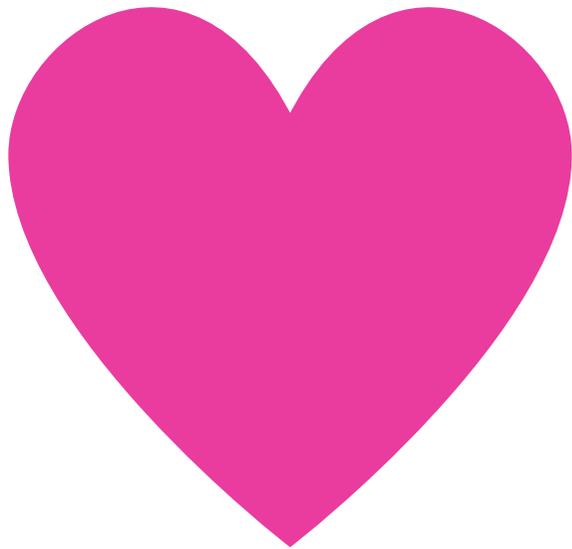


وَمَا خَلَقْتُ الْجِنَّ وَالْإِنْسَ إِلَّا
لِيَعْبُدُونِ

And we have not created the human being and the jinn except that they worship
me



Motive

- ▶ Today we are here together to celebrate a most amazing blessing from Allah Ta'ala

MOTHERHOOD

Everybody celebrates Motherhood. However for a Muslimah, celebrating Motherhood has a much more profound meaning. Consider this Hadeeth.

تزوجوا الودود الولود فإني مكاثر بكم الأمم

In the above Hadeeth Nabi SAW pays tribute to 2 very interesting characteristics of a potential wife viz.

- ▶ Childbearing
 - ▶ Loving
1. Allah Ta'aala has made us the vessel for the proliferation of His creation.

Motherhood is the most prestigious title given to a woman, because you have now not only become somebody seeking for her own Jannah, but you have also brought into this world somebody whose Jannah u hold beneath your feet.

WHO IS THIS SOMEBODY?



The amazing creation

يَخْلُقُكُمْ فِي بُطُونِ أُمَّهَاتِكُمْ خَلْقًا مِّنْ بَعْدِ خَلْقٍ فِي ظُلُمَاتٍ ثَلَاثٍ

He creates you in the womb of your mothers in stages one after the other in 3 darknesses

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِن كُنْتُمْ فِي رَيْبٍ مِّنَ الْبَعْثِ فَإِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِّن تُّرَابٍ ثُمَّ مِّن نُّطْفَةٍ ثُمَّ مِّن عَلَقَةٍ ثُمَّ مِّن مُّضْغَةٍ مُّخَلَّقَةٍ

1. abdominal wall
2. uterine wall
3. amniotic sac

لِلَّهِ مُلْكُ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ ۖ يَخْلُقُ مَا يَشَاءُ ۗ يَهَبُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ إِنثًا وَيَهَبُ لِمَن يَشَاءُ الذُّكُورَ

"To Allah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth; He creates what he wills. He gives to whom He wills female [children], and He gives to whom He wills males. Or He makes them [both] males and females, and He renders whom He wills barren. Indeed, He is Knowing and Competent." Surah Ash-Shuraa

Tafsir ibn katheer mentions: the liquid of the dominant spouse at the time of relations determines the gender of the child.

يخرج من بين الصلب والترائب

First Thing's First...

- Intentions and aspirations
 - Why do you want a child?
 - Why do you want a child NOW?
 - What do you want out of the child?
- *failing to plan is a plan to fail.*
 - My mindset
 - My spiritual state
 - The people around me

- Dua. Lets learn from Hanna RA

My Lord, indeed I have pledged to You what is in my womb, consecrated [for Your service], so accept this from me. Indeed, You are the Hearing, the Knowing." (Surah Aale-Imran, verse 35)

Wouldn't it be absolutely amazing to follow the footsteps of the blessed mother who gave birth to Maryam (AS)? This dua helps a woman renew her intention every day that her baby would be a pious servant of Allah. It invokes a positive energy to strengthen the bond between your child and Allah.

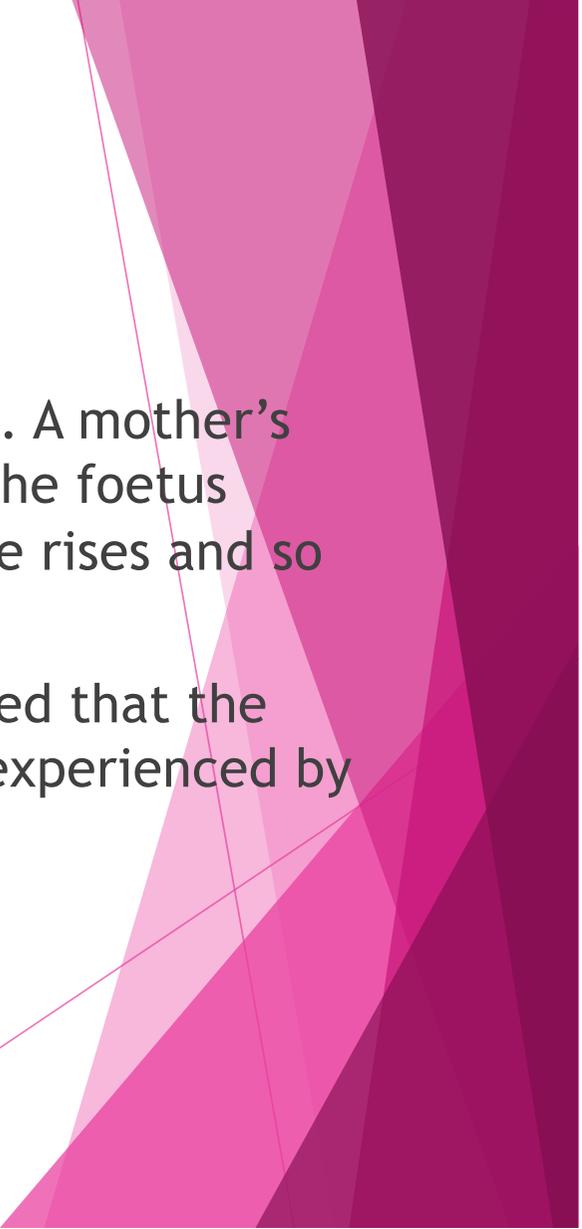
Virtues of pregnancy

- ▶ There are many beautiful virtues and rewards for being pregnant. It is mentioned in a hadith that Nabi (saw) is reported to have said,
- ▶ ” Does it not please you (O woman) that when you conceive from your husband while he is pleased with you, then that woman will receive such a reward equal to that of a fasting person in the path of Allah and spending the night in ibaadah.....”

