

KHUTBA-1 **(Sermon during Friday prayer)**

Reproductive Health of Adolescents

Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Honourable Participants

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu (all credits go to the almighty)

With the blessings of almighty, we have been able to congregate in the Jumah (Friday) prayer. The day bears the significance of goodness and mercy of almighty for us--not only on religious perspective but also on worldly aspect. We cannot get together on the other days of the week due to our busyness but today we have become united.

Khutba is an important part of Friday prayer. It discusses issues beneficial to individual, family, society and the state. Besides, listening Khutba is Wajib. Hazrat Mohammed (pbuh) and Sahabahs (Mohammed's direct disciples) used to give guideline on different issues to their followers during Khutbah. Afterwards, the Imams/ Khatibs (religious leader) have been carrying out the same responsibility during Friday prayer.

On Khutba, the Holy Quran says, "Let there arise out of you a group of people inviting to all that is good (Islâm), enjoining Al-Ma'rûf (i.e. Islâmic Monotheism and all that Islâm orders one to do) and forbidding Al-Munkar (polytheism and disbelief and all that Islâm has forbidden). And it is they who are the successful." (Aali Imran 3:104)

As majority number of people participates in the Friday prayer thus, Khutba could be treated as a resourceful medium of social awareness on different topics.

About congregation during the Friday prayer and its namaj, the Holy Quran says, "Dear believers, participate in the Friday prayer wholeheartedly when you are called, leaving aside your entire bargain for that moment--if you feel it is beneficial to you."

Dear Brothers

Today, I am willing to place an important issue before you which is relevant to the principles of Islam. You are aware that today's adolescents are the future of tomorrow. These adolescents will once conduct the country, society and nation and for this, they need to have sound mind and body—as sound health leads to the supreme benefit in life.

Sound health is the blessing of Allah. A person who bears sound mind and body is only aware of his/her own rights and can also do needful for the society. Keeping our body sound is a part and parcel of our regular prayer to the almighty.

The adolescents have to become aware to keep their mind and body sound, in case of problems they have to consult with the physician. It is mentionable that our adolescents are deprived of proper counselling on their health benefits and awareness and thus they have been facing different types of illness. But according to the speech of Hazrat Mohammed (pbuh), it is evident that disbursing knowledge/information among the adolescents on health awareness issue is a part of our religious duty.

Hazrat Mohammed (pbuh) was not only a teacher and a beacon of lifestyle but also was an experienced physician in his time. He delivered holistic and health-welfare related valuable guideline and education to his disciples.

Islam has made it mandatory (Faraz) for all to earn knowledge. According to Mohammed (pbuh), "Acquiring knowledge is mandatory for all Muslim." (Ibne Majah, Mukaddamia section, Hadith-220). Acquiring education has also been made mandatory for all. Knowing everything, including knowledge on health-welfare, is necessary not only for self but also for family and society.

Mohammed (pbuh) has also said, "Cleanliness is a part of Iman (Islamic belief)." From this quote, it is evident that adolescents must become aware of their health including their psychological and physiological changes, its proper management and thus sharing their problems with their parents and well-wisher to obtain timely treatment. He also stressed on the needs of maintaining cleanliness of mind, body, household and even streets, saying "Keep the lobby of your house neat and clean." (Mishkat)

Dear Parishioners

The almighty says, "O mankind! Eat of that which is lawful and good on the earth, and follow not the footsteps of Shaitân (Satan). Verily, he is to you an open enemy." (Al-Baqarah 2:168) Under this directive, the almighty indicates us to intake balanced diet—which is very much essential for the mankind to maintain healthy body. The other dictum says, "Forbidden to you (for food) are: Al-Maytatah (the dead animals - cattle-beast not slaughtered), blood, the flesh of swine, and the meat of that which has been slaughtered as a sacrifice for others than Allâh, or has been slaughtered for idols, etc., or on which Allâh's Name has not been mentioned while slaughtering." (Al-Ma'idah 5:3)

Islam has also given direction of following the lifestyle during the secretion of genital fluid and sperm of the adolescents. About this, Hazrat Ali (rth) says, "I asked Mohammed (pbuh) about genital fluid. He said, you have to do ablution after the secretion of genital fluid and take bath after the secretion of sperm."

In another Hadith (detail lifestyle of Mohammad (pbuh) (Tirmizi), Hazrat Omar (rth) says, "I asked Mohammed (pbuh) about the uncleanness of male genital." In reply Muhammad (pbuh) said, "Do ablution, take bath and then sleep." (Bukhari) Medical scientists have found that taking bath after the secretion of genital fluid, sperm keeps the body clean as well as preventing it from the harmful diseases.

Dear Believers,

You know when the menstruation starts, a female adolescent feels shame and at that time it is our duty to give her proper guidance with learning on it in the light of Islam. About this, the almighty says in the Holy Quran, "They ask you concerning menstruation. Say: that is an Adha (a harmful thing for a husband to have a sexual intercourse with his wife while she is having her menses), therefore keep away from women during menses and go not unto them till they have purified (from menses and have taken a bath). And when they have purified themselves, then go in unto them as Allâh has ordained for you (go in unto them in any manner as long as it is in their vagina). Truly, Allâh loves those who turn unto Him in repentance and loves those who purify themselves (by taking a bath and cleaning and washing thoroughly their private parts, bodies, for their prayers, etc.)" (Al-Baqarah 2:222)

An adolescent not only feels shame when her menstruation starts but also feels uneasy without knowing how to address it. In Hadith (detail lifestyle of Mohammad (pbuh), it is found, according to the vice of Hazrat Umme Salma (RA), that one night the prophet (pbuh) and she were sleeping in the same bed. All on a sudden, her menstruation began. Soon, she silently went outside, wore Fersatun (sanitary napkin) and came back to the bed. Prophet (pbuh) sensed her difficulty and asked her whether her menstruation began. As she replied positively, the prophet (pbuh) then took her close to him under the quilt. (Bukhari)

It is evident that a hygiene cloth was kept stand-by to face such situation. During menstruation the women should use clean cloth (like sanitary napkin) to ensure their hygiene. The mother must have to bear the responsibility of disseminating such knowledge to her adolescents.

