

# BEFORE YOU GO

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**Dear Abu Ḥudhayfah,**

It is a thing of joy that you are getting married today. I ask Allāh to bless your union and grant you children that will be coolness of your eyes and firm upon Salafiyyah.

One of the greatest debts we owe one another is constant brotherly advice as Allāh mentions in Sūratul 'Asr. I believe it is good to remind you and others who would benefit from this very precise piece on how to live with women with honour and righteousness. The advice are from what I have learnt from our elders, teachers of Salafiyyah through books, tapes, and direct contact, and my personal experience.

Abu Ḥurairah reported: The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said:

"Treat women well, for women are created from a rib and the most curved portion of the rib is its upper portion. If you try to straighten it, it will break, but if you leave it as it is, it will

remain curved. So treat women with kindness". (Sahih Bukhari 3153).

It is upon you to be patient with your wife. Women won't provoke you at the capacity of your patience, they start their issues at that particular place your patience stopped. It is upon you to always add additional patience to your patience; patience is never enough.

Do not be angry with your wife and if you get angry, don't talk. If your anger on your wife will be Allāh's anger on her, why will you be angry at her? Will you be pleased that Allāh is angry at her? If in any way you later get angry, do not say anything.

Anything you say in the state of anger will destroy the situation more. If you perceive that your patience can't tolerate the situation more, go out and hang around, then come back when you believe you are at ease. Possibly, she might have realized her mistakes and even welcome you with an apology.

Don't be stubborn. Assist your wife in righteousness and quickly accept an apology if you're apologized to, and let it

end there. Not that you'll keep mentioning the situation again and again.

Learn to quickly admit mistakes too. Mistakes can turn to serious issues if you do not admit and apologize in time. Women are not hard hearted and they forgive easily, learn to genuinely apologize and work on not persisting over that action.

Always appreciate your wife and do not take offense when she fails to appreciate you. It is very normal that a woman claims that she has never seen any goodness in you while she is angry. It is a lie, she loves you, cherishes you and appreciates you. She will, one day, express it to you when she is happy. Make her happy.

Respect your woman, be honorable in your speech to her. Mind how you refer to her in the presence of your family and friends. Her image is not just her image again, anything that affects her reputation affects yours.

Respect her family. Treat her parents and her siblings as you would love that yours be treated. Even more! Your family may understand some of your attitudes, but her family won't.

Have good ears and a sweet mouth. Always listen to your wife, even if you don't have an idea of what she is talking about. She will talk and talk. Take an extra mile in learning about her areas of interest, so you can flow well in conversation. Gist her too, and say good things about her. Talk about how beautiful she is and always prioritize her beauty. (She may be acting like she's not really freaked about it, but really deep down her mind, she is).

Gifts increase love. Buy gifts for your wife. Shower her with gifts. Make it a habit to buy her something whenever you are coming back from work. It is not everyday you have the capability to buy N2,500 shawarma, but you can buy Hollandia Yoghurt for N400 Naira. And if it is fruit, buy big water melons, carrots, cucumbers, dates and oranges. They are good.

Don't be stingy. You're meant to be spending on her, it is your duty. Explain to her if you do not have; don't feign smartness or anger. Her money is her money and your money belongs to you both. May Allāh increase you in Halal Rizq.

Allāh says,

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ

Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, Allāh has made one of them to excel the other, and because they spend (to support them) from their means. [Nisaa: 34].

وَعَلَى الْمَوْلُودِ لَهُ رِزْقُهُنَّ وَكِسْوَتُهُنَّ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ

But the father of the child shall bear the cost of the mother's food and clothing on a reasonable basis. [Baqarah: 233].

One of the best ways to increase love between yourselves is always giving naseehah to one another. Give her naseehah frequently and tell her to give you naseehah when you feel your heart is in need.

This is different from Family Ḥalaqāt that you would be having, make a timetable for Family Ḥalqah where you would be teaching her, the deen. Teach her things you know and don't talk out of ignorance. Learn what to teach if you do not know and admit mistakes if she corrects you.

May Allāh bless you.

