

# **Happily Ever After**

**Alaa Al Sayed**

# Course Outline

## Course Topics:

1. Right of the wife
2. Good treatment of the wife
3. Taking care of the wife
4. Following the commands of Allah towards the spouse
5. Reward of obeying the husband
6. Intimate relationship
7. A good wife
8. What kind of wife one should marry
9. Successful marriage
10. The three A's
11. Causes of divorce

## Course Objectives:

1. To learn one's duties and rights towards the spouse and to apply that in real life
2. To be aware of what destroys the marriage or the happy marital life
3. To know how to choose one's spouse according to the teachings of the Qur'an

QUESTION & ANSWER BUCKET

TRANSCRIPTS

## ASSESSMENT

Multiple Choice Questions

Match the Columns

True or False

## COURSE DURATION

Video	–	2:00 min
Study Guide	–	35 min
Assessment	–	15 min
Total Duration	–	2 hours 50 mins

# Lesson 1: Happily Ever After Part 13

## 1. Rights of the Wife

Allah says in the Qur'aan "and women shall have rights similar to the rights against them" according to what is equitable. So, if I want her to look beautiful for me, I'm going to look beautiful for her. If I want her to smell good to me, I want to smell good for her and down the list. This is the very verse Ibn Abbaas quoted for someone who objected seeing him looking at himself in the mirror. Ibn Abbaas explained, " I am beautifying myself for my wife".

One should show emotions to his wife. The best of creations, the prophet (pbuh) says, "Ruziqtu Hubbaha" declaring it to the world (I was blessed with her [Aishah's] love). Your spouse is your measuring stick.

Prophet also said, "The best money you spend is the money you spend on your family.

You work for the family like anybody else but you are rewarded because your intention is to carry out the responsibility Allah laid upon you. Here habits become acts of worship.

When you return home and find your wife having beautified herself for you, she is rewarded because that is the Sunnah. To make that happen, you may notify her of your return so as to give her time to prepare.

When you reach home, start with cleaning yourself, to look nice for her. Wear perfume.

Each spouse should look after their spouse's physical and emotional needs.

The messenger (pbuh) went further than that and had a foot race with Aishah, when she was light, and she beat him. When she got weight, he had another foot race and he beat her, commenting "this is for that".

Make sure that she's stable; she's secure in the relationship and tell her I want to be with you in Jannah.

One of the Sahabah came to the door of Omar, and heard his wife giving him a hard time.

That man was coming to knock on the door of Omar to look for a solution for him, because his wife was giving him a hard time. So just before he knocked, he heard a lot of noise inside. So he turned around, and walked away. Omar noticed and asked him, what are you here for? Then

he asked, maybe, you heard my wife is giving me a hard time. He says, yes. He says, "She looks after me. She looks after my whims and desires. She looks after my kids. She cleans the house. She cooks for us. She's a good wife. Should I not be patient with her?"

In the Qur'aanic language, our wives are our till, wherein we put our seeds. Too much care should be applied before we get the desired outcomes. Trim off any undesirable growths on the tree, through education and correction. keep the house clear of any unlawful earning and possessions.

Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) said to the man roughly driving the camels of women, Rifqan bil Qawaareer. Qawaareer is the singular of Qaaroorah, and Qaaroorah means a glass vessel. it means that the woman is an emotional being.

## Lesson 2: Happily Ever After Part 14

### 2. Good Treatment of the Wife

Islam is the only religion on the face of the earth that raises woman three times higher than men because of that simple fact that they through the labour and nursing. So, when Allah says he is the source of peace and tranquillity. You have to think of those sources of peace and tranquillity.

Allah also said, that He made between the two of you Mawaddah and Rahmah. 'Mawaddah' means compassion and forbearing. It is derived from Wadood, the name of Allah and Rahmah we said that comes from Ar Rahmanur Raheem.

These are the two pillars of a strong home.

So, now we are supposed to be the protectors, not those who cause harm. Allah said, (men are responsible for and protectors over women). And that's what it is. And that's the reason when I tell the sisters to look for a brother that is Qawiyyun, Ameen, strong and trustworthy.

The strength has to be dealt with in a proper manner not misused or abused. That's why we're looking for Ameen, a trustworthy. Are you leading her to the Hereafter? Are you leading her to heaven?

Be a key to Paradise for Muslims, especially those under your supervision.

May Allah make us among the keys for good and among the preventers of evil. Such is the characteristic of a good husband. This means that when you see her doing something wrong, help her, correct her nicely through the following steps:

- i. First step 'idhoohunna (admonish them nicely).
- ii. The second step "wah juroohunna fil madaaji" (desert them in beds) not all the time or everywhere.

The Qiwaamah is the responsibility that Allah has placed on the man towards the woman. It is for a reason. Such authority should not be misused. One should not be so jealous as to stifle your wife.

