

uswatul MUSLIMAH

ROLE MODELS FOR THE MUSLIMAH

NEWSLETTER

Issue Two

At Taahira - Sayyidah Khadeejah (radiyallahu anha)

IT IS YOUR COMPANY!

Step back a moment and reflect... Imagine... Think of a woman who has experienced all the ups and downs of life, enduring the death of one husband after the other, going through the difficulty of earning for herself due to her circumstances, suffering the heartache of the divorce of her daughters because of her faith, living in a home that was constantly beset with abuse and persecution for the sake of her Rabb, going into exile in her old age, tolerating adverse conditions of hunger and starvation... yet still maintaining the same intense love for her husband like a newly-wed bride... yet still dedicated to him with her heart and soul, totally compliant with her mind and body... yet still pouring every vestige of her strength in nurturing her children... yet still spending large amounts of money for the cause of her faith with a smile... yet still motivating those around her despite the hostile environment...

Translate those thoughts into reality and you have the Mother of the Believers Sayyidah Khadeejah (radiyallahu anha).

What made her the amazing woman she was? How did she do it?

Was it a wishing well or a motivational seminar perhaps? A mood-lifting anti-depressant or a funky nasheed the last thing before bed? Or was it a long drawn shopping expedition or maybe just letting some hair down with the friends? Never. Not at all. These are all quick-fixes. Some of them harm the body; others hurt the pocket and most kill the soul.

It was her good company!

The reaction of some might be... 'Okay' while others might be like... 'Yawn... anyone got a pillow.' But as boring and as traditional as that may sound, the reality on Planet Earth is that whatever is good and pure will at the end of the day remain good and pure while whatever is evil and dirty will always remain the same.

Authentic historical accounts of the life of Sayyidah Khadeejah (radiyallahu anha) indicate very clearly that her attitude and outlook was shaped and moulded by her cousin, the pious and learned scholar of the time, Waraqah bin Naufal.

Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: "We are who we are, because of the company we keep." (Sunan Abi Dawood #4833) *(Continued on Next Page ...)*

Companions are not only humans we can talk to and laugh with. Websites and magazines, Social media and TV/Radio programmes are the new companions of the Modern Age. Companions make you or break you!

Smile and the World will Smile with You

There once lived a couple who were almost totally opposite to each other in everything. The wife was extremely beautiful and good natured while the husband was the most unattractive and ill tempered person around. One day the wife was asked "How do you remain patient with such a man in your marriage?" She replied, "In my life I may have committed a sin, therefore as a punishment Allah Ta'ala gave me such a husband. As for my husband, he may have done a good deed in his life, thus Allah Ta'ala has rewarded him with a beautiful wife like me."

LESSON: A positive person will manage to bring about happiness and a smile in the most negative of conditions, whereas a negative person will choose to remain sad and frown in even a positive condition. We need to programme our minds to become positive and remain positive. The world is full of negatives. We need more positives to brighten things up. It does not cost us anything to smile, but it is definitely worth a great deal.

A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed!

Indeed, this superwoman had supported Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) when he had no worldly resources; trusted and believed in him when most had denied him; encouraged and understood him when he took up the call with trembling steps; withstood persecution, insults, threats and torture and was a lifelong helpmate of Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) till her last breath at the age of sixty five.

Her remarkable and outstanding personality was manifested on the occasion when her husband was crowned with Nubuwwah (prophethood). Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) was in the solitude of the cave when he suddenly received the first revelation. He was taken aback and terrified. Why wouldn't he be terrified? This was his first awe-inspiring encounter with revelation which had come from the Lord of the Worlds through the greatest angel Jibreel (alaihis salaam).

This event was one of the greatest, not only in the life of Muhammad (sallallahu alaihi wasallam), but in the history of mankind. Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) stood up trembling, heading home to seek rest and solace in the tender care of none other than Sayyidah Khadeejah (radiyallahu anha). This great woman, the best friend that she was, calmly comforted Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) giving him the strength he needed.

She addressed him thus, "You will never be disgraced by Allah Ta'ala. Your inner life is true and pure. Your outer life is kind and gentle. You are good to your family and ever hospitable to your guests. You don't hurt anyone and you help everyone. In short you are an asset to society in its entirety." Sayyidah Khadeejah (radiyallahu anha) spared no effort in consoling Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) at this greatest moment, which is perhaps the greatest of her deeds. She then takes Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) to her cousin Waraqah bin Naufal, who consoles Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) and affirms what Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) was already certain of...

One Tight Slap

"A friend in need is a friend indeed!"

A young girl was once walking along a road. After a while she sensed that she was being followed. She turned around to find a boy walking behind her. She asked him as to why he was following her. He replied that he loves her deeply and was infatuated with her extreme beauty. She said to him, "My beauty is nothing. My sister is walking behind and she is much more beautiful than me." As soon as she said this, the boy turned around to look behind him. But as he turned to look, the girl gave him a tight slap and said to him, "Do you not have any shame? You claim to love me, but you turn your gaze towards someone other than me!!"

Lesson: In the very same way, it should never be that we claim to love Allah Ta'ala but our hearts are inclined to the haraam fashions, lusts and temptations of this temporary world. The one in who's heart the love of Allah Ta'ala has settled will never look in any other direction.

From the Pen of Hazrat Moulana Yunus Patel Saheb (rahimahullah)

Letter

Asalamu alaikum Maulana

My husband and I have been discussing the issue of the naming of children. We would like to know whose right it is to name the child. Is it the father's right or the mother's right?

We have been getting different feedback and contradicting answers and we thus decided we will settle on what you say.

Reply

Bismih Ta'ala

Respected Sister in Islam

Wa alaikum Salaam wa Rahmatullah

1. The issue of naming of children

has been the cause of tremendous heartache, as well as division and even breakdown in marriages. So let us not go by the book. There is no hard and fast rule. Islamic history proves that in some cases the name was given by the father, sometimes the mother, sometimes the grandparents, sometimes the mentor, or the teacher.

2. I generally suggest to couples who quarrel over names, that each should submit a list of 3 names: Three names given by the father (who definitely has the Islamic right) and three names given by the mother. Thereafter, try to come to an agreement on one of the names.

3. If the couple cannot agree, select a name which is the choice of the husband, and one which is the choice of the wife. Write the names on pieces of paper, fold them and get a child to choose one. Then be happy with the choice.

Was Salaamu alaikum wa Rahmatullahi wa Barakatuh
Yunus Patel (Maulana)

Editors Note: Do keep in mind that when choosing a name, it is not how unusual the name is, or sounds. What is important is the meaning of the name, or the piety of the person whom the child is being named after.