Be jealous in the ḥalal way and do not suspect your wife. Don't be a Dayyouth, check out her khimar, Niqab, bag,

shoes, etc., if they have anything like design on them. If she uses social media, check the people she is meeting with and make sure they are people you are satisfied with.

Guard her religion. Teach her about Manhaj, it is deficient that she says or acts outside the home and people would be wondering if truly she's the wife of Abu Ḥudhayfah. Nurture her upon Manhaj, check the books she reads, check the lectures on her phone, make sure you're satisfied with them, if you are not, teach her the reason why you're not and make her do away with them.

Accommodate her opinions where there are rooms for accommodation and do not force your opinion on her, if you view videos to be impermissible and she views it to be permissible, don 't force her to delete videos on her phone. She has rights to her opinion.

Beautify yourself for her, dress well, always smile and be full of humor. Fulfill her rights in bed. Just like you won't love her to refuse you, do not refuse her too. Make sure she is satisfied. She also has the right to explore just like you have too. Be mindful of what you eat and take medications if needed. Be gentle in your dealings. May Allāh ease your affairs.

This is just a little I can pen down for now, I ask Allāh to make you and others benefit from this. May Allāh keep you and your wife firm upon Salafiyyah and make your children from the A'immah of Salafiyyah.

Baarakallāhu Fīkum.

Aḥsanallahu ilaykum.

Dear Umm Abqurah,

I congratulate you on your occasion of Nikāh. I ask Allah to bless your home and gift you children that will be coolness of your eyes and benefits to Salafiyyah.

One of the most beneficial gifts to a person getting married is sincere advice. And, In Shaa Allah, I would love to advise you based on what I have learnt from our Salafi scholars, teachers and students, and from my personal experience. I ask Allah to make you benefit from them.

Marriage is sweet, and don 't be disturbed by those stories you see daily on social media. Marriage is 'Ibaadah and you need Ikhlaas (Sincerity to Allah) and Mutaaba'ah (Acting according to the Kitab and Sunnah). Once you are able to fulfill both, pray to Allah for guidance, patience and firmness; then, rely on Allah totally. May Allah not let today's happiness end in tears.

Be firm upon the truth, and do not be from those who become lax when they get married and they think they are too matured to have knowledge of issues revolving around Manhaj.

You're a believer before becoming a married woman, and do not let Marriage affect your steadfastness. Do not be among



those were known for Salafiyyah before, but they follow their husbands to their paths due to their marriages and they become Ikhwani, Khaariji, Tablighi, Hajūri, Halabi and other sects of deviation.

Umm Abqurah, you are not like other women, don 't compare yourself to them. You're a Salafiyyah. The Quran and Sunnah is your guide on this journey. Don't try to implement what other people implement in their marriages, implement what is in accordance to Kitaab and Sunnah.

Remember that your goals are different. You want to be like Aa'ishah, Faatimah and Khadeejah. You want to have children like Mālik bn Anas, Ahmad bn Hanbal, Muhammad bn Idris, Ibn Taymiyyah, Ibnul Qayyim, Muqbil bn Haadi, and the rest of them. You want to be a woman of Jannah. Adhere strictly to Kitab and Sunnah.

Marriages crash due to several reasons, and one of those reasons is the difference in culture and orientation. It is compulsory that you make Salafiyyah the unifying factor regarding your differences in Marriage. In your culture, a woman may not be obligated to perform some functions while that may be the opposite in your husband' s culture.

Return the issue back to Kitab and Sunnah if you have knowledge of where it is mentioned. And if you don't see anything regarding it, follow the opinion of your husband. Even if there's a difference of opinion regarding that affair, precedence should be given to your husband's opinion. The only situation you won't allow the opinion of your husband is when it goes against Kitaab and Sunnah, and we seek Allah's refuge against this. Allah says,

أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُوْبِى الْأَمْرِ مِنْكُمْ فَإِن تَنَزَعْتُمْ فِي شَيْءٍ فَدُونَهُ إِلَى اللَّهِ وَالرَّسُولِ إِن كُنتُمْ تُؤْمِنُونَ بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ ذَلِكَ خَيْرٌ وَأَحْسَنُ تَأْوِيلًا

