

Advice to women

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Announcer: We will take a call from the sister Umm ‘Abdul-Kareem from Riyadh. Go ahead, my sister, Umm ‘Abdul-Kareem.

Sister: As-Salaamu Alaykum wa Rahmatullaahi wa Barakatuh.

Announcer: Wa Alaykum as-Salaam wa Rahmatullaahi wa Barakatuh.

Sister: I want to thank you, O Shaykh, and may Allaah reward you, for your knowledge. I have a request, O Shaykh; and it is advice. I would like for you to give me detailed advice from yourself, similar to the advice of a father to his daughter, regarding all of that which is connected to the life of the woman, and comprises good for her in the Duniya and the Hereafter.

Announcer: Thank you, my sister, Umm ‘Abdul-Kareem. She wants, from your eminence, guidance for the Muslim sisters within their life, Noble Shaykh.

Shaykh Saalih al-Fawzaan (حفظه الله)¹: Na’am. The Muslim sisters have a great status within al-Islam.

إِنَّ الْمُسْلِمِينَ وَالْمُسْلِمَاتِ وَالْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ

{Verily, the Muslims (those who submit to Allaah in Islaam) men and women, the believers men and women (who believe in Islaamic Monotheism)...}²

مَنْ عَمِلَ صَالِحًا مِنْ ذَكَرٍ أَوْ أُنْثَىٰ وَهُوَ مُؤْمِنٌ فَلَنُحْيِيَنَّهٗ حَيَاةً طَيِّبَةً

{Whoever works righteousness, whether male or female, while he (or she) is a true believer (of Islamic Monotheism) verily, to him We will give a good life.}³

So they have a status within the society and a status within the religion. They are responsible just as the men, in general.

¹ (حفظه الله) May Allaah the Most High preserve him

² سورة الأحزاب – Soorah al-Ahzaab [33:35]

³ سورة النحل – Soorah an-Nahl [16:97]

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The advice is that they have Taqwaa of Allaah (سبحانه وتعالى)⁴, regarding their worship and the performance of the obligatory duties; and that they have Taqwaa of Allaah (عزوجل)⁵, in obeying their husband; and that they have Taqwaa of Allaah (عزوجل), regarding the cultivation of the children and preservation of the household in the absence of the husband. The Prophet (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ)⁶ said:

و المرأة راعية في بيت زوجها و مسنولة عن رعيها

["The woman is a shepherdess in the home of her husband, and will be asked about her flock."]⁷

That which is also important is the preservation of the covering, chastity, modesty, and decency. When she goes out, she must do so with the legislative etiquettes; not wearing make-up, nor perfume and not engaging in at-Tabarruj by way of adornments, clothing, or other than it. She is to cover her body and not display any of it. She is to stay far away from mixing with men and be diligent in preserving herself from the corruption of the corrupt. She is to observe the Hijaab.

وَأَلْيَضْرِبْنَ بِخُمُرِهِنَّ عَلَىٰ جُيُوبِهِنَّ

{(And tell the believing women) to draw their veils all over Juyubihinna (i.e. their bodies, faces, necks and bosoms, etc.).}⁸

وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا

{(And tell the believing women) not to show off their adornment except only that which is apparent...}⁹

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ قُلْ لَأزْوَاجِكِ وَبَنَاتِكَ وَنِسَاءِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ يُدْنِينَ عَلَيْهِنَّ مِنْ جَلَابِيبِهِنَّ ذَلِكَ أَدْنَىٰ أَنْ يُعْرَفْنَ فَلَا يُؤْذَيْنَ

{O Prophet! Tell your wives and your daughters and the women of the believers to draw their cloaks (veils) all over their bodies. That will be better, that they should be known (as free respectable women) so as not to be annoyed.}¹⁰

The meaning of: {"...to draw their cloaks (veils) all over their bodies,"} is to cover their faces with the top portion of the large Jilbaab, or the Shaylah, or the covering upon her head which she drops down over her face.

["...draw their cloaks (veils) all over their bodies. That will be better, that they should be known,"} Meaning: They shall be known for chastity and known for decency and the corrupt

⁴ (سبحانه وتعالى) (Subhanahu wa-ta'ala) The Exalted, The Most High

⁵ (عزوجل) (Azza wa Jaal) Mighty and Majestic is He

⁶ (صَلَّى اللهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ) (sallallahu 'alayhi wa sallam) May the peace and blessings of Allaah the Most High be upon him

⁷ Saheeh al-Bukhaaree and Saheeh Muslim

⁸ سورة النور – Soorah an-Noor [24:31]

⁹ سورة النور – Soorah an-Noor [24:31]

¹⁰ سورة الأحزاب – Soorah al-Ahzaab [33:35]

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will not desire her. This indicates that abandonment of the Hijaab is a reason for harm. When they do not see her covered then they will harm her by (trying to) entice her and seeking to do with her that which is not permissible. So within the Hijaab there is protection from harm for the woman; the harm of the corrupt, the hypocrites, and those in whose hearts there is a disease. Na'am.