Dear Friends

Hadith also details the benefit of ablution. According to Hazrat Abu Horayra (rth), prophet Mohammad (pbuh) advised his disciples to sneeze properly during ablution and also follow Dhila (each part of ablution) unevenly.(Bukhari & Muslim) Adolescents used to roam here and there at this age and thus, ablution could protect them from 'sinusitis.'

Many adolescents in Bangladesh do not take bath after their nightmare and even, they do not know what to do or what Islam instructs to do at this stage. Many

believe that nightmare only happens for male—which is not true as women also experience it. About this, Hazrat Umme Salma (RA) said, “Once she asked prophet Mohammad (pbuh) whether woman should take bath after nightmare. Mohammad replied positively saying that if she experiences genital fluid. As Hazrat Umme Salma (RA) felt shame listening to the answer, Mohammad (pbuh) said, if women don’t have nightmare how could she bore a male child.” (Bukhari & Muslim). So, it is our duty to give proper guideline to the adolescents saying that Islam has made it mandatory to take bath after nightmare.

Adolescents experience different type of diseases at their age. If they don’t disclose their diseases before the physicians at the initial stage, it may bring serious impact in their later life. According to Ibne Musanna (RA) and Hazrat Abu Huraira (RA), Mohammad (pbuh) said, “the almighty has given the cure of all diseases of His creation.” (Bukhari)

From the above discussion, we can conclude that Islam has given serious importance on healthcare of mankind. Following ideology and instruction of Islam, adolescents can maintain their sound health as well as protecting themselves from harmful diseases.

May the almighty gives us the strength to follow His instructions always.

Amin.

KHUTBA-4 **(Sermon during Friday prayer)**

Mohrana reflects the rights of Women

Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Honourable Brothers

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu (all credits go to the almighty)

All the credits go to the almighty as He has blessed upon us creating numerous creations in this world. His credits towards the creations are endless. From birth to death, the life of His disciples is gifted with numerous and overwhelming creations. About these uncountable gifts, He says, "And He gave you of all that you asked for, and if you count the Blessings of Allâh, never will you be able to count them. Verily! Man is indeed an extreme wrong-doer, - a disbeliever (an extreme ingrate, denies Allâh's Blessings by disbelief, and by worshipping others besides Allâh, and by disobeying Allâh and His Prophet Muhammad SAW)." (Ibrahim 14:34)

One of the greatest blessings of mankind is the marital bondage between man and woman. To make the woman self-sufficient, Islam has made the mohrana (a sum of money given to the bride by groom during the marital ceremony) mandatory. Our today's issue is 'mohar' and with the blessings of almighty we will try to detail it.

Dear Participants

Now-a-days, world is not unknown and big enough for us. The modern communication system has brought the man closer to each other. Family works as the basement of the society and through marital bondage, the family constitutes. 'Mohar' has been made mandatory in the marital bondage. The almighty says in the Holy Quran, "And give to the women (whom you marry) their Mahr (obligatory bridal money given by the husband to his wife at the time of marriage) with a good heart, but if they, of their own good pleasure, remit any part of it to you, take it, and enjoy it without fear of any harm (as Allâh has made it lawful)" (An-Nisa 4:4)

Dear Believers,

In the Holy Quran, the man has been termed as the sole controller of a family and instruction has been given that the man will expend his assets to ensure the

healthy lifestyle of his wife. It also says, “Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allâh has made one of them to excel the other, and because they spend (to support them) from their means. Therefore the righteous women are devoutly obedient (to Allâh and to their husbands), and guard in the husband's absence what Allâh orders them to guard (e.g. their chastity, their husband's property, etc.). As to those women on whose part you see illconduct, admonish them (first), (next), refuse to share their beds, (and last) beat them (lightly, if it is useful), but if they return to obedience, seek not against them means (of annoyance). Surely, Allâh is Ever Most High, Most Great.” (An-Nisa 4:34)

Though the marital relationship develops from the equal commitment between man and woman, Islam delegates more responsibilities on man over woman. Husband is responsible not only to bear expenses of his wife, sons-daughters for their housing, fooding and education in moral and lawful ground but also to offer logical amount of mohar to his wife-- as a symbol of becoming her legal custodian forever.

The Holy Quran has declared various conditions to elevate the status of woman beside man—and mohar is one among them. Before the advent of the Holy Quran and during the pre-Mohammadian time of other nobles, most of the clans had forgotten the rights of women including mohar. Later, Shariat-e-Muhammadia (the dictum of Mohammad) had reinstated the rights of woman including mohar—by making it mandatory.

Dear Brothers

The terms and condition of any marital ceremony without offering the mohar will become ineffective and thus, the groom will be bound to bear the responsibility of the unpaid amount of mohars of the first-blood relatives of the bride's paternal family. According to Musnade Ahmadi, “if a person offers less or more mohar for his marriage but does not feel it in terms of paying back, will be treated as a violator during Kiamat (the dooms day).

Hadith also says that a person who defies acquiring the right of mohar will be treated as a violator and defaulter during Kiamat (the dooms day).

