

## CHILDREN: OUR LORD'S (SWT) PRECIOUS GIFT IN OUR TRUST

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ وَأَنَّ اللَّهَ عِنْدَهُ  
أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ  
وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:  
...وَإِنَّ لَوْلَدِكَ عَلَيْكَ حَقًّا.

Dear Muslims,

In the verse I have recited, our Lord Almighty (swt) states, "And know that your wealth and your children are only a test and that with Allah is a great reward."<sup>i</sup>

In the hadith I have read, our Prophet (saw) says, "You have a duty which you owe your child."<sup>ii</sup>

Dear Believers!

Our children are a precious trust bestowed upon us by Allah the Almighty (swt). They are the joy of our lives and the blessing of our homes. They are the hope of our family and the guarantee of our future. Our primary duty is to raise our children in a healthy family environment, with love and good morals. It is our religious, moral, legal, and human responsibility to protect them from all forms of neglect and abuse.

Dear Muslims!

Sadly, it is children who pay the highest price for corruption, loss of morality and lawfulness, and lack of conscience. Children are the biggest victims of wars and tragedies, refugee camps and poverty on the one hand, and neglect, abuse and inhuman behavior on the other.

Dear Muslims!

Our children, who are Allah's gift bestowed in our trust, are the most sensitive balance of humanity and society in terms of conscience and mercy. So, let us be aware of our responsibilities towards our children, the hope of our future. Let us pay attention to their education, their psychological, social, cultural development, and their religious and moral upbringing. Let us not forget that humanity will never achieve goodness unless it ensures the peace and security of children. I would like to conclude this Friday's khutbah with the following supplication we are taught in the Holy Qur'an:

"Our Lord! Bless us with pious spouses and offspring who will be the joy of our hearts, and make us models for the righteous."<sup>iii</sup>

<sup>i</sup> Anfal, 8/28.

<sup>ii</sup> Muslim, Siyam, 183.

<sup>iii</sup> Furqan, 25/74.