

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ رَبِّ الْعَالَمِينَ، أَحْمَدُهُ سُبْحَانَهُ حَمْدًا طَيِّبًا مَبَارَكًا فِيهِ كَمَا يَحِبُّ
وَيَرْضَى، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ، وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا
مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ، اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ وَسَلِّمْ وَبَارِكْ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِهِ
وَصَحْبِهِ أَجْمَعِينَ، وَمَنْ تَبِعَهُمْ بِإِحْسَانٍ إِلَى يَوْمِ الدِّينِ.

All praise is due to Allah the Lord of the worlds, I praise His glorious status and majesty as is befitting to Him. I bear witness there is no deity except Allah, He is alone having no partners. And I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger. May the peace and blessings of Allah be upon him, his family, his companions, and all those who live like them till the Day of Resurrection.

لَقَدْ خَلَقْنَا الْإِنْسَانَ فِي أَحْسَنِ تَقْوِيمٍ

We have indeed created humankind in the best of stature (95:4)

صُنِعَ اللَّهُ الَّذِي أَتَقَنَ كُلَّ شَيْءٍ

The work of Allah who has perfected everything (27:88)

فَتَبَارَكَ اللَّهُ أَحْسَنُ الْخَالِقِينَ

So blessed is Allah, the best of creators (23.14)

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي خَلَقَ الْأَزْوَاجَ كُلَّهَا مِمَّا تُنْبِتُ الْأَرْضُ وَمِنْ أَنْفُسِهِمْ وَمِمَّا لَا يَعْلَمُونَ

Exalted is He who created all pairs - from what the earth grows and from themselves and from that which they do not know (36:36)

- Pairs that grow from the earth, plants, species of differentiated sex
- Human pairs, males and females, differences in demeanour/approach
- Pairs unknown: then, now and ahead like atoms, matter, anti-matter etc.
- Fathers Matter as much as Mothers. Families are breaking down, as is authority and faith, and children are forced to question roles and genders. However, we as parents must fulfil our roles and uphold the order and design of Allah that He has created & placed.

- Single parents are increasing, traditional households are declining, the double-mom/father parenting model or no parents at all is increasing. Children outside of wedlock have reached 1/3rd of all births since 2000.

80% of adolescents in psychiatric institutes stem from fatherless homes

90% of all runaway and homeless children are from fatherless homes

Boys are 2x as likely to commit suicide after a fatherless childhood

Girls are 9x more likely to be sexually abused without the father present

- Although we are all equal before Allah in terms of salvation and human dignity, there remain differences between men and women that Allah has placed **“And the male is not like the female.” (3:36)**
- Allah created mothers with a greater capacity for mercy, and the father a greater capacity for justice, hence each is tasked accordingly.
- Everyone and Everything plays a dynamic role of order and balance.

“By the night as it covers, and by the day as it brightens, and by the spectacle creation of the male and the female; your strivings are immensely diverse.” (92:1-4) The existence of night and day, male and female, good and evil, are all necessary components of balance in life...

Fathers are not just there to donate sperm, provide a roof and food.

“Does He not know what He created, and He is al-Lateef al-Khabeer (67:14)

Man and woman are different, and so it is not about who can outdo the other in the same task, but who can fulfil their God-ordained duties

Affection/Authority/Security - A different word, approach, physical presence, understanding limitations and exploring potentials. Absentee fathers create an emotional void that leaves youngsters vulnerable.

Without fathers, children have a 40% chance of growing up in poverty.

Good Dads = Successful Children - Encourage competition, independence & achievement. Mothers encourage equity, security, & collaboration.

Children thrive with an Involved Father - without them they are more likely to turn to drugs/alcohol, & be involved with premarital pregnancy.

Fathers must give their daughters words of comfort, tell her **She is Beautiful, Inside and Out. Protect Her, Not Just Physically but to be a Living Example** of honour, affection and respect.

Fathers must give their sons moral and spiritual benchmarks, “respect-and-purity” monitor. To show him justice, loyalty, & love & how to live an honourable life. To prepare them for the Deen & Dunya.