

To My Beloved Mother

Written By: Naseem Ghazi



يا أمي الحبيبة

غير المسلمين

IPC

لجنة التعريف بالإسلام
ISLAM PRESENTATION COMMITTEE
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In the Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

Author's Introduction

I wrote this letter almost 20 years ago while I was studying in a religious school called Jamiyatul Falah, Bileria Gunj (Azam Garh District). In those days I used to go home now and then. It was beyond my imagination that I would ever be fortunate enough to embrace Islam. Before I embraced Islam, I was a Hindu from the Agarwal family. I was 9 years old when my father passed away. After the demise of my father, my elder brother became the head of the family. Because of his tolerance, I always got his support and encouragement. But my **mother** neither liked my embracing of Islam nor any of my Islamic education away from her, even though I visited her quite often. My earnest desire was for her to become one of the followers of the greatest religion on earth but her desire was opposite to mine. She wished that I leave this religion as soon as possible and revert to the old one. But this desire of hers was due to a reason – the reason being **the great love she had for me**. Thus, she was hurt psychologically at my acceptance of Islam. Such a behavior was expected and natural because she was ignorant about Islam.



The lives of Muslims in India are not only different but sometimes irritating due to the fact that their beliefs and customs are unlike the customs of the other residents of India. Thus, she had no place in her heart for Islam. She was already worried about me and to add to that, others used to incite her in many ways. I indicated a few of them in this letter. I tried to remove her misconceptions and doubts about Islam to the best of my ability and tried to illustrate to her the teachings of Islam. Sometimes we had face-to-face discussions while at other times, we spoke through letters.

When I was born, our family gurus foretold many a thing about me to my mother among which was: ‘Your son will never be yours.’ When I embraced Islam, she felt that the priest’s prediction became true. Consequently, she would remind me of his prophecy and warn me and she tried her best to keep me away from Islam.

She thought that there exists no good in Islam and that her son has fallen into the traps of the Muslims priests. And this took root in her mind. Through this letter I tried to remove her misconceptions about Islam and invited her towards the right way – the way of Islam.

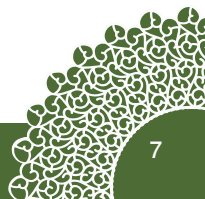
My intention was to not only remove the misconceptions she had about me and Islam but to also make clear to her the truth about Islam, so that she may accept it and enter Paradise and be saved from the torments of Hell-Fire.



After reading this letter her intensiveness against Islam decreased but she was not yet ready to leave her forefathers' religion. Quite often I prayed to Allah to open the doors of her heart to the true religion. After 3 years of continuous discussions and letters, Allah bestowed His Mercy upon her and she was guided to Islam. She felt guilty of her past behavior towards Islam. Today, my mother is satisfied and firm on the path of Islam. Before she had embraced Islam, she had studied the translation of the Holy Qur'an several times and now her earnest desire is to convey the message of Quran to all of mankind. She also wants the people to understand the teachings of the Qur'an and to follow it properly and to remove the wrong beliefs which are enrooted in their minds. She further wants the Islamic teachings to be spread among the common people.

Though this is a personal letter but I hope publishing it may give guidance to the seekers of truth. I pray to Allah to guide us to the right religion and make us firm on it till death reaches us, and may He let us all die as Muslims. Ameen.

Naseem Ghazi
1980





Dearest Mother,

Peace be upon whoever follows the true guidance.

I hope that by the grace of the Almighty you are well. I received your token of love but due to some unforeseen circumstances I was not able to reply to you immediately and I want to apologize for that.

Mother, I know that you always worry about me and please know that, I too, worry about you and I can never forget your love for me. Our separation makes me feel as uneasy as a fish when it is out of water. I feel like flying back to you at this very moment but the study of my religion has bound me in chains. Had I not had to have to study my religion, I would not have been away from the shade of your adoration and affection. Religious education is very important and necessary, and for this sole reason I bear my separation from you. I always remember you and your bounties which you showered upon me since the day I was born. Even if I try to obey all your commands and fulfill each and every wish that you make, I cannot repay you in the tiniest bit for all that which you have done for me.