O you who believe! Obey Allah and obey the Messenger (Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم), (and those of you (Muslims) who are in authority. (And) if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم, if you believe in Allah and in the Last Day. That is better and more suitable for final determination. [Nisaa:59]

وَمَا كَانَ لِمُؤْمِنٍ وَلَا لِمُؤْمِنَةٍ إِذَا قَضَى اللَّهُ وَرَسُولُهُ أَمْرًا أَنْ يَكُونَ لَهُمُ الْخِيَرَةُ مِنْ أَمْرِهِمْ وَمَنْ يَعْصِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ ضَلَّ ضَلًّا مُّبِينًا

It is not for a believer, man or woman, when Allah and His Messenger have decreed a matter that they should have any

option in their decision. And whoever disobeys Allah and His Messenger, he has indeed strayed in a plain error. [Ahzaab: 36]

Also, there are several things we have consumed from the society as regards the status of a woman in the home, you need to discard those things and return to what the Kitab and Sunnah called your status. Qur'an never preached equality between you and your husband, the Quran recognizes your husband as the total controller and director in the home. He has the right to command you and to restrict you from things, and you should obey him as long as those things are in line with Kitaab and Sunnah.

Allah says,

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ

Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allah has made one of them to excel the other, and because they spend (to support them) from their means. [Nisaa: 34]

After Allah and His Messenger, the most important person to you now is your husband. One of the greatest 'Ibaadah you should be doing now is fulfilling his rights, and taking

excuses politely if you wouldn't be able to fulfill any of your obligations.

Do not just assume that he should understand the reason you're not doing them. In fact, show remorse and regret for those things you won't be able to do.

Abu Huraira reported: The Messenger of Allah, peace and blessings be upon him, said, "If a woman prays her five prayers, fasts her month of Ramadan, guards her chastity, and obeys her husband, she will enter Paradise from any gate she wishes."

Source: Sahih Ibn Hibban 4252

Amongst your greatest enemies in this journey are unsubmitiveness, pride and disrespect. The women of the Salaf would refer to their husbands as they would refer to Kings. Lower your wings totally and submit your self. Respect him with everything that is considered to be respect. Being respectful dictates how your husband would treat you. Respect commands respect.

The prophet ﷺ said, If I were to command anyone to make prostration before another I would command women to prostrate themselves before their husbands, because of the

special right over them given to husbands by Allah. [Sunan Abi Dawud 2140]

Also, be respectful to his family, and do not interfere in disagreements with them except if you would advise him to be patient and good to them.

In case you are being corrected, show respect to your husband while he is correcting you by remaining silent and avoiding instant replies. Instant replies fuel anger, and anger destroys marriage. Take corrections sincerely, admit your mistakes, show remorse for what you have done wrong and strive not to repeat the same mistake. May Allah bless you.

Always show sincere appreciation when you receive any kindness or gift from your husband, no matter how small. One of the reasons there would be more females in Hell is because they don 't appreciate their husbands. Even if you really don 't love the gift or you want to inform him that it is too costly, that time he gives it to you is not the best time to say it. Find another time and say it with wisdom and politeness.

Always strive to seek your husband' s pleasure whenever he is angry with you. Make good use of delicious food, hugs and kisses in this regard. They melt the heart of a man.

Always beautify yourself for him, and this is not limited to appearance alone. Be skillful in cooking too. Strive as much as you can to cook healthy meals and do not make your husband skip meals.

Beware of nagging, don 't do it at all. The home is meant to be a place of rest, solace and happiness, but you distort the whole thing when you nag. If you see anything wrong in your husband, correct him with respect and submission. Do not be among those who shout on their husbands. May Allah help you.

Upon you is patience. Marriage contains several things you would hate. Be patient with the attitude of your husband, be patient with the attitude of his families and neighbors, be patient with him when he won 't be able to provide enough. Our parents stayed longer in their marriages, not because did not see what they hated, but because they remained upon patience and perseverance.