Do's and don'ts of pregnancy

- ▶ Recite lots of Quran - The Islamic education of a child begins whilst it is a foetus. If the mother recites the Quran frequently, reads verses from the Quran from memory, makes lots of zikr and is constantly engaged in good deeds and thoughts, insha Allah her child will be born with similar attributes. A mother who is calm, serene and relaxed during her pregnancy will hopefully go through a relatively easy labour and give birth to a contented baby.
- ▶ Make lots of dua for yourself and the unborn child
- ▶ Nabi (saw) recommended that a pregnant lady should eat sweet melons, good pure healthy foods in moderation and dates.
- ▶ Take in vitamins in the form of fresh fruit and vegetables.
- ▶ Moderate exercise

- 
- 
- ▶ Make dua and salaah for protection from calamities in abundance.
 - ▶ Read Ayatul Kursi, Surah Yaseen, Surah Maryam, Surah Yusuf and Surah Mohammed.
 - ▶ Read these Duaas:
 - ▶ ‘A ‘oodhu bikalimaatil-llaahi al-ttaammaati min sharr maa khalaqa’. (I seek protection in the perfect words of Allah from the evil of that which HE has created)
 - ▶ ‘Hasbiya-llaahu wa ni’imal wakeel’ (Allah suffices us and is the best guardian). ‘

- 
- 
- ▶ Avoid sinful, lewd acts and situations of anger and anguish. A mother's negative emotional experiences are detected and felt by the foetus because her breathing becomes heavier, her blood pressure rises and so does her heartbeat. This impacts on the foetus.
 - ▶ The foetus can also hear loud noises and tests have revealed that the heartbeat of the foetus rises according to the discomfort experienced by it.

Your baby “I can hear you”

- ▶ It is during the second trimester that our baby can hear us.
- ▶ They already share our bodies, our food and our air, they now also share all that we hear.
- ▶ Babies have special focus on their mother’s voice. They get excited when they hear their mother’s voice.
- ▶ They can be calmed and soothed, or frightened and agitated.
- ▶ The enzymes we produce when we undergo an emotion can cross over into the placenta and reach the baby. our baby can therefore experience the same emotions that we do.

Calming baby

A little experiment which will help after birth

Sit down in a quiet room that is not too brightly lit.

Breathe slowly and deeply, and then recite a few favourite verses of the qur'an

If we try doing this regularly, we can then insha'Allah use these same verses to sooth our baby once born.

- ▶ Rabi habli minas saliheen
- ▶ Dhuriyatan tayibah

- ▶ On the authority of Abdullah ibn Masud (may Allah be pleased with him), who said: The Messenger of Allah (peace be upon him), and he is the truthful and he believed, narrated to us:

Verily each one of you is brought together in his mother's womb for forty days in the form of a drop of fluid (nutfah), then it is a clinging object for a similar period. Thereafter, it is a lump looking like it has been chewed for a similar period. The angel is then sent to him and he breathes into him the spirit. He is also commanded to issue four decrees: to record his sustenance, his life span, his deeds, and whether he will be unhappy (by entering Hell) or happy (by entering Paradise).

The Amazing Cycle.....

- ▶ Nutfah = 40 days (sperm & Ovum)
- ▶ Alaqah = 40 days (A clot of blood that clings)
- ▶ Mudh-ghah = 40 days (Like a chewed up lump of flesh)

* According to most classical and contemporary scholars the foetus goes through 3 stages of 40 days each.

After this 3rd stage i.e. 120 days, the *Ruh* is breathed into the human body.

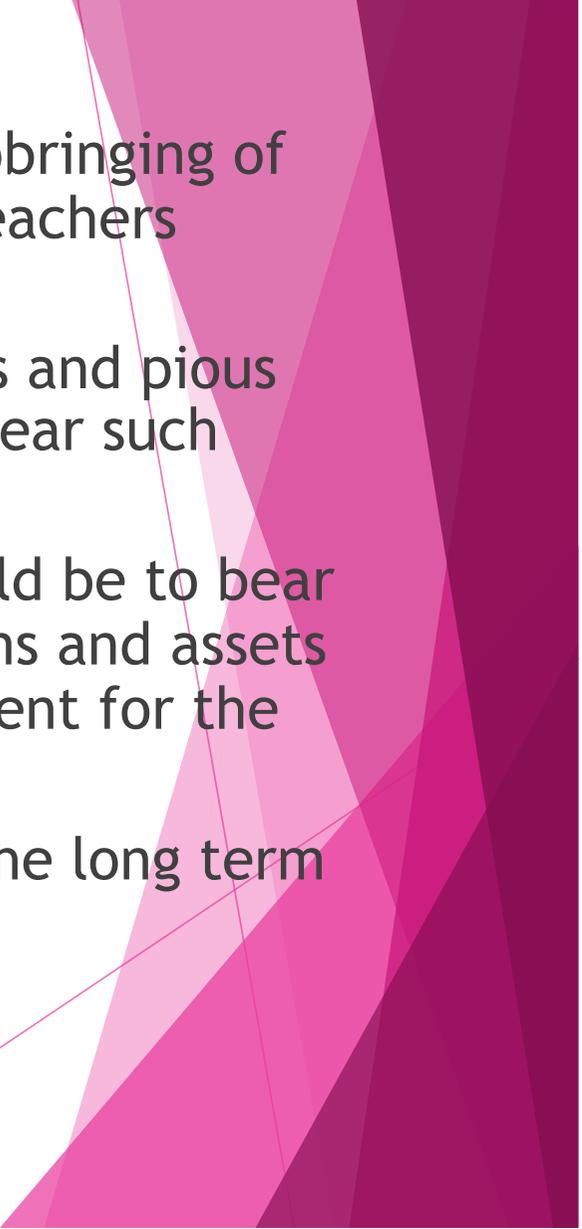
The Big Question????