Jealousy should be within Allah's borders. Allah loves the man that is jealous within the right extent. So, if I talk about the jealousy, we have to make sure it's in the proper context, in the proper means not to stifle the sister. the husband should be clear about the people he does not want her to be with, and that too should be for a reason.

One should be fair with his wife. Allah says, "And say the truth". And He says (to be fair), "establish the Qist", even if the Qist is higher than 'Adl. Allah continues in this regard, "even against yourself, your parents, and the relatives". However, all should be tackled with wisdom.

So, in the parents-wife conflict, one should be just with all, and should show due respect for his parents. Otherwise, his wife will lose respect and trust in him.

Women want to hear and receive affectionate words and touches. Also, one should overlook mistakes.

The Prophet told us to enjoy women as they are, and told us that they are Asra they are hostages under your custody

## Lesson 3: Happily Ever After Part 15

### 3. Taking Care of the Women

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) says, "Take care of the women; be kind to women; this remained his advice even in the Farewell Sermon and on his deathbed.

Allah says, wa 'aashiruhunna bil ma'roof, meaning "deal with them in righteousness and though what is known to be good.

Allah said that your wife is you're a beautiful till. Therefore, we should sow and spend time taking care of them, in order to get the desired fruit.

Elsewhere in the Qur'an, Allah tells us that they are our clothes and we are their clothes. Each one covers the faults of others, and each protects the other from harm.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) says, defending women, by stating their emotional nature, "They are created from that bent rib, commanding us to enjoy them as is.

Look for the negative. You look for the positive.

You're looking for the beauty of one another. And that's what the garment does. Not only that, It's a cool thing to skin, which keeps your secret.

Even after divorce, Allah said, "don't forget the good between the two of you".

As regards the intimate relationship, some of the scholars says at least once every fourth day she has the right because of Islam gives you the right to marry four wives.

Some of the scholars say that once every four nights. And some of the scholars say once every menstrual period, and some of the scholars say every four months because a soldier in the army is allowed to go home after four months.

Her money is hers. Even if she is the richest woman in the world; do not touch her money, unless she herself willingly gives.

The husband is obliged to sustain her. If you do not, you don't become a man anymore, and you lose the Qiwaamah. She should be provided food, clothes and house, the same as one gets for himself.



She can be allowed to work if she asks you to do so, if it is a Halal working environment. If he is doing his duty towards his wife and is sending some money home, that is a great virtue.

Spending more than one has in his credit leads to subjugation to debts and interests accumulate over the time and become unbearable. One should be content with whatever means Allah has given him.

First address your financial issues; don't shelf it. Make a list of what we can afford. Things that are expensive can be set aside and money can be saved for a period of time.

When asked about which man should be given precedence in marriage, Al Hasan says At Taqiyy (the righteous man), the one that is conscious of Allah. When he was asked, why? He says, "If he loves her he will be generous to her; and if he doesn't like her, he will still not oppress her.

## Lesson 4: Happily Ever After Part 16

### 4. Following the Commands of Allah Towards the Spouse

If you insist but to disobey Allah in treating me, I insist but to obey Allah in treating you. And that's the banner that should be raised

Based on the fact that obedience is the factor that makes marital relations continue, if one of the spouses rejects any of the regulations Allah has set to regulate their relationship accusing it to be against the human rights or anything for that matter, here their faith should be checked and treated, because it is not at all Islamic to reject any of Allah's laws.

A Muslim submits to the law of Allah.

The prophet asked a woman whether she was married, and she answered in the affirmative. He said, "be careful for he is your heaven or he is your Hell".

On the basis of her relationship with him, she will either be sent to heaven or hell.

A wife should compete with Hurul Een.

If Hurul Een see someone harming their husband, they say, Woe to you. After a while, he will come to us, and we will show him all the good.

#### **Obedience to the husband**

Number one of the rights of the husband is Ta'ah (obedience). But now this obedience is qualified by the prophet's statement, "There should be no obedience for the creation in the disobedience of the Creator".

Allah said, "O you who have believed, obey Allah and obey the messenger, and those in charge of you (your guardians).

Number-one man in your life before marriage was your father. But as soon as your father puts his hand in your husband's hand, he is transferring the Ijarah, the guardianship, the Wilayah to your husband.

obedience of Allah and obedience to the messenger is mentioned but the word obey is not repeated with the Guardians, which means the obedience of the Guardians has to be in the obedience of Allah and His messenger.

It is not a blank check that we're asking you to be blindly obedient to your husband. He says (in the obedience of Allah and His messenger).

## 5. Reward of Obeying the Husband

The prophet said, "if the woman performs her five prayers, fast her month [of Ramadhan] guards her chastity and obeys her husband, it will be said to her: enter paradise from whichever gate you wish."

If the husbands notices that the visit to certain people will cause problems, he has the right to prevent the wife from going there.

