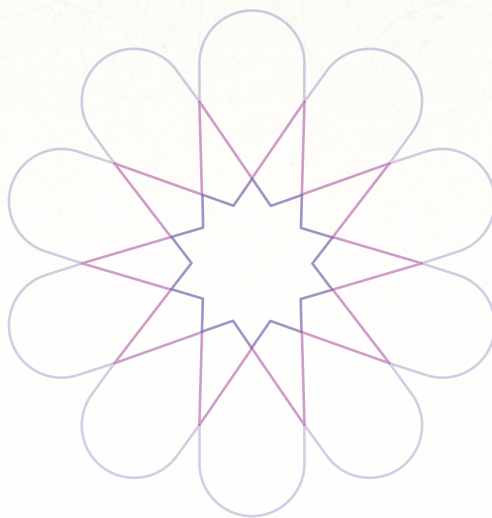
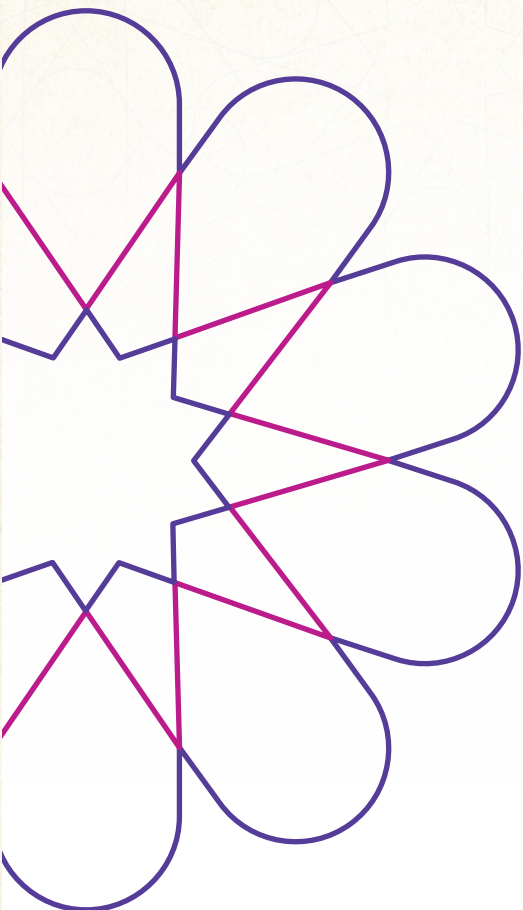




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# Advice to Spouses



# Part 1

# فقه الزواج

# Fiqh of Marriage

Prepared by:

Mufti Barkatulla Ustadha Saleha Bukhari

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# Introduction

## Vision, Mission and Incentives

- Fortification of Chastity (50%) of Faith (iman)
- Sunnah of Prophets, and Mohammad SAW
- Love, Mercy, and peace between spouse
- Intimate relationship between spouse
- Social Cohesion, extension of family ties
- Running Household organization (leadership)
- Exercising Self-restrain (struggles, temptations)
- Raising children (Sadaqa Jariyah)

## Obligation to Marry?

- **Obligatory**: When there is a desire and a certainty that adultery will be committed if he does not get married.
- **Preferred**: When there is a desire and a likelihood of sin if he is not married.
- **Allowed**: Normal condition
- **Discouraged**: When there is a likelihood that he will do injustice to his wife in terms of dealings and/or spending.
- **Forbidden**: When there is a certainty that either of the partners will harm the other.

## **Preliminary Considerations**

- Quest for Mr. And Mrs. Perfect ?
- Looks and outlook V Personality
- Education, Earning Capacity V Family Orientation
- Demographic Background V Suitability
- Integrity and Religious commitment
- Visa/Passport immigration Considerations

## Engagement – Journey to marriage

- Initial encounters and interactions
- Speed dating, with pre-screening or Family member
- Building communications and understanding
- Serious considerations via *Istikhara* etc
- Making up of mind and solemn promises
- Wester practice of ‘Dating’ or living together
- Wedding Logistics and Living arrangements



## The Wedding – Party Begins

- *Bride and Groom, Wali and Witnesses*
- ***Ijab/Qabul*** - formal marriage proposal and acceptance
- **Mehr**, dowry, Jewellery and Exchange of gifts
- Religious Ceremony only V **Civil Registration**
- **Khutba/Serman**
- **Walima** or Wedding feast

## **Staying Married & Health Check**

- Falling in Love is easy, But sustaining a loving relationship is a hard work
- Mutual Rights and Obligations
- Obligations of the husband
- Obligations of the Wife
- Special Circumstance and Conditions