Why such an elaborate creation?

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنهما أنه قال

خلق الله أربعة أشياء بيده: العرش، والقلم، وآدم، وجنة عدن. ثم قال
لسائر الخلق: كن. فكان. قال الذهبي في العلو: إسناده جيد

*“Allah Ta’alaa created for things with His own hands
(denoting extra care): The Arsh, The Pen, Adam A.S and
Jannatu Adan*

- 
- 
- ▶ A mother is chosen by Allah for the creating and upbringing of all righteous slaves of Allah, the future Ulama or teachers and/or leaders: the future Ummah.
 - ▶ Mothers of The Prophets (as) and the great scholars and pious also went through the difficulties of childbirth to bear such great personalities.
 - ▶ Similarly the intention at the time of delivery should be to bear such children who would become such great Muslims and assets to the Muslim Ummah. This will be a great investment for the mother.
 - ▶ The temporary pain is insignificant in relation to the long term benefits in this world and the hereafter.

birth

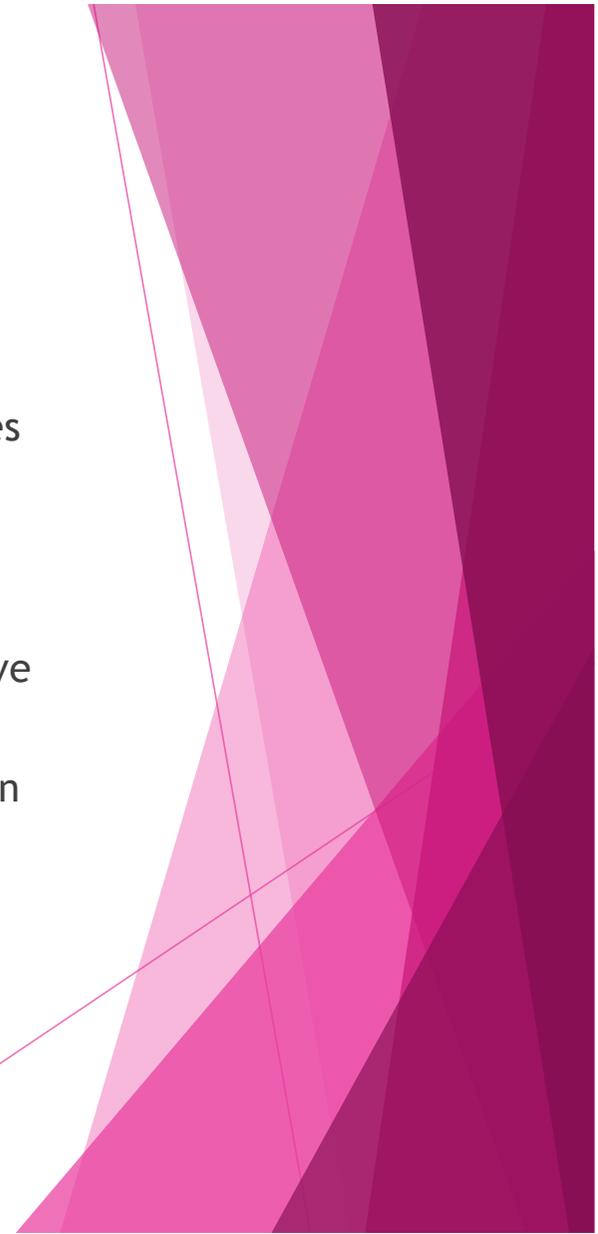
- When a woman goes through the various difficulties of pregnancy and ultimately the pains of labour and delivery and has *Sabr* (patience) and *Ihtisaab* (hoping for the reward of Allah), it will all bring great reward that will be recorded in her good deeds.
- At the time of delivery Surah Yaseen should be read and also many Durood upon Rasulullah (saw), as for every durood, Allah tala sends down 1 mercy upon the reciter.

Dua at the time of birth

- ▶ Remember! Duas made at the time of birth are readily accepted by Allah Ta'aala.
- ▶ Make dua for the baby, his iman, his health etc, but also remember to make dua for yourself and your near and dear ones.
- ▶ As the pains start to become more severe, increase in your dua to Allah.
- ▶ These duas need not be made loudly if one can not manage, merely making these duas in the heart too is sufficient.
- ▶ Whilst planning for an easy labour, let us remember this **Hadith**: whoever wants Allah to answer his prayers during difficult times, should supplicate to Him more and more in times of ease (tirmidhi)
- ▶ The beginning verses of surah inshiqaq too should be read with the onset of labour.