I often heard you say: ‘I lost my son’ or ‘The Muslim priests have separated my favorite child from me’ or ‘the Guru’s prophecy that my son will never be mine became true’; and all this disturbs my mind and chases me. I know not why such kind of doubts are established in your mind, neither do I know what behavior of mine led you to think about me as such. I frequently questioned myself and tried to search for



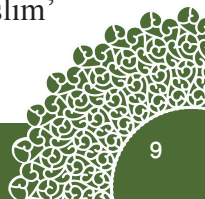
an answer, but I usually ended up with a headache.

Dear mother, what could possibly be the reason that such doubts are raised in your mind concerning me? Perhaps the answer is that I believe that Allah alone is the one true God and I associate none with Him in my worship and that I believe that Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) is the last Messenger of Allah. Or it maybe because I decided to spend my whole life according to the rules set by Allah and to not associate any partners with Him, to pray only to Him and take Him as my Provider and Sustainer.

I think for these reasons do you doubt that your son is yours no more (as the Gurus say). I know that Allah created us and provided us with everything for our survival, from the water that we drink to the clothes we wear, all of this is provided by Him. Each soul shall taste death and after death, a day shall come when we all will have to give an account of our deeds that we did in this world. Those who followed the path which Allah has chosen for His slaves will enter Paradise and those who reject His chosen path will be doomed to Hell.

Yes, this is the mistake I did. I decided to escape from the Hell fire and enter Paradise. I decided to follow the orders sent to us through Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). I decided to do what Allah the Almighty has ordered us to do and I decided to keep away from that which He has forbidden us from. That is, I decided to be a Muslim.

Mother, do you know what the word ‘Muslim’





means? Muslim means willingly obedient. As a result of this decision, I gave up all the bad deeds. You are well aware that before I became a Muslim, I used to steal, tell lies, watch movies, roam about like tramp; but as soon I started following Islam, all these bad habits disappeared. Mother, do you know how did I get rid of them? The answer is simple. It is because Allah forbade us from doing them. And if Allah the Almighty God, the All-Knower, the All-Wise, forbade us from it then how can I dare to do otherwise?

Islam – the religion which I embraced is a divine religion, it is the religion chosen by Allah for the all the human beings.

In this religion, one finds that all the minute details regarding life are explained. It guides man and answers his questions as to how to live, how to pray, how to behave with people, how to participate in politics, how to rule, how to wear, how to eat, how to sleep, how to wake up, how and when to talk and not to talk, how to walk, how to marry and how to behave with parents, siblings, spouse, neighbors, friends and foes etc... Hence, everything in all aspects of life is explained very clearly by Allah the Exalted.

So I chose to live as He wanted us to live and thus, regarding my parents, I intend to follow His guidance. My behavior regarding them should be as taught by Allah and His Prophet Muhammad (pbuh). I would like to talk a little about what He has ordained for Muslims regarding their parents.

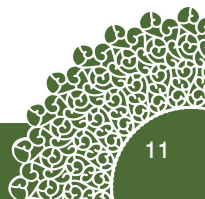
Allah the Exalted, in His Book, has ordered us in





many places to behave with our parents in the best way .i.e. to behave with them in an excellent manner. He tells us to never bother them and to obey their orders in a very humble manner. This is because we are obliged and indebted for all the good that they have done for us. Such is also taught by Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

- Once a man asked the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh): ***‘Which deed is the best?’ He (the Prophet) replied: “The Prayer at its appointed hour.” The man then asked: ‘Then what?’ He (the Prophet) replied: “Kindness to the parents.”***
- A man came to the Prophet (pbuh) of Allah and said, ***“I swear allegiance to you for emigration and Jihad, seeking reward from Allah.” He (pbuh) said, “Is any of your parents alive?” He said, “Yes, both of them are alive.” He (pbuh) then asked, “Do you want to seek reward from Allah?” He replied in the affirmative. Thereupon Messenger of Allah (pbuh) said, “Go back to your parents and keep good company with them.”***
- Once Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) told a person, ***“Your parents are your Paradise and Hell.”*** It means that if you obey and serve your parents, be grateful and humble to them you, will enter Paradise. But if you disobey them, give pain to them, or behave roughly with them, you will be cast into Hellfire.