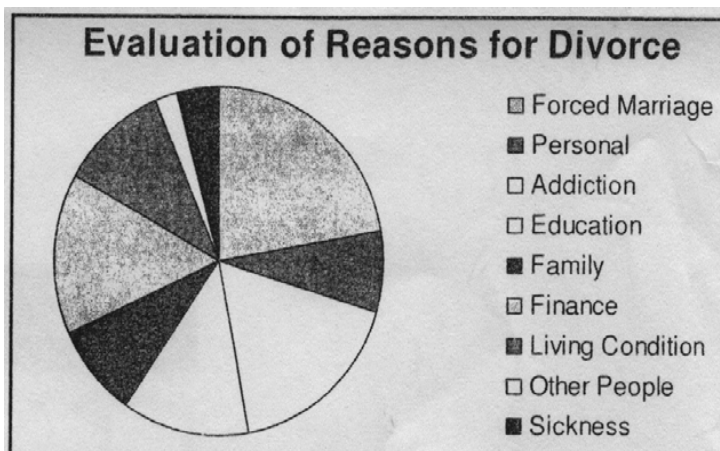
## **Barometer of Healthy relationship**

- Smooth engagement and wedding
- Compatibility and Mutual Commitment
- Verbal and emotional communication skills
- Mutual Respect and Dignity in relationship
- Distribution of tasks and duties

# Unhealthy Trends

## Negative Symptoms

- Quick jump marriages or Visa/passport related/importation/immigration
- Different upbringing and cultures
- Forced or purely arranged marriages
- Religious differences or attitudes
- Resorting to verbal, emotional or physical violence
- External parental/relative interference



## Arbitration and adjudication

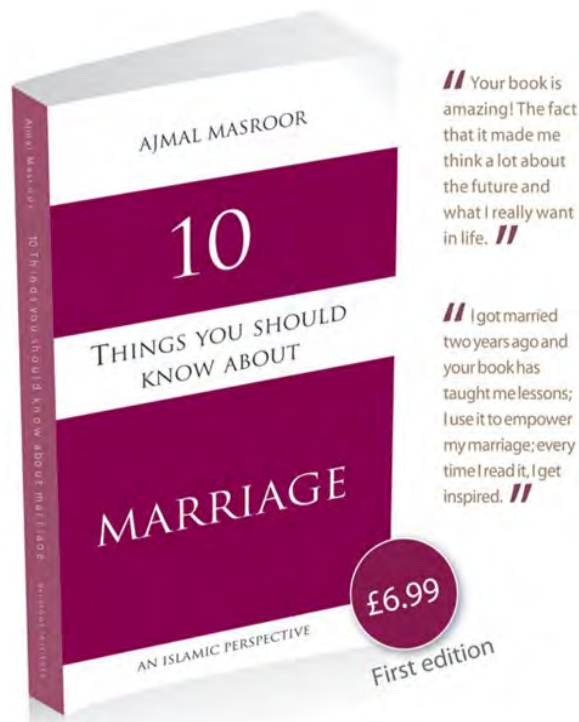
- All differences between husband and wife pertaining to this contract, its interpretation and implementation should be amicably resolved between themselves.
- However, failing satisfactory resolution of differences, both parties undertake to settle their differences through family consultation and/or community leaders.
- Before resorting to legal redress through British civil courts parties undertake to seek arbitration/reconciliation through a reputable UK-based Shari'ah panel/body/council whose decision shall be morally binding on both parties.
- In matters of child(ren), custody and property possession/division the decision of a British courts will be acceptable to both parties.

## Marriage with the "People of the Book" (Ahl al-Kitab)

الْيَوْمَ أُحِلَّ لَكُمْ الطَّيِّبَاتُ ۖ وَطَعَامُ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ حِلٌّ لَكُمْ وَطَعَامُكُمْ حِلٌّ  
لَهُمْ ۖ وَالْمُحْصَنَاتُ مِنَ الْمُؤْمِنَاتِ وَالْمُحْصَنَاتُ مِنَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا الْكِتَابَ مِنْ قَبْلِكُمْ إِذَا  
آتَيْتُمُوهُنَّ أَجُورَهُنَّ مُحْصِنِينَ غَيْرَ مُسَافِحِينَ وَلَا مُتَّخِذِي أَخْدَانٍ ۗ وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِالْإِيمَانِ فَقَدْ  
حَبَطَ عَمَلَهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴿٥﴾ المائدة

- This day [all] good foods have been made lawful, and the food of those who were given the Scripture is lawful for you and your food is lawful for them. And [lawful in marriage are] chaste women from among the believers and chaste women from among those who were given the Scripture before you, when you have given them their due compensation, desiring chastity, not unlawful sexual intercourse or taking [secret] lovers. And whoever denies the faith - his work has become worthless, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.