The placenta and the umbilical cord

- ▶ Allah ta'aala has made the umbilical cord a means through which our babies change from life in the womb to life in our world.
- ▶ Babies are born attached to the placenta so that there is not an immediate demand on their lungs to begin breathing.
- ▶ This is achieved by the placenta retaining some of baby's blood once we have given birth.
- ▶ The retained blood carries oxygen along the cord to the baby. the baby then gradually reduces its reliance on the cord blood and begins using its own circulatory system. Benefits of delaying the cutting of the cord include reducing iron deficiency due to an increased number of red blood cells



The sunnahs after birth

▶ 1. Adhan and Iqamah

- ▶ When the child is born Adhan and iqamah should be said in the child's ears.
- ▶ In the right ear of the new-born baby, the Adhan should be recited, and in the left ear, the Iqamah. This is done immediately after the baby is bathed. However if there is a delay, it may be done before. On the birth of Hasan (ra) to Faatimah (ra) the Prophet (saw) said the Adhan in his ear.
- ▶ 'Ubaidullah bin Abi Rafi': That his father said: "I saw the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) say the Adhan in the ear of Hasan bin 'Ali - when he was born to Fatimah - the Adhan of Salat." (Tirmidhi)

2. Tahneek

- Tahneek is the Sunnah of chewing a date and applying a part of the chewed portion to the palate of the child so that it goes down the child's mouth easily. If dates are unavailable, one may apply anything sweet, like honey to the child's palate. The dental palate, the jaws and the mouth are made active. As a result, it is easy for the child to suck milk from the breast of its mother.
- It is preferable for the Tahneek to be done by an Áalim or a pious elder of the family. If not then by any Muslim.
- Aisha (ra) narrates that “the people used to bring their newborn children to the Prophet (saw) and he would bless them and perform the tahneek” (Sahih Muslim)

3. Naming of the child.

- Naming a child with a beautiful and honorable name is the child's right upon his parents.
- The Prophet (saw) always chose names with good and beautiful meanings.
- It should be selected from the names of the Prophets like Yaqoob, Yusuf, Idris, Musa, Saleh, Muhammad, Ahmad etc. or should be adopted from the names of Sahabah and pious People like Umar, Ali, Uthman, Khalid, Khadija, Maryam, Sumayya etc.
- Some Ahadeeth indicate that the child is to be named on the 7th day along with Aqeeqah. However, the Prophet (saw) also named children on the day of their birth, as proven by other narrations. There is no harm if the child is named before the 7th day, but if the naming has not been done, and then the child should be named on the 7th day.

4. To make Aqeeqa on the 7th day

Aqeeqa is a form of Sadaqah whereby the child is safeguarded against misfortunes. The practice of Aqeeqah is encouraged in Islam. This is understood from the following Ahadith

- Rasulullah (saw) carried out the Aqeeqah of Hasan (ra) and Husain (ra) by slaughtering one ram each. (Abu Dawood)
- Buraidah (ra) mentions, “prior to Islam when one of us had a newborn boy, he would slaughter one sheep and smear the head of the newborn with its blood. When Allah blessed us with Islam, we began slaughtering one sheep. Thereafter, we would shave the child’s hair and apply saffron”. (Abu Dawood)

4. Aqeeqa continued

- For a male child - 2 sheep or 2 goats are slaughtered
- For a female child - 1 goat or 1 sheep
- If for some reason Aqeeqa was not made on the 7th day, then it should be done on the 14th, 21st 28th or any day in multiples of 7 thereafter.
- For those who cannot afford two animals for the baby son, even one animal will be sufficient as Aqeeqah.
- If one has no means to sacrifice even this much, then there is no harm and he would not have to make up for it later.

5. Shaving the head

- The hair on the head of the new-born, boy or girl, should be shaved on the 7th day.
- It is mustahab (desirable) to give silver in sadaqah to the poor and needy equal to the weight of his or her hair.
- Narrated by Muhammad bin 'Ali bin Al-Husain: That Ali bin Abi Talib said: "The Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) had the Aqeeqah for Hasan RA with one sheep, and said: 'O Fatimah! Shave his head and give the weight of his hair in silver as charity.'" He said: "So I weighed it, and it was the weight of a Dirham or a bit of a Dirham." (at-Tirmidhi)

6. Circumcision – for boys only

- Circumcision of the boy should be done before he attains maturity.
- It is advisable to do it with aqeeqah. At this age he does not suffer much pain.
- The Noble Messenger (saw) had the aqeeqah and circumcision of Hasan and Husain performed on the 7th day after their birth.

Is it a boy or a girl?

"And when one of them is informed of [the birth of] a female, his face becomes dark, and he suppresses grief. He hides himself from the people because of the ill of which he has been informed. Should he keep it in humiliation or bury it in the ground? Unquestionably, evil is what they decide." (Surah An-Nahl)

- No matter the gender, look after the children properly because those children belong to Allah.
- Nabi SAW has mentioned a beautiful hadith: he who takes care of a child and brings him up until he says the kalimah, will not be reckoned by Allah ta'aala
- Ibn Abbas reported: The Messenger of Allah, (saw), said, **"Whoever has a daughter and he does not bury her alive, nor humiliate her, nor prefer his sons over her, he will enter Paradise due to her."**

Sunan Abī Dāwūd

The postnatal period

- ▶ The postnatal period is a time of recovery. we need time to adjust physically and to restore mentally.
- ▶ Once the adrenalin from labour and birth leaves, many women often feel low.
- ▶ This happens to 1 in every 12 mothers. So it is not uncommon.
- ▶ Do not negate the need for rest and help
- ▶ Along with preparing for the hospital and the birth, it is important for a woman to learn about nifaas/postnatal bleeding.
- ▶ Allah Ta'aala has designed this bleeding to allow the body to expel any remaining blood, mucus and placenta left in the uterus after birth.