### **Avoid the following women**

- i. Al Ghadhoob: the one who gets angry quickly.
- ii. Al Qatoob: the one who is always frowning, although Islam tells us that smiling when meeting your brother is a righteous deed
- iii. Al Lafoot: the one who looks at men comparing her husband to everybody else. One of the main features of the Hurul Ein in Paradise is that they are Qasiratut Tarf " meaning that they limit their gazes to their husbands.
- iv. Al Hannaanah: the one who misses her previous husband
- v. Al Mannaanah: the one who keeps reminding you of her favours to you. This is a big sin
- vi. Al Annaanah; the one who always complains of pains

Among the reasons Allah mentions for marriage is to find settlement, peace and tranquillity with the wife.

When the Prophet received the first revelation, he came to his wife, Khadeejah trembling. She assured him that Allah would never disgrace him, since he is always kind to all people, and gives each their rights in full.

## Lesson 5: Happily Ever After Part 17

### 6. Intimate Relationship

Number-two reason for divorce is intimate relations. Men are physically based while women are emotionally based.

- i. The prophet tells us that having intimate relations with one's spouse is rewarded. He explains that with the logic that fulfilling one's desires out of wedlock is punishable, and fulfilling it legally is rewardable.
- ii. When the men were polled, 80 to 90% of men said this was number-one reason why they wanted to get married
- iii. Remember you cannot touch your wife in certain areas and in two certain periods, in the time of menses, the monthly period and of course, the sodomy.
- iv. Now the Hadith says if the husband wants to have intimate relation with you, and you deny, you refuse, and as result, he sleeps angry because of that, the angels will curse you till the morning." So, all night you being cursed by the angels. So, you understand what curse (la'n) means: being kicked out of the Mercy of Allah.

The work in the kitchen should not be a barrier to beautification for the husband. He should return and find you in an appealing look. It is not proper to dress only for the sake of going outside in parties or outings. The husband has more right.

When the children become a barrier that hinders the intimate relation, they should be kept away. The wife should clear off all barriers that prevent having intimate relationship.

She should not keep giving excuses so as to avoid responding to her husband's call to bed. Men marry mainly to get this relation. According to a poll conducted, 80-90 percent of men go for marriage so as to fulfil their physical need.

Your brother-in-law is not part of your family. You should not mix with him. The Prophet said, Al Hamo (male relation from the husband's side) is death. This is because when he is alone with the wife, scary things take place, and there are ugly stories.

Avoid following the steps of the Shaitan. He drags you slowly and gradually towards the big sin. He will instigate you to look at the woman first. He will make everything seem fair in your

eyes. Then you will start speaking, then the bodies will get closer and ultimately the evil crime will take place.

Barseesa was a monk, who was deemed among the most religious and trustworthy men. Three brothers wanted to go for Jihad and entrusted their sister with him. He started just putting the food for her a little away and she got it. He then put it closer and closer. Then he started talking to her whether she needed anything.

Then they became more intimate and finally she got pregnant. For the fear of her brothers, he killed her along with her foetus. Now the Shaitan told her brothers the true story, and came to the monk and offered to get him out of it on the condition he utters blasphemous words. He did and immediately died as a disbeliever. This is because he followed the footsteps of the Shaitan.

## Lesson 6: Happily Ever After Part 18

### 7. A Good Wife

Asmaa Bint Yazeed came to ask Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) a very intellectual question. She mentioned to him the good deeds the men do such as jihad, following funeral processions and other things, and she said that on the other hand, women are confined in the houses serving these men who do such good deeds.

The prophet informed her that their being righteous intimate wives to their husbands is equivalent to all that men do.

Women form the majority of the people of the Hellfire. This is what the messenger of Allah said.

When he was asked about the reason, he replied, "in fact, you curse a lot, and you are ungrateful to your husbands. He commented that such women would deny the perpetual favours of her husband, every time she is angry with him.

#### **Is it obligatory upon you to serve your husband?**

There is a difference of opinion among the scholars:

- i. It's an obligation upon women to serve their husbands. It is according to every community's custom and tradition; she should serve him as the norm in your area. This is based on the Hadeeth of Omar when he justified bearing the troubles his wife made by mentioning that she served him. They also based this view on the story of Ali when his wife, Fatimah came to her father complaining to him the house chores and asking him to give her a servant.
- ii. It's not really an obligation, the husband should hire a maid to serve and so on.

### 8. What Kind of Woman one Should Marry?

In describing the woman one should seek to marry, the prophet (pbuh) said:

- i. Al Wadood, the one that is compassionate, active, gentle and forbearing
- ii. Al Walood" the one that gives birth
- iii. The one that pleases her husband whenever he looks at her

- iv. And when he is away from her, she keeps what he left behind (his wealth, secrets, her chastity and fidelity).
- v. If he tells her something, she obeys him.