According to Sihah Sittah and Musnade Ahmed (rtd), “the person who commits to offer mohar during his marriage but later defies his commitment—is a violator.”

From the above discussions, it is evident that mohar is a must for every Muslim as it is the asset for a wife. She is its sole owner. Only the wife has the right to compromise or leave it as per shariah (Islamic law).

Dear Participants

A person who neglects Mohrana will be treated as thief and defaulter. Because, if a person, who buys any product without paying its due price and also take a thing as loan from other person but don't wish to return it, will treated as thief and defaulter during Kiamat (the dooms day). Thus, it is evident that Mohrana is a sort of debt. Defying mohrana will create two crimes—thievery and violator.

Dear Brothers

You may question on absolution of mohrana. But, keep it in your mind that there are lots of misconceptions in our society on mohrana. One of it is, acquiring wife's consent of absolution of mohrana using trickery way. It is practised in many parts of the country that if a husband requests his wife for absolution of mohrana on the night of marriage day then the wife relaxes it—which is equal to forgery.

If the wife is willing to turn down mohrana, the husband should not accept it rather he should pay it. The Holy Quran says, paying half of the mohrana is wajib (should do). If you want to pay the whole then it will reflect your faithfulness towards the almighty and as a man, your nobility is expected in this way. Woman would require money in their life either today or tomorrow. It is the wish of the almighty.

The wife has the right to sacrifice the whole or a portion of the mohrana. If she does it only to satisfy her husband but not from her inner-self then it would not be absolution. Rather, the husband should pay the due mohrana to his wife at first and after that, if the wife willingly agrees to return it to her husband then it will be accepted. After returning the mohrana, if the wife asks for it again, then the husband will be bound to give it.

According to Hazrat Omar (rtd) and Kazi Surah (rtd), husband is bound to return the mohrana if the wife asks for it afterwards.

Dear Guests

If we cannot pay the mohrana at a time then we can open the mohrana-scheme in Islami bank and thus can clear our due mohrana on monthly basis—which may be a noble act like Faraz (must do according to Islam). Besides, our wife will come forward to use this amount in needs of the family rather keeping it only for her.

May the almighty gives us the opportunity to pay the mohrana to the recipients.

Amin

KHUTBA-5 **(Sermon during Friday prayer)**

Hygiene is a part of Iman (belief in the almighty)
Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Honourable Participants

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu (all credits go to the almighty)

All appreciation goes to the almighty—to whom, we are offering our prayer, asking for help and pardon, and from whom we require blessings to safeguard ourselves. He (the almighty) bestows blessings upon whoever He wishes and the blessed always remains under His guidance. On the other hand, if He derails anyone—no one will be able to bring the derailed person on the track. I am willingly confessing that Allah (the almighty) is second to none, I am also admitting that Mohammad (pbuh) is blessed and predestined for the mankind by the almighty.

Dear Believers,

You are aware that Islam is the supreme and total guiding principle of the almighty for mankind. It bears the guideline on how to observe a lifestyle and also offers solution of any problem.

Islam has educated us on hygiene. In Hadith (detail lifestyle of Mohammad (pbuh), it is found a non-believer told Hazrat Salman Farsi (RA) in a criticising mood that Mohammad (pbuh) is offering knowledge on all aspects even on urinating and feces. In reply, Hazrat Salman Farsi (RA) admitted it proudly. (Sunan Ibne Majah)

Health or healthcare is a unique and important one among all the blessings of the almighty. Today, we will discuss on personal hygiene to keep our body healthy.

Dear Friends,

The almighty says in the Holy Quran, “Truly, Allâh loves those who turn unto Him in repentance and loves those who purify themselves (by taking a bath and cleaning and washing thoroughly their private parts, bodies, for their prayers, etc.)” (Al-Baqarah 2:222) According to Hazrat Saad (RA), Mohammad (pbuh) said that the almighty likes holiness. He himself is clean and thus likes cleanliness, He himself is noble and thus love nobility, He himself is a giver and thus likes donating—that’s why, keep the lobby of your house always clean. (Tirmizi). In another Hadith, hygiene welcomes everybody in the path of Iman (belief) and Iman goes to the heaven along with the believer. (Tabrani)

What is Hygiene?

To maintain our regular lifestyle, keeping oneself safe from diseases is treated as hygiene. We can keep ourselves safe by maintaining hygiene in individual level and also creating habit to follow it. Leading an unhygienic lifestyle with bad habits is responsible for most of our diseases. We can lead a disease-free life if we habituate ourselves with good practices since early childhood.

Dear Guests

To maintain hygiene, we need to do the following:

- Do ablution properly before the prayer.
- Brush the teeth during ablution of every prayer.
- Wash hands before taking the meal.
- Wash hands before preparing the meal.
- Cut short the nails.
- Cover the food to keep it safe from dusts and bees.
- Brush the teeth in every morning.
- Brush the teeth before going to bed.
- Keep hands, mouth and face clean always.
- Wear clean cloths.

The almighty says, “And your garments purify!” (Al-Muddaththir 74:4) He also says, “Well-dress yourselves before every prayer. You eat and drink but don’t waste. Ofcourse, the almighty does not love the squanderers.

- Brush the hair.
- Take bath regularly.
- Wash hand properly after using the lavatory.

Skin disease is contagious

- Skin diseases like scabies happen for living in an unhygienic environment.
- Scabies causes sever scratching sensation at night and thus disrupts the sleep.
- A healthy person may also get infected if he uses the bed, cloths of a scabies-infected person. It also affects the other member of the family rapidly.
- Scabies should be addressed as early as possible. Otherwise, rigorous scratching may cause infection with pus.

