

## Appreciating our Mothers in Islam

One of the most beloved actions in Islam is to show kindness to our parents. Sometimes, society discourages us from honoring and respecting our parents and instead tries to encourage us to become more independent and not honor them. Allah commands us to treat our parents with *Ihsan*, so we must try our best to honor, respect, give preference, and show compassion to them. Within our family, our mothers are the most devoted to us and the most determined to see us succeed. Our parents have done so much for us, particularly our mothers, without whom we would not be here today.

### Unconditional Love of Mothers

Sometimes, our mothers become so occupied, especially after having children, that they no longer have time to engage in optional worship. For this reason, Allah (SWT) has blessed them with the ability to engage in an even higher form of worship, nurturing a new generation of believers who love and worship Allah! For every good deed her children learn and perform, such as Wudu, Salah, fasting, Hajj, Umrah, and even the deeds that the children pass onto future generations, she will be part of that reward until the end of time! Such is the opportunity Allah has blessed our mothers with!

### A Mother's Sacrifice

A mother's role involves numerous sacrifices for her family. From pregnancy, where her baby is entirely dependent on her, to sleepless nights caring for sick children, mothers consistently give up their own needs for the sake of their families. Despite exhaustion, they express unconditional love through their care and dedication. Allah immensely rewards all these sacrifices. It's important to often remember the sacrifices our mothers made for us, and we should strive to make their lives better in return.

### Islam's Emphasis on Respecting Mothers

A man asked the Prophet ﷺ, "Who is more deserving of my companionship (my time and effort)?" Rasulullah ﷺ replied "your mother". This question was asked three times, and the same answer was repeated three times. The fourth time the question was asked, Rasulullah ﷺ replied, "Your father." The emphasis on respecting mothers is due to the difficulties they go through during pregnancy, childbirth, and nurturing the child. Mothers are generally more compassionate than others and are their children's first teachers, teaching them Islamic manners and education. The Prophet ﷺ said, "The pleasure of the Lord is in the pleasure of the parent, and the anger of the Lord is in the anger of the parent." Therefore, gaining our parents' love and avoiding their anger is crucial.

## Outstanding Examples of Mothers

In Islam, numerous examples of ideal mothers are found in the Qur'an and the Seerah. Khadija (RA), the Prophet's first wife, was known for her kindness, charity, and successful business dealings. Haajar (AS) showed extraordinary determination in finding water for her son Ismail. Umm-Ayman (RA) was like a mother to the Prophet ﷺ, and Asiya (AS) was like a mother to Musa. These outstanding mothers serve as role models for all mothers.

## Mother's Day

Mother's Day, initiated in 1914 by Anna Jarvis, was intended as a simple expression of appreciation from children to their mothers. However, it has become commercialized, masking its original purpose. Over 33 billion dollars will be spent on Mother's Day alone in the USA this year!

While gifts are appreciated, what mothers truly value is spending quality time with their children. Islam teaches that honoring parents should be a daily obligation, not just reserved for one day a year. In fact, to single out just one day of the year to honor our fathers and mothers is an embarrassment and humiliation to our parents. Every single moment of our lives is for our fathers and our mothers.

In a Hadith, we learn that the quickest path to Jannah is by being kind to our mothers. Jannah lies under our mother's feet as long as we honor, respect, and serve her to the best of our ability. We should be particularly eager to serve our parents when they have reached old age and need more of our help.

## How should we deal with our mothers?

To be kind to one's parents is to obey them, except in matters forbidden by Allah. Even if parents are difficult, showing respect and kindness is necessary. Mistreating or disrespecting parents is a major sin in Islam. If issues arise, seeking mediation or making dua for understanding is advised. The rights of parents are incomparable, and no matter how much we do for them, we can never fully repay their sacrifices.

## References

[Mother's Day – Innovation or Islamic Obligation? - Islam21c](#)

[Is it permissible in Islam to celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day? - IslamQA](#)

[Birr al-Wâlidayn- Ibn Al Qayyim Al Jawz](#)