## Lesson 7: Happily Ever After Part 19

### 9. Successful Marriage

Marriages are of many types. Some are successful and are bound to continue while some others are not. Here are a list of the types of marriages:

- i. **Cake marriage:** It is the one that has his cake and eats it too, which means the man is married, but he fornicates, or even the other side, the woman is married, and she also fornicates.

This type of spouse sacrificing his seat in Paradise and intently goes to the Hellfire, for the sake of a transient pleasure or displeasure.

The best solution is to repent since repenting obliterates all previous sins, as the Prophet said.

- ii. **Mush marriage:** this is a type of marriage that acknowledges no rules or regulations, nor any role specification of spouse. The spouses acknowledge no difference between religion and culture.
- iii. **Business marriage:** this is the marriage where girl is given to the highest bidder, to the richer, not the righteous man. Here, there can be no intimate relationship in a way that is so emotional, so spiritual; no bond, no friendship. They are literally business partners, and each demanding the other to pay the bills.
- iv. **Mummy marriage:** where the husband becomes the child, doing what his wife orders him to do, as if she was his master.

The prophet said, Allah curses a man that acts like a woman, and a woman that acts like a man". So, this mummy marriage is not very healthy

- v. **Double-car garage.** This is the healthiest marriage ever. The double-car garage is you have two individual doors but together. That means they have their own friends, their own habits, their own events, their own life, their own everything. They are confident enough in each other to give each other, individualism but also flex enough that they love one another and that they can share a few things together.
- vi. **Paper marriage:** It is a marriage for the sole purpose to getting some papers done. They meet in a foreign country and marry for the sake of residence in that country.



Once this purpose is achieved, they divorce their wife or their husband and they get the lawyers in. It is ugly.

- vii. **Fear marriage.** You just fear of separation, or fear of being alone. You're tolerant to one another for the simple fact that you have kids; it is Qadar. I have nothing to do with this man. I have nothing to lose with this woman.

## 10. The Three A's

There are three A's to avoid divorce: one, **Avoid**; two, **Alter**; three, **Accept**.

- i. **Avoid** the root cause of your misery. This is a method to protect your home; it is called Root cause analysis, which is engineering change, and is the best to remove the cause of your misery out.
- ii. **Alter it.** For example, if the cause of your misery is the mother-in-law, you are not obliged to visit them. However, you have to respect your spouse's wish to visit them. And you have to respect them as part of respecting your spouse. Thus, we save the marriage with the lesser of the two evils.
- iii. **Accept it.** The worst of course is to accept an undesirable situation when you can't do anything about it. In this stage, you either accept or divorce. This should be the last resort, after exhausting all possible means to solve the problem. Allah said, "Was Sulh Khair " (reconciling is good).

## 11. Causes of Divorces

- i. One of the reasons that divorce happens is getting into marriage for the wrong reasons, or choosing the wrong spouse. We don't heed to the Quran and Sunnah.
- ii. Or forced marriage or something like if you don't marry her, your mother will tell you: If you don't marry this girl, I'm going to be cursing you; I'll be angry with you till the day I die; I'm going to have a heart attack. That's an emotional blackmail.
- iii. lack of communication.
- iv. Lack of intimate relationship

Therefore, establish as strong relationship as you can. Know each other and try to avoid all that causes the rift. Think about the consequences the divorce costs, the children's future, etc. The money that goes to the lawyers are better spent on therapy.

Forget the silent treatment. Start having the intimate relations, start touching, start coming back, do little things for one another, speak nicely about one another.

## Question and Answer Bucket

### **1. Where does Islam stand in relation to the protection of the women?**

Defending the woman is an honour. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) sends a whole army for the honour of one woman because one man raised her dress trying to expose her body.

Even long time after Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) one woman that was actually given a hard time in a different land away. The caliph at the time was called Al Mu'tasim. So, she cried out, "Wa Mu'tasimah!" calling him for her help. The message reached Al Mu'tasim, and he sent 100,000 fighters to free the woman.

### **2. Sometimes the in-laws become part of the problem. We are supposed to respect them on the one hand, and when we give them authority, they create jealous rivalry, on the other. How to manage our relationship with them?**

A healthy smart couple should make sure to set boundaries with their in-laws. There are certain things that we will allow them to do. But there are certain boundaries that we both agree upon, that they will not intervene in our relationship. They are not part of the family, nor can they think the way we think. Therefore, they should be respectfully told about their limits.

### **3. How faithful was the prophet to his late wife, Khadeejah?**

Despite the immense love he had for Aishah, he never forgot Khadeejah after her death. When asked by Aishah, "Has Allah not give you better than her?" He replied in the negative, explaining,

She elevated my hardships with her money. She believed in me when nobody else did. She supported me when nobody else did. When she died, he was very much grieved. The year she died was called the Year of Sorrow.