Virtues of Breastfeeding

- ▶ Allah's Messengers too were breast-fed. Allah inspired Musa's mother to put her baby Musa in a basket in the river to save him from Pharaoh's killing decree, Pharaoh's family found him and wanted to keep him and looked everywhere for a wet-nurse to breastfeed him and Allah caused Musa to refuse to be breast-fed by any woman except his own mother.
- ▶ The Prophet Muhammad (saw) in his childhood, suckled from his mother Aminah, Thuwaybah - a slave girl of his uncle Abu Lahab, Umm Ayman and Halimah as-Sa'diyyah.
- ▶ The Prophet's (saw) children too were breastfed. His son Ibrahim had a wet-nurse as occurs in a hadeeth and when his son passed away he was only 1 year and 10 months old so there were two months of suckling left for him so the Prophet (saw) said as narrated by Al-Bara (bin Azib):
- ▶ The Prophet, after the death of his son Ibrahim, said, "***There is a wet-nurse for him (i.e. Ibrahim) in Paradise.***" [Recorded by Ibn Hibban, Abu Dawud and others from 'Abdullah bin Ja'far (Radhiyallaahu 'anhu)]

Virtues of Breastfeeding

- ▶ It is only in modern times that the wide use of artificial forms of baby-feeding, cow's and goat's milk formulas, have been used and that women have left their homes in pursuit of careers which make them leave the superior role that Allah has given them and pulled them away from the home to serve others and leave their own families.
- ▶ Allah tells us the recommended time of suckling a child in the Qur'an:
- ▶ **“And the mothers are to suckle their infants for two years, for those who wish to complete the suckling”** (Surah Baqarah 2:233)
- ▶ **“We have enjoined upon the human being to treat his parents kindly. His mother bore him with weakness upon weakness, and his weaning is in two years.”** (Surah Luqman 31:14)

Virtues of Breastfeeding

- ▶ Look at the importance of breastfeeding! Allah even mentions it in the Qur'an a number of times! Breastfeeding is widely acknowledged now as being the best food for babies. It provides everything your baby needs.
- ▶ 1400 years after this verse was revealed, international organizations such as the World Health Organization have issued statement after statement calling on mothers to breastfeed their children, whereas Islam enjoined that 14 centuries ago.

Virtues of Breastfeeding

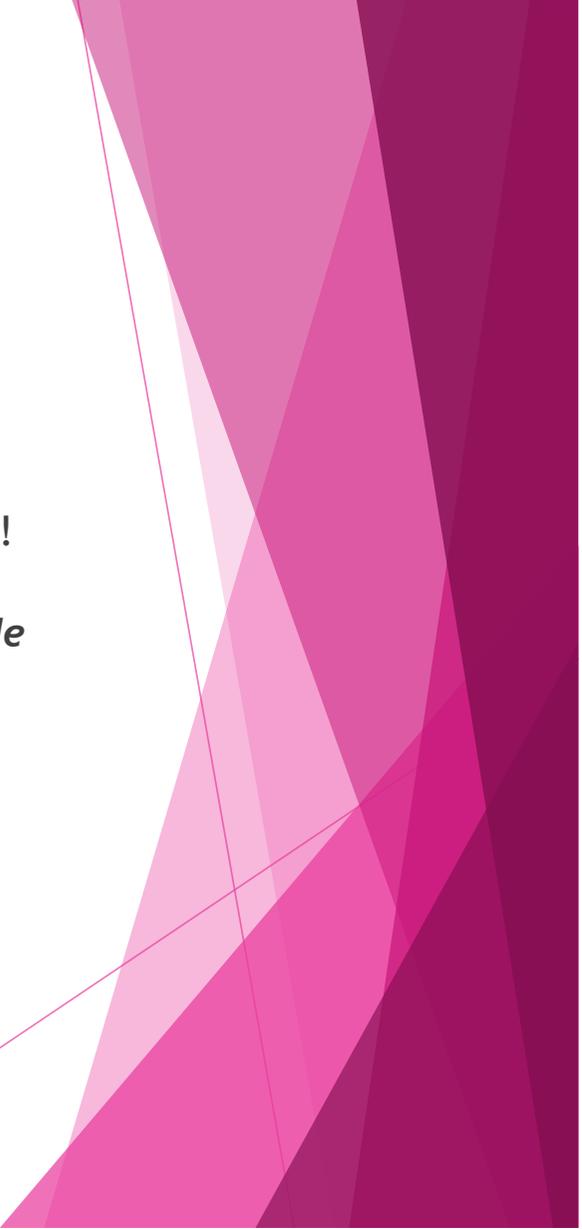
- ▶ According to Imam Abu Hanifah, the maximum period of breastfeeding is 30 months (2 years and 6 months).
- ▶ If the child is physically healthy he may be weaned before the completion of this period.

Benefits of Breastfeeding

- ▶ The benefits of breastfeeding for the child include the following:
- ▶ 1 - The mother's milk is sterile, containing no germs.
- ▶ 2 - The mother's milk cannot be imitated by any milk prepared from the milk of cows, goats or camels. It is composed in such a way as to meet the child's needs day after day, from birth until weaning.
- ▶ 3 - The mother's milk contains sufficient amounts of protein and sugar that suit the infant completely, whereas the proteins in cow's, goat's, and buffalo's milk are difficult for the child's stomach to digest, because they are suited to the offspring of those animals.
- ▶ 4 - The development of children who are breastfed is faster and more complete than that of children who are bottle-fed.
- ▶ 5 - The psychological and emotional bond between the mother and her child.

Benefits of Breastfeeding

- ▶ 6 - The mother's milk contains various elements that are essential to the child's nourishment, in the right amounts and formats needed by his body, and in a form that is suited to his ability to digest and absorb. The nourishing content of the milk is not fixed; it changes day by day according to the child's needs.
- ▶ 7 - The mother's milk is kept at a suitable temperature that meets the child's needs, and can be given to him at any time.
- ▶ 8 - Breastfeeding is a natural means of contraception for the mother, and is free of the complications that may accompany use of birth control pills, the coil (IUD) or injections.

- 
- ▶ The child feels ultimate comfort and security through being so close to his mother and their special bond is strengthened, so much so that in Islam if a non-related woman breastfeeds a child she becomes a foster mother to him and her children are foster sisters and brothers to him who he cannot marry! As the Prophet (saw) said as is related in a number of Ahadeeth:
 - ▶ ***”Indeed, Allah has prohibited (marriage) among suckling relatives, as He has prohibited it among birth (or blood) relatives”***[Recorded by Sahih Al-Bukhari, Muslim]
 - ▶ What more proof do we need of the bond that is created through breast-feeding?

