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In the Muslim family

By Min. James Shabazz

Muhammad Temple of Islam No. 25

"SURELY WE gave wisdom to Luqman when he admonished his son, saying, Be thou forever grateful to Allah, for whosoever is grateful is grateful to the advantage of his own soul." (Holy Quran 31:12)

Islam is the nature of Allah, The Creator, and the nature in which He created man. Therefore, every human child that is born, is by nature, a Muslim. It is only after he reaches the Age of Reason, set forth by white standards, that he ceases to seek self-knowledge and freezes in the rut of reading prepared books and deductions, as a substitute for thinking and thanking Allah.

The family therefore, is the place to begin shaping Muslim character, since he was first prepared for it in his heart (by nature). In the home, the Father and Mother are Minister and Captain.

It is the first experience with the criterion of government and citizenship. As the head of the family, the parents are governor and mayor, the constituted authority of law and government.

This is easily conceived through the study of the Holy Quran, a Book, which one can hardly distinguish where religion ends and civil administration begins. There, the child finds that power, higher than himself Allah.

This prepares him for complete submission to the Will of Allah, for the hour of crisis in which he can transcend intelligence and practice wisdom, "This Book, there is no doubt in it, is a guide to those who believe." (Holy Quran 2:1.)

"We have enjoined man to be good to his parents, his mother bears him in weakness upon weakness." (Holy Quran 31:14 46:15 49:8.)

As the head (Parent), we become at once, in the family, the government, mayor, chief of police, judge and jailer, for we first prepare the child to live under this experience. The child learns what it is like under Black rule; we question ourselves — the love, unity and respect for authority that constitutes a nation. Are the parents good providers? If so, it shows his economics agility, necessary to run an organization up to a city or a nation. When we ask for freedom, we are asking for a responsibility on the highest level. When we ask for a wife, we are asking for the preliminary experience of being a leader, a ruler and the above mentioned. We question ourselves again are we ready?

The family is the place to prepare us for duty, where the maxim, "Charity begins at home and spreads abroad,"

ceases to be an empty phrase.

THE UNIVERSITY of Islam, which is actually a place for study of the 360 degrees of self-knowledge, because whatever we see came out of the nature of Allah, The Creator or "The Maker, The Owner, The Cream of the Planet Earth, The God of the Universe." It is the second step in preparation; the first, in the perfect family, is when one is conceived in the womb and acquires the Nature of the Creator Islam, "Every child that parteth the womb is called holy unto the Lord." (Luke 2:23.)

To shape a mind for the future takes a vested interest in your children. Don't over-worship them, for they are under your domain for a period. "Bend the sapling when it is young," while you control them and train them and when they grow old, they will not depart from it. "From Allah is the going forth and to Allah is the return."

Don't express your diverse opinions, nor show your weakness to the truth Islam, nor downgrade other believers in the presence of your children, and expect them to grow strong. You may forget that moment, but they will not.

Children are little human beings with the same brain and 14 billion brain cells of the original man. The only difference between you and them is size. They are only learning more rapidly than you, mostly from you, as members of the family to become independent individuals one day. It is to them, you must throw the torch.

Do not personalize. You have no power over them, (your own children) the coming to life, or going to death, only what Allah Wills.

Teach them to believe in Allah and His Apostle, the Divine Revelation and the life to come. Teach them Charity in its Broadest sense, kindness and generosity to one another this does not cost money. Teach them to take the Messenger as a member of their own family, to always speak kindly of him and teach their children's children about him. Teach them to pay the Poor Rate, taxes, give them something each Sunday to donate. This shapes the future taxpayers. Teach them to read Muhammad Speaks, Message To The Blackman, and How To Eat to Live; to take an interest in the Temple and in love and peace with fellow Muslims. Teach them to fast and pray. The Messenger says this is like "Putting gas in your tank." Such people are a good product for the hereafter, the world of peace. Your children are your investment in the hereafter.

Respect yourself and the rights of your family. They will

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According to the History of Noah, the people who were the sons of God married into the family of those who were not. Men began to have many wives. It was then when evil began to spread far and wide the people were drinking, gambling, committing adultery, lying, killing and stealing. Many became very wicked and God decided to remove them from the face of the earth. Allah saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was evil continually (Gen. 6:5 Bible). Yet, in the midst of this wickedness, one remembered Allah and his duty toward Him. This man was Noah; the rest of mankind

carry this respect for the rights of others into society. One cannot expect to live in a righteous world, a product of the unrighteous world. Control your children before they control you. Listen to them, but do not shield them while they commit acts to shame you and themselves. "And we shall make your children a trial for you." (Holy Quran 2:33.)

The Honorable Elijah Muhammad has not only taught the best principles of family and social life, but has set an example by himself as the Father of a Family and a Nation.

Prophet Muhammad Ibn Abdullah said, "The best of you is the best to his family and I am the best among you to my family." (Al-Ittihad.)

As - Salaam - Alaikum