

TARBIYAAT-E-AWLAAD (bringing up children) IN THE WEST
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(recited in Australia)

Majlis # 1

Importance of tarbiyaat-e- awlaad

A long time ago a lady's husband passed away leaving her with a 9 year old son. He passed away leaving no wealth behind him. The lady took the responsibility to raise her son. She had to work very hard and still they had barely enough food to eat. Just a piece of bread. Knowing the importance of sending sawaab for dead people, she would try the best to send with her son the best of food on Thursday nights for hungry travelers in isaale sawaab of her husband. Even if she and her son wouldn't have enough food to eat. The lady kept on wondering if all this hard work and sacrifices that she was making was actually benefiting her husband. And one night her prayers got answered and she saw her husband in her dreams. The husband thanks her and tells her today what you did for me was amazing. I got saved from the punishment and got lots of good things. The wife asks him and what about all the other Thursdays? The husband surprised tells her that he did not get anything any other Thursday except of this one. She woke up and wondered the reason for it. After inquiring from her son she finds out that this Thursday the son couldn't resist the food and hiding in a place he ate it all himself while all the other days he was doing as his mum asked him to do. Surprised, the lady went to ask the nabi the reason behind it. Nabi explained to her that first always comes her son. If she wants to do good she should first do good to her son. It is not fair for the son to stay hungry while the others are being fed.

This is an example for us which shows us that all good that we do, we should first do on to our kids and family before extending it towards others. Amrabil maarroof is a waajib component of Islam which should start from your own kids. Even our prophet Muhammad (SAWW) was ordered by Allah (SWT) to send the message of Islam first to his family members.

Once our prophet Muhammad was watching the children of Madina who were busy playing. He said to his companions that it is very sad that the children of the akhari zamana will be destroyed by their own parents. The companions asked him if it was the children of those parents who are mushrik who will be destroyed. The answer was that no the Muslim parents itself will destroy their children. They will not teach their children the religion. We hear nowadays the parents saying that the children are too busy with school and homework, they need some time to play and watch television so there is not time left then for teaching them the religion. The parents of these days come up with lots of excuses for not teaching the religion to their children. On the day of judgment the children will complain to their lord that if they have not done any good deed it was because of their parents who gave them all worldly things but nothing which would help them in the here after, therefore the children will ask Allah to put their parents in the hell with them.

There are many things that parents do to stop their children from doing good:

- By not giving them any Islamic teachings
- When the son learns ABC for example by heart , he gets lots of praises but when he learns for example usool-e-din the parents have no reaction to that.
- If the son keeps a beard and the father does not, the father feels ashamed and forces the son to take it out so that people don't talk.

There are some rules of Ayatullah As-Sayyid Ali al-Hussaini as-Seestani that we need to know about immigrating from your country, because some of them relate to tarbiyaate awlaad “ at-ta’arrub ba’d al-hijra” which means “becoming shorn of one’s precepts of faith after migrating”. Here are some of the rulings for migration (we can find these rulings in the book called” A Code of practice for Muslims in the West”

-It is recommended for a believer to travel to non-Muslim countries for the purpose of spreading the religion and its teaching provided that he can safeguard himself and his young children against the dangers of loss of the faith.

-A believer is allowed to travel to non-Muslim countries provided that he is sure or has confidence that the journey would not have a negative impact on his faith and the faith of those who are related to him

-A believer is allowed to **reside in a non-Muslim country** provided that his residing there does not become a hurdle in the of fulfilling his religious obligations towards himself and his family presently as well as in the future.

-It is haram to travel to non-Muslim countries in the East or the West if that journey causes loss of the faith of a Muslim, no matter whether the purpose of that journey is tourism, business, education, or residence of a temporary or permanent nature.

-If the wife strongly feels or is sure that her traveling with the husband will result in loss of faith, it is haram for her to travel with him.

-If the baligh boys or girls strongly feel that their journey with their father or mother or friends will cause loss of faith, it is haram for them to travel with those people.

-“loss of faith” means either committing a forbidden act by indulging in minor or major sins like drinking intoxicant, adultery, eating forbidden meat, or drinking najis(impure) drinks ect..It also means abandoning the fulfillment of a compulsory act like neglecting salat (obligatory prayers), fasting, hajj and other obligations.

-If circumstances force a Muslim to migrate to a non-Muslim country with the knowledge that the migration will cause loss of faith (e.g. a person seeks political asylum in a non-Muslim country in order to save his life), it is permissible for him to make that journey to the extent that it saves his life, and not more than that.

- If an immigrant Muslim, residing in a non-Muslim country, knows that his stay in that country will lead to loss of faith or of that of his children, it is wajib on him to return to one of the Muslim countries.