Virtues of the Mother

- ▶ "And We have enjoined upon man, to his parents, good treatment. **His mother carried him with hardship and gave birth to him with hardship, and his gestation and weaning [period] is 30 months.** [He grows] until, when he reaches maturity and reaches [the age of] 40 years, he says, "My Lord, enable me to be grateful for Your favor which You have bestowed upon me and upon my parents and to work righteousness of which You will approve and make righteous for me my offspring. Indeed, I have repented to You, and indeed, I am of the Muslims." (Surah Al-Ahqaf, verse 15)

Virtues of the Mother

- ▶ "And your Lord has decreed that you not worship except Him, **and to parents, good treatment**. Whether one or both of them reach old age [while] with you, **say not to them [so much as], "uff,"** and do not repel them but **speak to them a noble word**. And lower to them the wing of humility out of mercy and say, **"My Lord, have mercy upon them as they brought me up [when I was] small."** (Surah Al-Isra, verses 23 and 24)

Virtues of the Mother

- ▶ "And We have enjoined upon man [care] for his parents. **His mother carried him, [increasing her] in weakness upon weakness, and his weaning is in two years.** Be grateful to Me and to your parents; to Me is the [final] destination.
- ▶ But if they endeavor to make you associate with Me that of which you have no knowledge, **do not obey them but accompany them in [this] world with appropriate kindness** and follow the way of those who turn back to Me [in repentance]. Then to Me will be your return, and I will inform you about what you used to do." (Surah Luqman, verses 14 and 15)

Virtues of the Mother

- ▶ The Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: "Your Heaven lies under the feet of your mother". (Ahmad, Nasai).
- ▶ A man came to the Prophet and said, 'O Messenger of God! Who among the people is the most worthy of my good companionship? The Prophet said: Your mother. The man said, 'Then who?' The Prophet said: Then your mother. The man further asked, 'Then who?' The Prophet said: Then your mother. The man asked again, 'Then who?' The Prophet said: Then your father. (Bukhari, Muslim).
- ▶ It is narrated by Asma bint Abu Bakr that during the treaty of Hudaibiyah, her mother, who was then pagan, came to see her from Makkah. Asma informed the Messenger of Allah of her arrival and also that she needed help. He said: Be good to your mother. (Bukhari, Muslim).

Abortion

- ▶ An abortion is the medical process of ending a pregnancy so it doesn't result in the birth of a baby.
- ▶ It's also sometimes known as a termination.
- ▶ The pregnancy is ended either by taking medications or having a minor surgical procedure.
- ▶ (Source: NHS website)

Abortion

- ▶ "Because of that, We decreed upon the Children of Israel that whoever kills a soul unless for a soul or for corruption [done] in the land - it is as if he had slain mankind entirely. **And whoever saves one - it is as if he had saved mankind entirely.**" (Surah Al-Ma'idah, verse 32)
- ▶ This verse shows how important the sanctity of life (the Rooh) is to Allah. All life is sacred.
- ▶ The Qur'an describes the various stages of man's primordial development but it does not specify the exact duration of each state:
- ▶ "And certainly did We create man from an extract of clay. Then We placed him as a sperm-drop in a firm lodging. Then We made the sperm-drop into a clinging clot, and We made the clot into a lump [of flesh], and We made [from] the lump, bones, and We covered the bones with flesh; then We developed him into another creation. So blessed is Allah, the best of creators." (Surah Al-Mu'minun, verse 12 to 14)

Abortion

In a Hadith related by Bukhari and Muslim, Rasulullah (saw) said

- ▶ "Verily the creation of each one of you is brought together in his mother's belly for 40 days in the form of a seed, then he is a clot of blood for a like period, then an angel is sent to him who blows the breath of life into him..."
- ▶ Based on the above references, Muslim jurists have deduced that the first 4 months (120 days) of gestation is the crucial time period.
- ▶ After this, the foetus is regarded as being 'alive' and an abortion is not permissible for any reason whatsoever; and, should an abortion be done then it would constitute murder.
- ▶ Thus an abortion may be performed within the 120 days period only if there is a valid Shar'ee reason.

Abortion

- ▶ **Upon and after 120 days, it will not be permissible to abort the child.** Allah, the All-Knowing, the All Merciful, has endowed the foetus with life. The heights of His Infinite Wisdom cannot be reached nor comprehended. The importance of the biggest problem in the circumstances cannot be equivalent to the importance of the Rooh (life).

Abortion

- ▶ In general, abortion is not permissible but within 120 days; however, it is permissible to abort the child in the following instances:
- ▶ 1. **Rape and incest**
- ▶ 2. **Proven abnormalities**, e.g. Anencephaly (no brain), Downs Syndrome, Trisomy, HIV positive, congenital rubella health.
- ▶ 3. **If the foetal abnormalities are not proven but speculated, if there is a high risk that a woman may suffer from any of the above factors**, then in the opinion of an honest, reliable and an experienced Muslim doctor, abortion may be permissible before the 4 months' gestation. It must be stressed that these are exceptional circumstances in which an abortion is allowed. Once again, it must be emphasized that the permission granted rests on medical grounds. (Ibid)
- ▶ 4. If there is a **high risk of the mother's permanent mental well-being** and if the doctor is certain that the depression or schizophrenia will be permanent and incurable.

