

وَمِنْ أَيَّاتِهِ أَنَّ خَلَقَ لَكُم مِّنْ أَنفُسِكُمْ أَزْوَاجًا لِتَسْكُنُوا إِلَيْهَا
وَجَعَلَ بَيْنَكُمْ مَوَدَّةً وَرَحْمَةً إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِقَوْمٍ
يَتَفَكَّرُونَ.

وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللّٰهِ صَلَّى اللّٰهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:
خَيْرُكُمْ خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِهِ وَأَنَا خَيْرُكُمْ لِأَهْلِي.

THE SOURCE OF SERENITY IN THE FAMILY: COMPASSION AND AFFECTION

Honorable Muslims!

The family is one of the countless blessings that our Almighty Lord has bestowed upon us. The family is a sanctuary of peace for the soul — a haven of trust where one person is entrusted to another, and one heart to another. It is a school where faith takes root in hearts and worship comes to life; where kindness, justice, honesty, love, and respect are learned and nurtured. The family is a strong fortress that protects a person from evil and sin. It is a hearth of affection and compassion that nurtures a moral generation, shapes identity and character, and builds a virtuous society. As stated by the verse, "**And one of His signs is that He created for you spouses from among yourselves so that you may find comfort in them. And He has placed between you compassion and mercy. Surely in this are signs for people who reflect.**"¹, the family is the manifestation of divine mercy upon the earth.

Dear Believers!

Every member of the family is indispensable, important, and precious. Mother and father are the embodiment of sacrifice, peace, and compassion. Children are Allah's precious trusts, the delicate blossoms of the family home. They are gems in the hands of parents, to be nurtured for the benefit of all humanity. Grandparents are the venerable oaks whose roots carry the legacy of the past to the future, irreplaceable and worthy of reverence.

Esteemed Muslims!

The family homes, built with great effort and hope, today face numerous threats. Deviant movements and false ideologies seek to undermine the family structure, presenting illegitimate unions as families under the guise

of freedom. Our children, who are the guarantee of our family's and society's future, the continuity of our state, and the survival of our nation, are being portrayed as burdens. Mothers and fathers, as well as grandparents, are being condemned to loneliness and neglect under the pretext of comfort and convenience. Certain content on digital platforms—alongside some movies, TV shows, advertisements, and television programs—exposes our family structure to destructive influences, contrary to our natural disposition. Yet let us know this: In the face of all these adversities, we are by no means helpless. The solution to these problems lies in returning to our essence, nurtured by the mercy-laden messages of the Qur'an and the exemplary character of our beloved Prophet (saw).

Dear Believers!

It is the shared responsibility of us all to establish our families in accordance with the commands of our Lord and the example of the Messenger of Allah (saw), to protect them with love and respect, to nurture them with compassion and affection, and to carry them into the future with goodness and justice. Therefore, let us strive to establish family homes with ease, following the advice of the Messenger of Allah (saw), who said, "**The most blessed marriage is the one with the least burden.**"² Let us not sacrifice our children's happiest moments to luxury and extravagance. Let us make our guide the hadith of our beloved Prophet (saw): "**The best of you are those who are best to their families, and I am the best among you to my family.**"³ Let us make courtesy and delicacy prevail within our families. Let us regard the greater number of children we may have, the delight of the eyes, as a great blessing and source of mercy granted by the Almighty Allah. In obedience to the divine command, "**We have commanded people to honour their parents.**"⁴, let us extend the wings of mercy toward our elders. Let us not forget that one of the paths to attaining Allah's pleasure is through attaining the pleasure of our parents.

I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following supplication taught to us in the Holy Qur'an: "**Our Lord! Bless us with 'pious' spouses and offspring who will be the joy of our hearts, and make us models for the righteous.**"⁵

¹ Rum, 30/21.

² Ibn Hanbal, VI, 83.

³ Ibn Majah, Nikah, 50.

⁴ Ahqaf, 46/13.

⁵ Furqan, 25/74.