There are days when things may not go well with your husband, you are his partner, you should constantly give him the message of hope, happiness and reassurance. Whenever

he faces trials outside, let him be assured that he would meet happiness when he gets home.

Be a chaste woman, you're a Salafiyyah, you are not like other women. Your role models are the wives of the prophet and not the useless advisers on Facebook, those who make you see righteousness as slavery and do not advise with Kitab and Sunnah.

You have no reason to make friends with any male. You should not be soft in talking to males who are not your family members and you shouldn't have chitchats with any male at all. In fact, busying yourself with chats with your female friends may get your husband jealous. He should be your best friend from now .

يٰۤاَيُّهَا النِّسَاءُ النِّبِيِّ لَسْتُنَّ كَاٰحَدٍ مِّنَ النِّسَاءِ ۗ اِنَّ اَتَّقِيْنَ ۙ فَلَآ تَخْضَعْنَ بِالْقَوْلِ فَيَطْمَعَ الَّذِيْ فِيْ قَلْبِهٖ  
مَرَضٌ وَقُلْنَ قَوْلًا مَّعْرُوْفًا

O wives of the Prophet! You are not like any other women. If you keep your duty (to Allah), then be not soft in speech, lest he in whose heart is a disease (of hypocrisy, or evil desire for adultery, etc.) should be moved with desire, but speak in an honourable manner. [Ahzaab: 32]

Be careful of how you use your phone, you shouldn't be using the phone till food gets burnt. You should not be using it when your husband is talking to you, especially when he is correcting you or discussing anything serious. You should not be found joining groups that give you unnecessary advice regarding your home. Don't let your phone destroy your marriage.

Be modest, even on your WhatsApp status. You should not post things you can not say in the gathering of males and females. You should not be found laughing in an immodest manner in the gathering of people.

It is better that males who have important information to give you do that through your husband. Do not open any door to suspicion.

Don't be a Mutabarriyah. Stay at your home and cover all that Allah has commanded you to cover. You should not be found posting your pictures on Facebook and Instagram. Your goal is not to become the next couple celebrity on Instagram, your goal is to become a wife in Jannah, Allah says,

وَقَرْنَ فِي بُيُوتِكُنَّ وَلَا تَبَرَّجْنَ تَبَرُّجَ الْجَاهِلِيَّةِ الْأُولَىٰ <sup>ص</sup>



And stay in your houses, and do not display yourselves like that of the times of ignorance. [Ahzaab: 33]

Beware of mixing with friends generally, beware of taking advice. Some of your friends are not married, even the married ones may not be building their homes upon Salafiyyah. You take the knowledge of marriage from scholars of sunnah and Salafiyyah, just like you take all other aspects of deen from them.

Never stop learning about marriage, always read books and listen to tapes that talk about marriage. These help your home and renew your orientation.

Be eager to accommodate your husband in bed, do not show any sign of rejection unless it would be totally unbearable. Sacrifice your resting time at times. We pray that Allah is pleased with us.

Abu Huraira (Allah be pleased with him) reported Allah' s Messenger ( ﷺ ) (as saying:

By Him in Whose Hand is my life, when a man calls his wife to his bed, and she does not respond, the One Who is in the

heaven is displeased with her until he (her husband) is pleased with her.

Sahih Muslim 1436

Be mindful of your husband's properties. Don't be wasteful. Do not spend lavishly, and do not waste food. Do not take any of his belongings unless you are permitted to do so.

Allah says,

إِنَّ الْمُبَذِّرِينَ كَانُوا إِخْوَانَ الشَّيَاطِينِ وَكَانَ الشَّيْطَانُ لِرَبِّهِ كَفُورًا

Verily, spendthrifts are brothers of the Shayatin (devils), and the Shaitan is ever ungrateful to his Lord. [Israa:27]

Help your husband in righteousness. Remind him to attend classes and listen to lectures.

Wake him up for Qiyaamu layl. Encourage him to be good to his families. Encourage him to give in charity.

I ask Allah to bless your home. This is the little I can remember to write now. Every correct thing here is from Allah, and anything I have said wrongly is from Shaytan and

from the evils of my ignorance. We ask Allah to forgive our shortcomings.