Abortion

- ▶ Abortion before 120 days is not permissible due to:
 1. spacing of children
 2. financial constraints
 3. young age
 4. unwed mothers



Miscarriage

- ▶ **A miscarriage is the loss of a pregnancy during the first 23 weeks.**
- ▶ The main sign of a miscarriage is vaginal bleeding, which may be followed by cramping and pain in your lower abdomen.
- ▶ If you have vaginal bleeding, contact your GP or midwife. Most GPs can refer you to an early pregnancy unit at your local hospital straight away if necessary. You may be referred to a maternity ward if your pregnancy is at a later stage.
- ▶ However, bear in mind that light vaginal bleeding is relatively common during the first trimester (first 3 months) of pregnancy and doesn't necessarily mean you're having a miscarriage.
- ▶ (Source: NHS website)

Miscarriage

- ▶ When struck by an affliction, a believer is required to be patient and trust that Allah Ta'ala will reward him for the patience endured in the affliction. This is called *Ihtisab*.
- ▶ "No disaster strikes except by permission of Allah. And whoever believes in Allah - He will guide his heart. And Allah is Knowing of all things." (Surah At-Taghabun, verse 1 f)
- ▶ Ummi Salma reports that Nabī (saw) has said:
 - ▶ "Whenever an affliction strikes a Muslim and he says, as Allah commanded him, "Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi rajiun. Allahumma ajirni fi musibati, wa akhluf li khayran minha -
To Allah we belong, and to Him will we return - O Allah, reward me for my affliction and replace it for me with that which is better," Allah will then surely replace it for him with that which is better."
(Saheeh Muslim)

Miscarriage

- ▶ Ibn Abbās (ra) reported that Nabī (saw) said:

"Whosoever from my Ummah has 2 children that pass away before the parents then, Allāh will enter the parents into Paradise because of the 2 children." So Aisha (ra) enquired:

"What about the person, who has 1 child that passes away before them?" Nabī (saw) replied: "The same will be awarded to those who have 1 child that passed away before them." Aisha (ra) further asked: "What about them who no children passed away before them? Nabī (saw) replied: "then I will be the one to go ahead of them and prepare for them." (Mirqat)

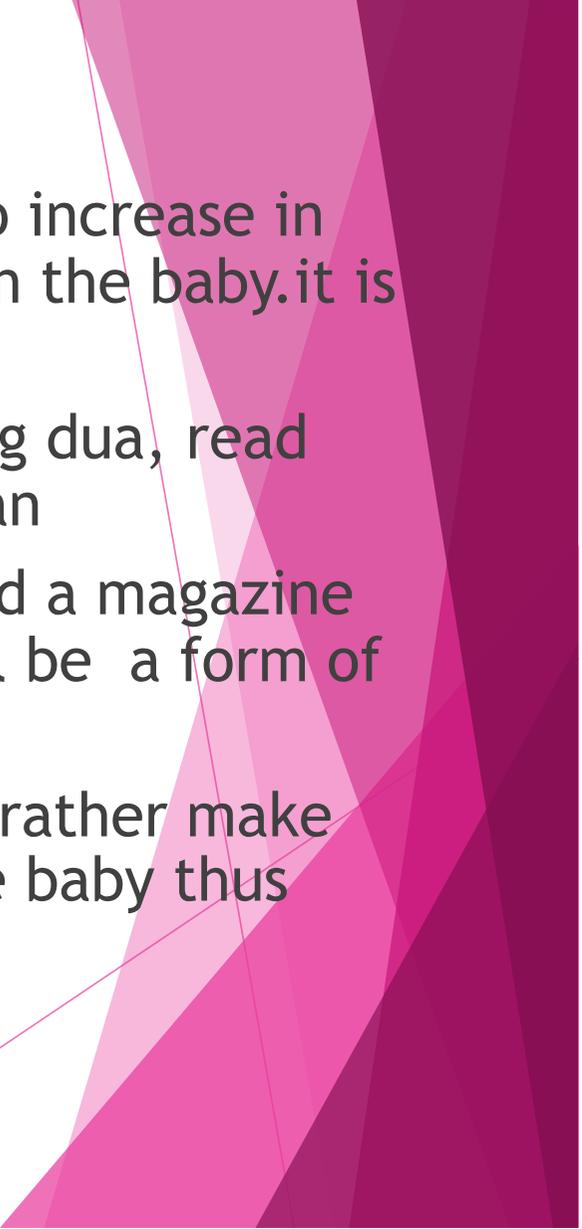
- ▶ This reward is granted to them either because of the patience that they had endured upon the loss of their children or because of the intercession of the children by Allāh in favor of their parents.