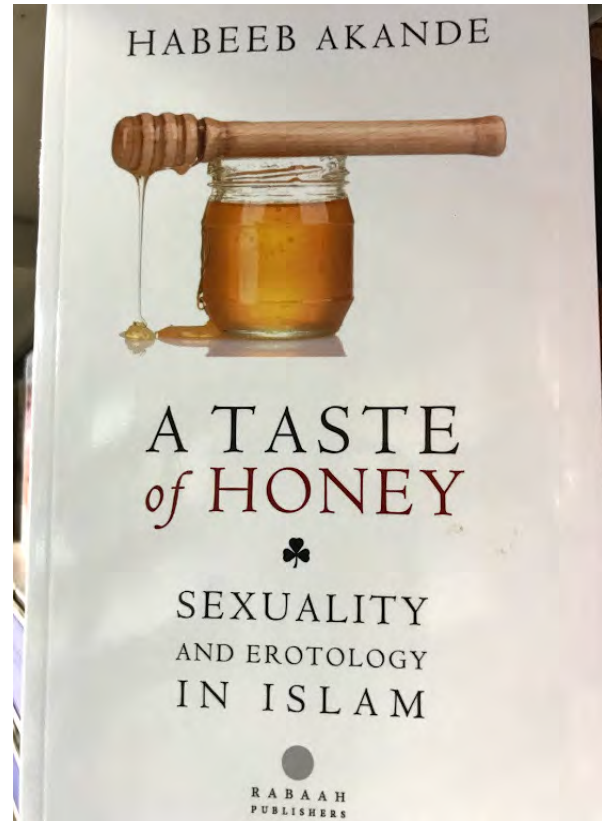
## Some Useful Resources



// Your book is amazing! The fact that it made me think a lot about the future and what I really want in life. //

// I got married two years ago and your book has taught me lessons; I use it to empower my marriage; every time I read it, I get inspired. //

The relationship handbook everyone must read



# Part 2



# Marriage: Do's and don'ts

1. Don't take your spouse for granted: You chose to marry them so continue to cherish them each and every day after the big day, don't be afraid to show gratitude.
2. Keep a special space reserved just for your spouse: This is what sets your marital relationship apart from every other relationship in your life, and this is what will help you work out your priorities too.
3. Fall in love every day: The action of falling in love isn't something limited to the honeymoon period only, for true love matures only with time and trials. You will both change, evolve and grow through life, and it's important to be in love with who they are today, not just who they were when you first met.
4. Focus on the positive: When you spend your life so closely tied with someone else, it's normal to start noticing their quirks, flaws, and weaknesses. Don't allow this to dominate your thoughts. Instead, make an effort to focus on the best parts of their personality and character.
5. Don't try to change them: There is only one person you have the responsibility, power, and right to change in life, and that's yourself. When you love and accept your partner, it is for whom they really are, flaws and all. Don't enter into a relationship with the expectation to change the other person, for that's a relationship that is destined to fail.
6. Do Not Blame Your Partner: This is another point that comes back to the fact that YOU choose your reactions in life. While your partner may do something that isn't ideal, or that triggers emotions within yourself, you are still responsible for how you react.
7. Do Listen: Don't Always Try to Fix Everything for him/her. When your spouse comes to you and shares situations in their life that may leave them feeling sad and upset, they're not necessarily looking for you to 'fix it'. They simply need you to be there, support them, listen to them and let them know that it's going to be okay.
8. Be Present: In a world where we are so easily distracted, our phones, computers and fast-paced lifestyle often dominating our attention, make an effort of being present in your relationship.

9. **Don't Be Afraid of Making Mistakes, But Don't Make Excuses:** Mistakes happen, since no one is perfect. However, there are reasonable mistakes and ridiculous mistakes. Don't use the idea that 'mistakes happen' as an excuse to be lazy or reckless. Acknowledge your mistakes and take responsibility for them.
10. **Give your spouse Space:** While you obviously want to spend time together, this is why you entered into this relationship together, that doesn't mean you want to spend every second of every day together and suffocate each other. Give your spouse the space to be themselves, practice self-care, and to enjoy the things that bring him/her joy.
11. **Be Transparent:** One of the most important building blocks for any successful marriage is trust, and this can only truly be built when both partners embrace the concept of transparency. Don't keep secrets or wear masks in your marriage. Instead, be honest and share openly with your partner. Give your spouse the opportunity to love you both in the highs and the lows that life will encompass.
12. **Continue Growing Together:** Throughout life, you will consistently be presented with opportunities to grow and evolve, but this doesn't have to be experienced alone. In fact, it shouldn't be experienced alone. Instead, take on these challenges together. By growing together, you will also grow closer as you navigate your way through life.
13. **Don't Argue Over Finances:** Finances are recognized by many relationship experts as the number one reason for arguments in relationships, so it's more beneficial to try to eliminate this point of contention. Rather than arguing over money problems, work together as a team to find a solution.
14. **Practice Forgiveness:** You are not perfect. With that in mind, how can you expect your partner to be? Rather than dwelling on your partner's mistakes or holding grudges, which will only work to drive you apart, learn to practice forgiveness. The choice is yours, rather than choosing anger, practice love and compassion. It can turn the most difficult of situations into an opportunity to become closer.
15. **Always Choose Love:** Above all else in your lives together, always choose love. Challenges, struggles, arguments, and hurt feelings will all come and go. Don't allow these things to create distance in your hearts. Allow love to conquer and the ego to fall.