Key Advices for the Newly Wed

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Rasūlullāh ﷺ has said,

You have never seen anything better than marriage for those who love. (Ibn Mājah)

- 1. Every action is dependent upon intentions. When marrying, both partners should therefore make a firm intention to accomplish the following objectives:
 - Following the Sunnah of our Beloved Nabī Muhammad ³/₂.
 - Safeguarding oneself from sins.
 - Parenting pious children.
- When marrying, each spouse becomes the other's lifetime companion. Therefore, they should understand and appreciate that Allāh shas brought them both together and

that their destiny in life has now become one. Whatever the circumstance: happiness or sorrow; health or sickness; wealth or poverty; comfort or hardship; trial or ease; all events are to be confronted together as a team with mutual affection and respect. No matter how wealthy, affluent, materially prosperous and "better-off" another couple may appear, one's circumstances are to be happily accepted with ganā'at (contentment upon the Decree of Allah **(**). The wife should happily accept her husband, his home and income as her lot and should always feel that her husband is truly her beloved, best friend and well-wisher in all family decisions. The husband too should accept his wife as his partner-for-life and not cast a glance towards another.

3. Nowadays, the husband reads about, and is well-informed of his rights and demands them. Similarly, the wife reads of her rights and expects them. However, both should concentrate on being aware of each other's rights and then strive to fulfil them. This is the prescription for a prosperous marriage and everlasting love.

- 4. During the first year of marriage, the couple must try and spend as much time as possible together. This is especially important for the first two months as it provides an opportunity to understand each other's temperaments and establishes a firm foundation which contributes towards securing a prosperous marriage.
- 5. The couple (especially the husband) must make a point to arrive home early after 'Ishā ṣalāh and scrupulously avoid the habit of socialising with friends late into the evening. Wherever possible, business, employment and other activities should be concluded beforehand or curtailed in order to set aside time to spend together.
- 6. Mutual respect between husband and wife should not be lost. They should each be very particular about following the Dīn right from

the initial stages of married life. This will also ensure a religious environment for the children to be nurtured in, contributing greatly towards their successful upbringing.

- 7. True and everlasting prosperity is only possible for Muslims when they follow the Sunnah of Rasūlullāh in all affairs. The couple too, should adhere to the teachings of Rasūlullāh in in all their matters and abstain from anything which contradicts them. Careful attention should be given to this in their intimate relationship too. Inshā'allāh, this will be an assured approach to acquiring the blessing of pious offspring.
- 8. In the initial stages of marriage, the love between the couple is a physical bond, wherein emotional changes take place all the time. Despite great passion and physical love for each other, affection between the couple is not yet well established or on a rational basis. Such rational love comes after many years together. It is therefore extremely important

for the husband not to succumb to emotional weaknesses at the onset and let the marriage waver towards an irreligious direction. Both the husband and wife should make a pledge to each other to steadfastly follow the Dīn, especially in the performance of ṣalāh and in avoiding all sins.

- 9. Marriage is like the weather, forever changing. Sometimes it is cloudy and rainy and life appears gloomy, then the sun appears and rays of happiness break through bringing joy. At times, one experiences rain, wind and sunshine all in one day. Life is such that we go through different experiences like the different seasons. The secret is to remain devoted and steadfast to one's Dīn and spouse.
- 10. The husband should be sympathetic to the fact that his wife has left her parents, brothers and sisters to start a new life with him. Her sacrifice and her feelings should be respected and joy should be felt by both partners at the expansion of their families.

Just as the wife should treat her husband's parents as her own, he should also extend affection, courtesy and respect to his new in-laws.

11. As soon as one experiences a problem, no matter how trivial, which remains unresolved for more than three days, consult a person who is both knowledgeable and your sincere well-wisher.

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