In this way the Prophet (pbuh) taught the people about kindness to parents.

In the Holy Qur'an, Allah says, ***“And your Lord has decreed that you worship none but Him. And that you be dutiful to your parents. If one of them or both of them attain old age in your life, say not to them a word of disrespect, nor shout at them but address them in terms of honor.”*** It means that one must respect one's parents to such an extent that in addition to not scolding, troubling or beating them, one is not allowed to even do anything that which they dislike. Even if they speak roughly or in a manner which one dislikes, one should bear it with patience and should not be angry with them. One should always try to make them happy and should never enrage them with one's behavior.

Once Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: ***“The pleasure of Allah lies in the pleasure of the father and the displeasure of Allah lies in the displeasure of the father.”***

It means that if you listen to your father and please him, Allah will be pleased with you, but if you anger him, Allah will also be angry with you.

Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) instructed us to serve the parents with love and affection. Those who serve their parents well, will attain success both in this world and the Next. Service to one's parents increases the blessings in one's age and earnings.

Once Omar ibn Al-Khattab told his friends: ***“Speak to your mother kindly. Take care of her food and***



drinks. Then surely you will enter paradise.”

Abu Hurayrah once advised a person, ***“Do not call your father by his name. Do not walk in front of him nor sit before him.”***

Similarly, it has been reported in many places to behave with parents in a respectful manner.

Muhammad (pbuh) told that the best of deeds is to love one’s parents. Further he said that if righteous children look at the parents with love, they will get the reward of an accepted Hajj by Allah.

Allah says in the Quran: ***“They ask you as to what they should spend on others. Say: ‘Whatever of your wealth you spend shall [first] be for your parents, and for the near of kin, and the orphans, and the needy, and the wayfarer; and whatever good you do, verily, God has full knowledge thereof.’”***

There was an incident which happened in the time of the Prophet, which on reading might give you goose bumps. The incident is as follows:

Once a man came to the Prophet (peace be upon him) and said: ***“O Messenger of Allah, I have wealth and children, and my father wants to take all of my wealth.”*** The Prophet said, ***“You and your wealth are for your father. Your children are among your best earnings, so take from what your children earn.”***

This Hadith informs us that whatever we have all belongs to our parents, because a man’s strength and ability and all that he owns is due to the hardships



that his parents went through to bring him up .i.e. he is from his parents. He has to live according to their wishes and he has to spend his wealth on his parents. If they take anything from him, he should not oppose them.

Allah taught us a special prayer for the parents in the Holy Qur'an. It is as follows: *“My Lord! Bestow on them Your Mercy as they did bring me up when I was young.”*

The pain that a **mother** bears for her children is great. Thus, Prophet Mohammad (pbuh) declared that the **mother** has more right to service from the children than the father.

Once a man asked the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh): *‘Who amongst the people is most deserving of a fine treatment from my hand?’ He (the Prophet) said: “Your mother.” He again asked: ‘Then who?’ He said: “Again it is your mother.” He said: ‘Then who?’ He (the Prophet) said: “Again, it is your mother.” He said: ‘Then who?’ Thereupon he said: “Then it is your father.”*

The Prophet also said: *“Paradise lies under the feet of your mother.”* This means that those who serve their mothers whole heartedly with love and they behave well with them and please them, they will enter Paradise. In this manner Islam has informed us about the service to one's mother.

Muhammad (pbuh) taught the people that if any one or both the parents passes away, one should pray for them *“O Lord! Forgive me and my parents as they*



did bring me up when I was young.”

Allah imposed a duty upon everyone to behave with their parents in the best manner, to be obedient to them, to serve them and to make their living comfortable. Along with it, Allah informed us that if the parents compel the child to do anything which is prohibited by Allah, then the child should not obey the parents in this matter but he should disobey them in a gentle manner. If someone calls to that which is wrong then how is it possible for anyone to obey them, but if they call to that which is right, then one should bow down his head in submission.