Dear Brothers

Let us address the treatment of skin diseases:

- Cluster-based healthcare centre offer services on skin diseases.
- Besides, using the medicine, the cloths, bed-sheets of the patient should be cleaned with hot water and then dried under the sun.
- Quilts and bedcovering also should be cleaned under the sun.
- Cured patients must not come into close contact of the scabies patients.

- Satellite clinic, upazila health centre and family planning centre also offer treatment of skin diseases.

Dear Partners

To keep a clean surrounding, we need to do the following:

- Drop the regular household wastages in a distant hole from the house.
- Drop ashes over the wastages so that it cannot pollute the environment so that it cannot decompose and pollute the environment. Burn the wastages after a few days.
- Clean the house regularly and maintain the hygiene condition so that everybody remains safe.

Let us maintain the hygiene in the light of Islam and be alert of keeping ourselves safe from diseases.

May the almighty bless us for keeping ourselves safe from diseases.

Amin.

KHUTBA-7
(Sermon during Friday prayer)

Men are the custodian of women

Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Honourable Participants

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu

All credits go to the almighty who has given us the opportunity to say the Jumah (Friday) prayer. All the salam (goodwill wishes) and prayer go to His prophet Mohammad (pbuh). The almighty has created the pair of man and women—who are synonymous to each other, after creating this organised world. That is why, the joint initiatives from men and women are necessary for the development of the society. Women are not less important in building the society. Because, women play the significant role in raising their children towards the successful adulthood with the learning of culture, education etc.

Now-a-days, many women are earning their lot successfully by getting involved in jobs, businesses, socio-economical development activities, politics. Women have become the major contributor to the family in respect of supervision and earning. The almighty has said about the relationship between men and women—“O mankind! We have created you from a male and a female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may know one another. Verily, the most honourable of you with Allâh is that (believer) who has At-Taqwa [i.e. one of the Muttaqûn (pious - see V.2:2). Verily, Allâh is All-Knowing, All-Aware.” (Al-Hujurat 49:13)

Dear Brothers

Education is the backbone of a nation and for this, Islam has given importance on obtaining education for both men and women. In the very first chapter of the holy Quran, the almighty says about education, “Read or pursue for knowledge in the name of your almighty—who has created you.” (Alok-1) And this instruction of the holy Quran is equally applicable to both men and women. The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) has said on this issue, “Acquire knowledge from cradle to grave.” (Mishkat) In another Hadith (detail lifestyle of Mohammad (pbuh), the prophet (pbuh) says, “Acquiring knowledge is farz (mandatory) for all Muslim.” (Baihaki)

The prophet (pbuh) also says, “The person who teaches his female servant on Islamic education, then sets her free or get married with her will receive double blessings from the almighty.”

Dear Believers

Women are the mothers of every nation. They play the role motherhood as well as of nation building. An ideal mother indicates an ideal nation. Napoleon said, “Give me a good mother, I shall give you a good nation.” One of the renowned writer in Arabic literature has compared an ideal mother with an ideal institution saying that, the lap of a mother is the ideal institution for her children, as the children also learns from his/her mother as same as they do from the educational institutes. Mother acts like a teacher while guiding her children. So, if a mother becomes educated thus her children will also become educated in course of time.

An educated woman also becomes handfull to her husband by becoming self-dependent and also contributing her earnings to the family as well as maintaining her purdah. Islam never differentiates between men and women in the perspective of education, rather has given emphasizes on women’s education. The development of the society depends on the progress of culture, history and its tradition.

The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) says, “The person who becomes the parent of a daughter is the luckiest of all.” Besides, the prophet (pbuh) says that the path towards heaven is open for those parents who rear three daughters. He also says that I (the almighty) will remain beside those parents in the heaven who will rear their three daughters under the Islamist guidance and hand them over to the ideal husbands. Thus, Islam has given importance of women as mother, sister and daughter assuring their rights.

Dear Guests

Repression on women is increasing day by day irrespective of the village and city. It is the most inhumane and catastrophic social problem in the society. Whenever, we look at the newspapers, we observe the horrible news on women repression and it happens mainly from social chaos and injustice. Renowned social scientist Emaile Durkheim says, “Social chaos happens when society itself fails to control the nature and behaviour of mankind. If moral degradation of mankind goes unabated then the pillar of the society begins to crack down and finally, causes severe disorder in the society.

Women’s repression is a symbol of social disorder. The types of repression in Bangladesh are:

- Physical violence
- Mental violence
- Monetary violence
- Educational violence
- Political violence

The women have highly been placed in respected position in the Holy Quran and thus there is no scope of committing any sort of violence against them. Islam always hates this type of offender.

Dear Friends

Women play the most significant role in maintaining the balance through happiness, peace, enrichment and stability in family life as they spend most of their time in household than their male counterpart. Men remain occupied outside household affairs most of the time to earn the livelihood of their family and as such, women can be more handful for their family. Thus, the advancement and downfall of a family depend upon the major contribution of women.

The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) says, as the woman shoulders the responsibility in a family, therefore she will be questioned about the wellbeing her family. To know the responsibilities of women in the family, we can look into the guidelines of Islam. The almighty says, “O mankind! Be dutiful to your Lord, Who created you from a single person (Adam), and from him (Adam) He created his wife [Hawwa (Eve)], and from them both He created many men and women and fear Allâh through Whom you demand your mutual (rights), and (do not cut the relations of) the wombs (kinship. Surely, Allâh is Ever an AllWatcher over you.” (An-Nisa 4:1)

The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) says, “Women are the life partner of men.” (Sunan Abi Daud & Nasaie) Both the husband and wife will be responsible for each others conduct and will go to heaven for their good deeds and to hell for the bad acts. The almighty says, “Whoever works righteousness, whether male or female, while he (or she) is a true believer (of Islâmic Monotheism) verily, to him We will give a good life (in this world with respect, contentment and lawful provision), and We shall pay them certainly a reward in proportion to the best of what they used to do (i.e. Paradise in the Hereafter).” (An-Nahl 16:97)

The prophet (pbuh) also says, “He, who deals his wife with right attitude, is the best among all of you.”