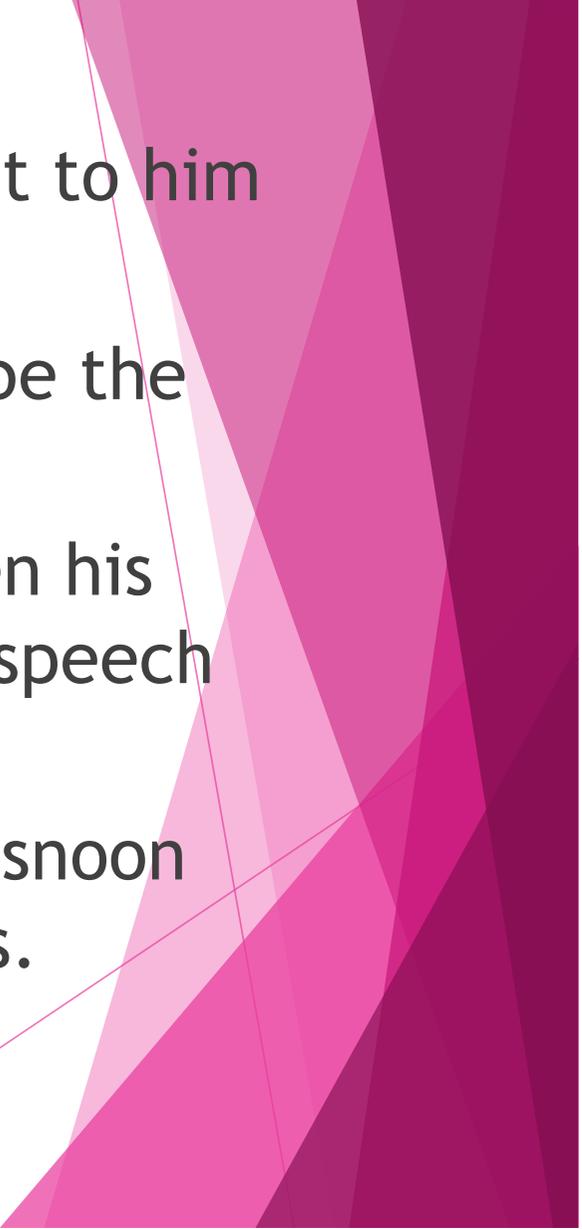
Still-Birth

- ▶ According to the Shariah, when a child passes away in the womb of the mother or dies before the head and the chest comes out in a normal birth, or before the abdomen (navel) comes out in a breach birth, it is regarded as still born. (Tahtawj Page 327 Qadeemi)
The still born child should be washed, given a name, placed in a cloth and be buried in the graveyard. The same rule applies in a miscarriage and some limbs of the child are visible. (Ibid)
- ▶ It is hoped that such a child will intercede for the parents on the day of judgement.
- ▶ There is no Janaaza Salaat for a still born child. (Ibid) There is no restriction to bury the child in the Muslim cemetery.

Correct Tarbiyyah and Instilling Islamic Values into Your Children

- Tarbiyyah of the child starts right from before conceiving. The first of it been: reciting the dua of protection for the child at the time of having relations
- Allahumma jannibna ashaytan wa jannib ashaytan ma razaqtana

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- ▶ Then during pregnancy, a mother is encouraged to increase in her ibadat, all of this is having a positive effect on the baby. it is already connecting him to his creator
 - ▶ At the time of birth too, like we said, keep making dua, read durood shareef, all of this impacts the baby's iman
 - ▶ During breastfeeding, many mums will sit and read a magazine etc, but instead, keep making dhikr. This milk will be a form of noor for the baby, thus impacting his iman
 - ▶ When putting baby off to sleep, don't sing songs, rather make dhikr. This all enters the subconscious mind of the baby thus strengthening his iman

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- ▶ As the child grows older, the 1st words taught to him should be the kalimah
 - ▶ The 1st sentence taught to the child should be the last aayah of surah bani israael
 - ▶ Teaching the child this aayah, will strengthen his iman in Allah ta'aala, assist in his clarity of speech and strengthened his mind and memory
 - ▶ As the child grows older, teach them the masnoon duas this has to form part of their daily lives.

The correct way of educating your children

- ▶ We lay much emphasis on the secular education of our children, there's no harm in this, provided it is done in a manner that does not affect their iman negatively
- ▶ A good school should be sought wherein the child can grow and thrive with positive education.
- ▶ If no such school can be found, then consider homeschooling our children.
- ▶ Remember, everything that is instilled in the mind of young children will aid in their moulding.

Disobedient children

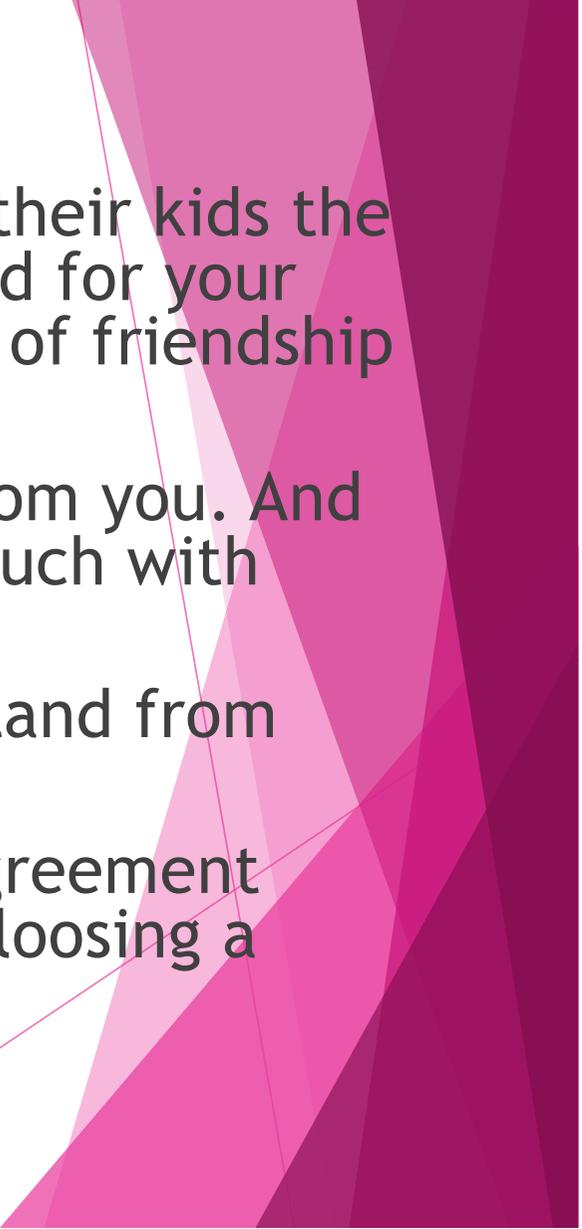
- ▶ Our childrens obedience to us starts with our obedience to our creator
- ▶ If we are obedient to Allah, and perform our duties to Him, like observing salaah etc, then we would be making dua daily, infect 5 times a day for our children, and not just when the trouble starts.
- ▶ Dua for children

▶ قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ

How to deal with teenagers

- ▶ as our children come towards their teens, many changes take place in their bodies inwardly and outwardly as well.
- ▶ Their hormones change, and many times this leaves them confused, angry at times, and uncertain. Hence, they display signs which may be less pleasing to the parents.
- ▶ Remember dua!

You can get through this with the help of Allah, and by using tact and wisdom, showing love and understanding.

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- ▶ Many parents feel that they want to bring up their kids the way they were brought up. It may have worked for your parents, but with the changing of times, a lot of friendship is rather needed than parenting.
 - ▶ Be their friend. Let them ask you and learn from you. And this will only happen, if we create a bond as such with them
 - ▶ Look at things from their perspective, understand from their point of view.
 - ▶ It is better to give in and come to a mutual agreement within the boundaries of shariah, rather than losing a child altogether.