this topic.
- We should maintain a relationship with our blood ties, our spouse, their parents and grandparents, and their siblings. In general, we should be respectful without going overboard.
- Expansion of wealth has two meanings:
  - An increase in wealth; financially
  - A feeling of contentment; happiness, goodness, etc.

### Hadith #5

- 'Abdullah ibn 'Awfa reported that the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said:

إِنَّ الرَّحْمَةَ لَا تَنْزِلُ عَلَى قَوْمٍ فِيهِمْ قَاطِعٌ رَجِيمٌ.

*"Mercy does not descend on a people when there is someone among them who severs ties of kinship."*

- This hadith is graded as a weak hadith.
- This is a reminder that we need to fix our issues between our family members to rid the problems within our family.
- At times, Allah's punishment not only affects perpetrators of the sin but those around the family as well.
- We should try to be a mediator and bring the two parties together if there is benefit and harm, to let go of any conflict they might have, for the sake of Allah.
- Nevertheless, if someone was hurt emotionally, physically and sexually by any family member, we should not belittle the pain that they feel.
- Sometimes, we need to ask the people we are close with if they are okay and lend a hand if they are going through any problems.

### Hadith #6

- Abu Bakra reported that the Messenger of Allah, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said,

مَا مِنْ ذَنْبٍ أَحْرَى أَنْ يُعَجَّلَ اللَّهُ لِصَاحِبِهِ الْعُقُوبَةَ فِي الدُّنْيَا، مَعَ مَا يَدَّخِرُ لَهُ فِي الْآخِرَةِ،  
مِنْ قَطِيعَةِ الرَّحِمِ وَالْبَغْيِ.

*"There is no wrong action which Allah is swifter to punish in this world - in addition to the punishment which He has stored up for the wrongdoer in the Next World - than cutting off ties of kinship and injustice."*

- This hadith is graded as an authentic hadith.
- This shows us the seriousness of maintaining ties of kinship.
- Cutting off ties and being unjust to our family leads to a swift punishment in the dunya and akhirah.

### Hadith #7

عَنْ عَائِشَةَ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهَا، أَنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ قَالَ: الرَّحِمُ سُجْنَةٌ مِنَ اللَّهِ، مَنْ  
وَصَلَّهَا وَصَلَّهُ اللَّهُ، وَمَنْ قَطَعَهَا قَطَعَهُ اللَّهُ.

*'A'isha reported that the Prophet, may Allah bless him and grant him peace, said, "Kinship (rahim) is derived from Allah. If anyone maintains ties of kinship Allah maintains ties with him. If anyone cuts them off, Allah cuts him off."*

- This hadith is graded as an authentic hadith.
- It is important for us to learn and understand the importance of maintaining our relationship with our family.
- When it comes to our family, we must ensure we are not harming anyone, we should be fair to them, and we should make ourselves available but not in a way that is haram or displeasing to Allah.