Dear Partners

Female child are neglected in our society. But, the prophet Mohammad (pbuh) says, “A person, being the father of a female child, has not buried her alive, treated her hatefully, prioritised his male child over the female one—will receive the heaven from the almighty.” (Abu Daud)

In His final speech during the last Haj (pilgrimage), the prophet (pbuh) says, “O mankind, behave with your wife, keeping the instruction of almighty in mind as you have undertaken them in the name of the almighty.” Hazrat Omar (RA) says, “ I confess by the name of the almighty that during the age of ignorance, we didn't give importance to our women. But, later when the almighty has declared their

honour, rights and secured their wealth, then our mindset and attitude had been changed.”

The treatment of Islam towards women is incomparable to any honour in this world. Our prophet (pbuh) says, “the almighty decides the heaven or hell of a person regarding his/her dealings to their mother.” Hazrat Alkama (RA) is the best example of this quote. He was a great fighter and very much pious. In the death bed, as he was failing to pronounce ‘Kalema Taiyeba’ (praise to the almighty) without obtaining the ‘Doa’ (blessings) of his mother, then Mohammad (pbuh) arranged the Doa for him and finally he departed in solemnity.

Unfortunately, mothers in our society remain neglected as their opinion are not valued. But, Islam says that if both mother and father call their sons at the same time, then arrange to reply to your mother’s call at first. Because, mothers’ sufferings for their children are more than that of the fathers. Thus we can see that Islam has reinstated the value of women in the society as well as giving direction on other issues.

Now-a-days, the society has secured the women’s rights unquestionably, but unfortunately, the women’s are still bringing demonstration in the street in protest especially in the case of dowry, sexual violence, acid-burnt. It is evident that if we ensure the rights of women following the guidelines of Islam in our regular lifestyle, then we will be able to ensure peace and development in the society.

Dear Religious Brothers

We need cumulative approach in the society to impose bar against the women’s repression, to diminish the causes of sexual harassment of women and above all to boycott those who are the agent of all these misconducts. To eradicate such dilemmas we have to observe the following issues—ensure mohrana, educating all on contemporary issues, economical development and self-dependency, avoid cultural aggression, ensure human-welfare-based administration, proper implementation of laws and social corruption, avoid black money, bribery, smuggling and women trafficking.

May the almighty give us the strength to ensure equal rights of men and women in the society.

Amin.

KHUTBA-9
(Sermon during Friday prayer)

Early Marriage

Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Dear Believers

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu

All credits go to the almighty who has created us in best shape and size, and gifted us with His creations. All the salam (goodwill wishes) and prayer go to His prophet Mohammad (pbuh) who has ensured the voice of Islam in this world after encumbering sufferings and hatred. Islam gives us instructions on how to relief ourselves from pains in this world and also in the afterworld. The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) has presented Islam with its full glamour before the world so that people can earn prosperity in every respect. To lead a better living standard, Islam has given us instruction on how to observe a marital bondage and its rituals. Today, we will discuss on Early Marriage/Child Marriage in the Islamic point of view.

Marriage in Islam,

Marriage in Islam is treated as a holy agreement with commitment. The conjugal life between men and women starts by observing the ritual of marriage. Marriage is the pre-cursor for starting a family life. It is the most acceptable way to observe the natural needs of mankind. It is also the supreme way to excel ones physical, mental and familial lifestyle. The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) says, "O dear youth, marry if you are able to afford. Because, marriage controls your visions towards sexual appetite keeping your genitals under protection. And those, who cannot afford to marry, should fast as it acts like a shield against the sexual appetite. (Mishkat)

Marriage is a social and familial responsibility and one should adopt it thoughtfully as the husband has to bear the responsibility of maintaining his family including wife and the unborn child. Besides, both husband and wife have the equal responsibility of raising their children through education, character building and religious ideology. So, the youth should wait until they are matured enough to lead a family life through marital bondage. The almighty says, "And let those who find not the financial means for marriage keep themselves chaste, until Allâh enriches them of His Bounty." (An-Nur 24:33)

Dear Friends

Islam has approved the marriage for matured persons. It has been mentioned in some chapters of Hadith that Imam Abu Hanifa (RA) has declared the minimum

age of marriage for women as 17 and for men as 18. (Al-Saif 1974). It was earlier supported by Osmania family law. According to the Bangladesh laws, the minimum age of marriage for men is 21 and for women 18. The marriage below this age limit will be treated as child marriage. Having marriage in early life brings risks for both mother and child. Besides, the sexual intercourse develops both physical and mental problem in the mind of couple.

Dear Guests

People have natural requirement of sex. We cannot deny such intercourse between man and woman. To ensure the continuity of mankind, the almighty has given us this biological urge in our body along with instruction on how to observe it in a disciplined manner. Thus, marriage is the lawful and rightful way of fulfilling this physical need. Physical relation beyond marital bondage is treated as haram (illicit) in Islam and considered as sexual abuse.

Dear Religious Brothers

The objective of marriage is to lead a happy and tranquil life with love, affection maintaining the lineage of generation. Only marriage can ensure the sanctity of mind and character as it fulfils the biological needs of every human being in a disciplined way and helps to bear children. Family is the centre of the society and is the best medium to raise children—and it is constituted through marital bondage.