Dearest Mother, before beginning this letter I promised to you that whatever I will do, I will do it according to the wish of Allah and His Messenger (pbuh). Therefore, my behavior towards you shall be according to the commands of Allah and His Prophet.

I have informed you about all the Islamic rulings concerning one's parents. From now on, Insha'Allah (Allah willing), I will try to practice everything that I spoke about in this letter.

Please read all that which I have put before you and try to understand them. If you believe that your son is honest and does not lie; then you will know that your thoughts, that the Muslim priests deviated your son from the right path, were in fact mistaken. The Muslim priests instead helped make your son a better man and tried to make him a part of your heart. They did not lead him towards the deviated path, but instead



led him to the path which is right. The saying of the gurus that your son will never be yours is untrue and baseless.

Dear mother, I am your son. Believe me! I will be your forever. Please discard these biased thoughts from your heart and mind.

I informed you earlier that Islam is the only true religion. This is the religion chosen by Allah the Exalted. In it, you will find commands concerning all walks of life. To know a religion's accuracy, one needs to check the commands concerning any one field of life. I have brought forth to you the commands concerning one's parents, and from this you can know the genuineness of Islam.

Can you find these kinds of rules and regulations in any other religion? I believe that you will come to a conclusion that there exists no religion which is as systematic and as perfect as Islam. The illustrated instructions and the golden rules which are given in this religion can not be found elsewhere.

Mother! I know that you bore many difficulties for my upbringing and welfare and I am aware that you went through a great deal of suffering and pain for my sake. You bore me in your womb for months and the pains that you endured when I stepped into this world are beyond description. Back then, I was just a lump of flesh; but you maintained that lump with your concern and care till I grew up. And when I grew up, you arranged all the possible facilities for my education. You took care of my education and





manners and perfected it. And when I fell sick, you suffered for me, for you quit your sleep, rest, food and all the daily comforts of life and you served me till I became healthy. You cooked delicious foods for me, and sometimes you fasted because me. You managed yourself in old wrinkled clothes but for me you brought the best clothes... You showered upon me countless bounties and measureless love. There are many things that I can express but there are many more that words cannot express. I cannot recount all of them but I am indebted to you for all your care.

My Mother, even if I try to thank you for all that which you have done for me, I cannot thank you enough. For this reason, Allah has ordained for us to give special care and honor to our mother.

Dear Mother, you gave me all the comforts of life. I do not know if I can serve you enough in this world for all the love and kindness which you have showered upon me. But my earnest desire is to give you eternal comforts of Hereafter. I wish to show you the way of never-ending peace .i.e. Islam. If you walk on this path, you will attain success in this life and in the Hereafter. I long for you to accept this religion and to follow its rules and regulations. I tried many a times to express my feelings and invited you towards the righteous path but you never paid heed. Please know this Mother that I call you not for any personal reward. You already know that I am not greedy for any of the delights of this world but I wish to save my mother from the punishment of Hell Fire. Mother! The path on which you walk leads you to the blazing fire and I fear that you are unaware of it.





It is as if you are traveling on a train and you will come across a bridge and at the bridge the track is uprooted. I know that instead of reaching the destination, the train and all the passengers on it will fall and be destroyed. I am like a person who has a beautiful car which takes one to intended destination very smoothly. I stop at every station and call you to accompany me.

Mother! My dearest Mother! I advise you to get down from the train and board my car and the journey will be safe but you deny me continuously. I advise you to leave the train before it reaches the dangerous bridge and come to my car, you will reach your destination safely. But if you reach the bridge, it will be too late and there will be an accident and then you will regret for not listening to me. So Mother, come and join me in the vehicle of Islam so that your journey will be safe and sound.

I have presented my heartfelt deep feelings and I wish that my words will penetrate your heart and I wish that you choose the right path. I wish that after death, on the Day of Judgment, you may be able to show your face to Allah the Almighty without any hesitation. And you may attain His Mercy and Kindness. May my supplications be answered! Ameen!

I hope you will show interest in my words, forgive me my mistakes and reply to my letter.....

**Your beloved,
Naseem Ghazi**

من إصداراتنا More Others