Islam has given importance on the familial bondage--with relations among father-mother, son-daughter, husband-wife and sister-brother. To constitute social bondage along with its development and rigidity, family plays a significant role. The Holy Quran says, “And among His Signs is this, that He created for you wives from among yourselves, that you may find repose in them, and He has put between you affection and mercy. Verily, in that are indeed signs for a people who reflect.” (Ar-Rum 30:21)

Early Marriage

According to the law of Bangladesh, marriage of woman below the age of 18 and of man below 21 is considered as early marriage. Early marriage debar the welfare of the family. Unfortunately, people are commencing early marriage violating the law of the land which is creating obstacles for both the family and the society. Early marriage brings risks for both mother and children as the adolescent bride becomes pregnant before developing her physiological and psychological maturity. Even, both mother and child may die in the cause. Though, the women in Bangladesh reach puberty at 9-12 years of age but they remain vulnerable to bear any children before 20 years of age. The juvenile mother hardly knows the norms of safe motherhood. Besides, juvenile father remains economically insolvent to look after his family.

When and how one can start a marital life, should be decided according to one's social and economic condition—as man and woman of individual self have separate needs, lifestyle and condition. According to Islam, woman has to be a grown woman and man a grown man. The Holy Quran says, “Select your wife from the grown women.”

According to Islam, both the man and woman have to be Baleg (grown up), if they want to be married. Here, ‘Baleg’ does not only refer to grown up but rather indicates to one's psychological maturity through education, culture and society. Tradition of early marriage is still common in many societies. One's lack not only physical and mental maturity but also experience and knowledge. Without having traditional education, one can achieve maturity after reaching a certain age. Early marriage creates disorder and chaos in the family life—which brings negative effect to the physical and psychological health of the young couple.

Dear Guests

If we look at the lifestyle of the prophet Mohammad (pbuh), we will get our answer regarding the question on the right time of marriage. The prophet, at the age of 25, married Hazrat Khadiza (RA)--a knowledgeable, grown woman and also older than Muhammad (pbuh). The lifestyle of Mohammad (pbuh) is ideal for us and should be followed in all respects. He not only married at the right age but also but married Hazrat Fatema (RA) off at her adulthood.

For the betterment of the family, we must have to prevent the early marriage. Parents, local leaders and adults can play a major role by preventing early marriage in the society.

May the almighty gives us strength to prevent early marriage in the society.

Amin.

KHUTBA-10
(Sermon during Friday prayer)

Safe Motherhood

Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Honourable Participants

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu

All credits go to the almighty who has created us in best shape and size, and gifted us with His creations. All the salam (goodwill wishes) and prayer go to His prophet Mohammad (pbuh) who has ensured the voice of Islam in this world after encumbering sufferings and hatred.

Islam gives us instructions on how to relief ourselves from pains in this world and also in the afterworld. Islam is the reliever of the mankind from all sufferings in this world. It denotes all sort of instructions of leading a tranquil life for the living world and the after world. The Holy Quran says about the prophet Mohammad (pbuh), “And We have sent you (O Muhammad SAW) not but as a mercy for the 'Alamîn (mankind, jinns and all that exists).” (Al-Anbiya 21:107)

Dear Religious Brothers

Today we will discuss about safe motherhood and maternal health. Health and its soundness are one among all the blessings bestowed by the almighty. Soundness of health is a mercy of the almighty which could be proven through the speech of the prophet, “People suffer from two godsend blessings—one is healthiness while the other is leisure.” (Bukhari)

In another Hadith, it is found, “the question that will be asked during dooms day is-- didn't I (the almighty) give you sound health.” (Tirmiji) Mohammad (pbuh) also says, “Pray for sound health in the living world and the after world.” (Tirmiji). Islam has also made mother accountable for her children whereas the society for the mother. We can differentiate the safe motherhood issue into two segments—

- Mother health during pregnancy
- Mother health after pregnancy

Dear Parishioners

At first, we are going to discuss about the views of Islam on pregnant woman. Islam has always expressed open remarks on the mother. It never supports any activity that may go against the pregnant woman. The Holy Quran says, “And We have enjoined on man (to be dutiful and good) to his parents. His mother bore

him in weakness and hardship upon weakness and hardship, and his weaning is in two years give thanks to Me and to your parents, unto Me is the final destination.” (Luqman 31:14)

Husband is the closest person to nurse his wife and he is responsible to look after his wife in every respect, like, taking her to doctors in time. The Holy Quran says, “Wealthy person will spend according to the means for his wife while a person with meagre income will spend according the almighty has yielded over him.”

Dear Believers,

Women require proper nursing during their pregnancy so that they may not feel isolated. Proper supervision of a pregnant woman is a must to ensure her sound health both mental and physical and for this, we need to do:

- Detect the risks involved during pregnancy and offer special care to the pregnant women accordingly.
- Reduce pre-natal and intra-natal marital death.
- Ensure health and hygiene of pregnant women and of the newborn after the birth.
- Offer adequate support to trained birth attendant (TBA) during delivery.
- Encourage mother to breast feed her child.
- Offer pre-natal medication and consultancy seven times in first six months of pregnancy and in every week in the remaining period before the delivery.

Unfortunately, such random visit of the pregnant mother (especially for the insolvent ones) is not possible due to our socio-economical dependency. But, at least four visits to the healthcare centre need to be ensured.

Importance of Food and Nutrition during Pregnancy

Nutrition means qualitative standard of food. Nutritional value of different types of food is different. Similarly, the nutritional value is not equal for same quantity of different types of food. Nutritious food is a must for our sound health. Pregnant mother should intake nutritious food not only for herself but also for her unborn child. We should ensure balanced diet for the pregnant women so that they may not fall to the victims of malnutrition and bring risks for their unborn children. The risks from malnutrition become threatening if the pregnant mother is below 18 years of age. We should consider the following diet for a pregnant mother:

- Nutritious food does not necessarily indicate pricey food rather it means enriched with food value and could be less costly.
- Potato and small fry is not less nutritious than rice and large size fish.
- Guava, amla (Indian gooseberry), hog-plum have more nutritional value than grapes, apple and orange.

- Kolmi shak (bindweed), pui shak (creeper), data shak (stem) and lau shak (shoot of the bottle-gourd) are less costly and full of nutritional value.

The almighty Allah has also stressed the importance on nutritious food value for pregnant women saying, “O you who believe (in the Oneness of Allâh - Islâmic Monotheism)! Eat of the lawful things that We have provided you with, and be grateful to Allâh, if it is indeed He Whom you worship.” (Al-Baqarah 2:172) In some cases, pregnant women are bereft of nutritious food items due to lack of ignorance in our country.

Dear Partners

During delivery, if it appears normal, the pregnant women could be attended by trained birth attendant (TBA) or taken to the local maternity clinic or health centre of any GO, NGOs. In this case, the following precautions must be followed:

- The family members of the pregnant woman must have to keep into cognisance that the situation might become complicated for both mother and child during the delivery (like, if the navel or hand of the child comes out from the ovary).
- The best way to ensure safe delivery is to take the pregnant mother to the hospital where all sorts of facilities are accommodated for the delivery.

Dear well-wishers

We can consider the calculation of timeline for the next child birth. In the Holy Quran, it has been briefed about maintaining the gap for the next child birth otherwise what is the importance of skipping breast feeding for a two-years old child mentioning a period of 30 months. There should be a gap of 3-5 years between the children. Because, repeated child birth brings threat to the health of mother and to some extent, possibilities of risks in new born death arise. Besides, repeated child birth is prone to miscarriage with complicity in mother's health.

According to physicians, the body of woman below 20 years of age does not become ready to conceive. If any woman below the age limit conceives, in that case the newborn could be a pre-mature or under-weight baby. Such, new-borns fall in the risk of early death within one year of their birth and the threat towards the health of their mother also arises. Child birth after 35 years of age brings risk for both the mother and her child. We can certainly extend our cooperation to pregnant mothers.

May the almighty gives us the opportunity to look after our wife especially the pregnant women in accordance to the Holy Quran and Hadith.

Amin.

KHUTBA-12
(Sermon during Friday prayer)

Importance of Rights in light of Islam

Alhamdulillah Nahmadu Wa Nastaenuhu Wa Nastagfiru
Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala Rasulillah

Honourable Participants

Assalamu Aa'laikum Warahmatullahi Wabarkatuhu

All credits go to the almighty who has created us in best shape and size, and gifted us with His creations. All the salam (goodwill wishes) and prayer go to His prophet Mohammad (pbuh) who has ensured the voice of Islam in this world after encumbering sufferings and hatred.

Today, we will discuss on the rights of mankind. Especially, the parents, young generation—present today, could utilise the concept of rights in the society. First of all, we need to remember that Islam is the religion of humanity. Islam never disappoints or deprives any one. The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) has spent all his life to establish humanity in this world. The almighty also says, “And among His Signs is this, that He created for you wives from among yourselves, that you may find repose in them, and He has put between you affection and mercy. Verily, in that are indeed signs for a people who reflect.” (Ar-Rum 30:21)

Dear well-wishers

The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) has struggled throughout his life to ensure the living of mankind. During the age of ignorance, different tribes in Mecca used to fight with each other even day after day. Descending the Holy Quran through prophet (pbuh), the almighty has banished this war at that time. According to the Holy Quran, “And do not kill anyone which Allâh has forbidden, except for a just cause. And whoever is killed (intentionally with hostility and oppression and not by mistake), We have given his heir the authority [(to demand Qisâs, Law of Equality in punishment or to forgive, or to take Diya (blood money)]. But let him not exceed limits in the matter of taking life (i.e he should not kill except the killer only). Verily, he is helped (by the Islâmic law).” (Al-Isra 17:33)

So, Islam has ensured the living rights of every human being—as no woman will be tortured or no woman will be brought under the risks of pregnancy, rather we will have to deal them generously. According to the Hadith, “Ubayda Ibnu Samed says quoting the prophet (pbuh), if any pregnant kills anyone then she would not be condemned with death charges until her baby is born and given to someone's custody.” (Tirmiji)

Islam has also given importance on education. The almighty says, “Read! In the Name of your Lord, Who has created (all that exists),” (Al-'Alaq 96:1) And this

instruction of the holy Quran is equally applicable to both men and women. The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) has said on this issue, “Acquire knowledge from cradle to grave.” (Mishkat) In another Hadith (detail lifestyle of Mohammad (pbuh), the prophet (pbuh) says, “Acquiring knowledge is farz (mandatory) for all Muslim.” (Baihaki)

The prophet (pbuh) also says, “The person who teaches his female servant on Islamic education, then sets her free or get married with her will receive double blessings from the almighty.”

Here the knowledge not only means Islamic learning to build ones character but also the reproductive health. So, we can infer that Islam has made seeking-knowledge mandatory for both male and female.

Dear Participants

People are living in this world maintaining social norms and these norms are developed with the constitution of family. Marital bondage between men and women creates the family. Islam has not only made marriage farz (mandatory) but also made it haram (illicit) for some persons. So, we should not marry anyone off for whom marriage has become illicit. The prophet Mohammad (pbuh) says, “O dear youth, marry if you are able to afford. Because, marriage controls your visions towards sexual appetite keeping your genitals under protection. And those, who cannot afford to marry, should fast as it acts like a shield against the sexual appetite. (Mishkat) So, marriage is a right for a person.

‘Mohar’ has been made mandatory in the marital bondage. The almighty says in the Holy Quran, “And give to the women (whom you marry) their Mahr (obligatory bridal money given by the husband to his wife at the time of marriage) with a good heart,” (An-Nisa 4:4)

The almighty also says, “but if they, of their own good pleasure, remit any part of it to you, take it, and enjoy it without fear of any harm (as Allâh has made it lawful).” (An-Nisa 4:4)

Marriage is a social and familial responsibility and one should adopt it thoughtfully as the husband has to bear the responsibility of maintaining his family including wife and the unborn child. Besides, both husband and wife have the equal responsibility of raising their children through education, character building and religious ideology. So, the youth should wait until they are matured enough to lead a family life through marital bondage.

The almighty says, “And let those who find not the financial means for marriage keep themselves chaste, until Allâh enriches them of His Bounty. And such of your slaves as seek a writing (of emancipation), give them such writing, if you know that they are good and trustworthy. And give them something yourselves out of the wealth of Allâh which He has bestowed upon you. And force not your

maids to prostitution, if they desire chastity, in order that you may make a gain in the (perishable) goods of this worldly life. But if anyone compels them (to prostitution), then after such compulsion, Allâh is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful (to those women, i.e. He will forgive them because they have been forced to do this evil action unwillingly).” (An-Nur 24:33)

To observe the birth control, the husband can split away his sperm outside the vagina during the sexual intercourse obtaining prior permission from the wife. Hazrat Omar (RA) says quoting the prophet (pbuh), do not follow azaol (secreting sperm outside vagina) without obtaining prior permission from your wife.

The almighty says, “And those believers say, O Allah! Cool the visions of our wives towards raising our children, make leaders from our nobles.” (Ibne-Majah) It means, women have their rights on deciding how many children they will bear.

Dear Partners

Every man has their rights of being in sound health—as the almighty has blessed us with good health. According to Ibne Musanna (RA) and Hazrat Abu Huraira (RA), Mohammad (pbuh) said, “the almighty has given the cure of all diseases of His creation.” (Bukhari) The almighty says, “O mankind! Eat of that which is lawful and good on the earth, and follow not the footsteps of Shaitân (Satan). Verily, he is to you an open enemy.” (Al-Baqarah 2:168) Under this directive, the almighty indicates us to intake balanced diet—which is very much essential for the mankind to maintain healthy body.

The other dictum says, “Forbidden to you (for food) are: Al-Maytatah (the dead animals - cattle-beast not slaughtered), blood, the flesh of swine, and the meat of that which has been slaughtered as a sacrifice for others than Allâh, or has been slaughtered for idols, etc., or on which Allâh's Name has not been mentioned while slaughtering,” (Al-Ma'idah 5:3)

Islam has also given importance on equal consumption of food for both men and women. The prophet (pbuh) says, “Whenever you eat, take your wife beside you, whenever you wear, give her also a new one.” (Mimkat)

The prophet (pbuh) says, there are four criteria of selecting a violator and the one among them is who violates anyone’s trusted property. Here, the property means anyone’s wealth or even a secret. So, it is the rights of the doctors to maintain the secrets, especially of reproductive health, of his/her patients as trusted property.

Dear Brothers

Islam denounces the relationship between men and women, and also the sexual relationship outside any marital bondage. The almighty says, “And come not near

to the unlawful sexual intercourse. Verily, it is a Fâhishah [i.e. anything that transgresses its limits (a great sin)], and an evil way (that leads one to Hell unless Allâh forgives him).” (Al-Isra 17:32) Even, Islam has made the use of any drug substance, used for addiction, as illegal. In our society, our teenagers are being perturbed on their way to school, colleges and universities by some misguided boys, adolescents—which Islam discourages totally.

Islam has given importance on the familial bondage--with relations among father-mother, son-daughter, husband-wife and sister-brother. To constitute social bondage along with its development and rigidity, family plays a significant role. The Holy Quran says, “And among His Signs is this, that He created for you wives from among yourselves, that you may find repose in them, and He has put between you affection and mercy. Verily, in that are indeed signs for a people who reflect.” (Ar-Rum 30:21)

The almighty also says, “Your wives are a tilth for you, so go to your tilth (have sexual relations with your wives in any manner as long as it is in the vagina and not in the anus), when or how you will, and send (good deeds, or ask Allâh to bestow upon you pious offspring) before you for your own selves. And fear Allâh, and know that you are to meet Him (in the Hereafter), and give good tidings to the believers (O Muhammad).” (Al-Baqarah 2:223)

Science has brought us to an elevated level. The Holy Quran says, “By the Qur’ân, full of wisdom (i.e. full of laws, evidences, and proofs),” (Ya-Sin 36:2) From this quote it is seen that the almighty has given us instruction to lead a scientific lifestyle. The benefits of medical and health sector ripped from science should become accessible to all likewise, that of self-hygiene.

If we can follow the guidelines of Islam then we will be able to lead righteous way of life as well being concern on others rights. Basically, Islam means to follow not only to know.

Let us lead a tranquil, happy life by observing the guidelines of Islam and also advising others to follow it and becoming cautious on self-rights.

Amin