# A Happy Marital Life In the Light of the Shariah

## 10 tips to a happy marriage

Q: Every human being by nature has an instinct to dispute. This instinct becomes more manifest between the husband and wife, thus leading to marital disputes. How can this instinct be controlled?

**A**. Consider the following ten points to control the instinct of dispute and maintain a happy marriage.

**1.** Fear Allah (S.W.T): It was the noble practice of Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) to remind the spouses about the fear of Allah before performing a Nikah by reciting the verses (An-Nisaa v.14, Ahzaab v.69, Aale-Imraan v.101) from the Quraan. All the verses are common in the message of Taqwaa (fear of Allah). The spouses should be first committed to Allah before being committed to their partner. There can be no doubt in the success of a marriage governed by the fear of Allah (S.W.T)

Never be angry at the same time: Anger is the root cause for all marital disputes. One Sahabi (companion) came to Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) and sought some advice.
Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) replied; control your anger. The same advice was rendered three times. (Mishkaat pg.433; H.M.Saeed)

**3.** If one has to win an argument, let it be the other: Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said: "Whoever discards an argument despite being correct, shall earn a palace in the centre of Jannah. (Ibid pg.412)

**4.** Never shout at each other unless the house is on fire: Luqman (A.S) while offering advice to his son said: "and lower your voice for verily the most disliked voice is that of a donkey". (Surah

Luqman v.19)

**5.** If you have to criticize, do it lovingly: Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said; "A Mu'min is a mirror for a Mu'min." (Abu Dawood vol.2, pg.325; Imdadiyyah). Advise with dignity and silently.

**6.** Never bring up mistakes of the past: Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said: "Whoever conceals the faults of others, Allah shall conceal his faults on the day of Qiyaamah." (Mishkaat, pg.429; H.M.Saeed)

**7.** Neglect the whole world rather than your marriage partner: Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) confirmed the advice of Salman to Abu-Darda [RA] for neglecting his wife. "Verily there is a right of your wife over you." (An-Nasai, Hadith 2391)

**8.** Never sleep with an argument unsettled: Abu Bakr (RA) resolved his dispute with his wife over feeding the guests before going to bed. (Bukhari, Hadith 602)

**9.** At least, once everyday, express your gratitude to your partner: Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said; "Whoever does not show gratitude to the people, has not shown gratitude to Allah". (Abu Dawood, pg.662; Karachi)

**10.** When you have done something wrong, be ready to admit it and ask for forgiveness: Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said; "All the sons of Aadam are vulnerable to a lot of mistakes; and the best among those are the ones who seek a lot of forgiveness". (Tirmidhi, Hadith 2499).

## 10 Tips to be a successful Husband

#### By Sheikh Mohammed Abdelhaleem Hamed

#### 1. Dress well for one's wife:

Dress up for your wife, look clean and smell good. When was the last time we men looked pleasing to our wives. Just like a husband wants his wife to look nice for him, she also wants her husband to dress up for her. Remember that the Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) would always use a miswak (tooth-stick) when entering the home and always loved the sweetest smells.

#### 2. Use likeable names for your wife:

Use the cutest names for your wife. The Messenger of Allah (sal Allahu alayhi wa sallam) had nicknames for his wives, which they loved. Call your wives by the most beloved names to them and avoid using names that may hurt their feelings.

#### 3. Recognize the good & focus on that:

Do not treat her like a fly. We never think about a fly in our daily lives until it starts to 'bug' us. Similarly, a wife will do well all day, which does not bring any attention from her husband, until she does something to 'bug' him. Don't treat her like this; rather, recognize all the good that she does and focus on that.

#### 4. Be silent on the wrongs:

If you see something wrong from your wife, try remaining silent and not commenting. This is what the Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) used to do when he would see something inappropriate from one of his wives (radi Allahu 'anhun). It is a technique that only a few Muslim men have mastered.

#### 5. Smile at your wife:

Smile at your wife whenever you see her and embrace her often. Smiling is sadaqah (charity) and your wife is not exempt from the Muslim nation. Imagine life with her constantly seeing you

smiling. Remember those Ahadith which mention that the Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) would kiss his wife before leaving for Salah (prayer) even if he was fasting.

#### 6. Thank her:

Thank your wife for all that she does for you and then thank her again! Take as an example a dinner at your house, where she prepares the food, cleans the home, and a dozen other tasks in preparation of the dinner. Even after all this sometimes the only acknowledgement she receives is that there needed to be more salt in the soup. Don't let this be the only acknowledgement, but instead you should thank her.

#### 7. Make her happy:

Ask her to write down the last ten things which you did for her that made her happy and then go and do them again. It may be hard to recognize what gives your wife pleasure, however, you don't have to play a guessing game; just ask her and work on repeating those in your Life.

#### 8. Comfort her:

Do not be-little her desires, instead comfort her. Sometimes, men may look down upon the requests of their wives. The Messenger of Allah (sallallaahu alayhi wa sallam) set the example for us in an incident when Safiyyah (radi Allahu 'anha) was crying because, as she said, he had put her on a slow camel. He wiped her tears, comforted her, and brought her the camel.

#### 9. Be humorous:

Be humorous and play games with your wife. Look at how the Messenger of Allah (sal Allahu alayhi wa sallam) would race with his wife 'Aisha (radi Allahu 'anha) in the desert. When was the last time we did something like that?

#### 10. Try to be the Best:

Always remember the words of Allah's Messenger (sal Allahu alayhi wa sallam), "The best of you are those who treat their families the best; and I am the best amongst you to my family." Try to be the best!

In conclusion: Never forget to make dua to Allah (azza wa jall) to make your marriage successful. And Allah ta'ala knows best.

## The Pleasant Companionship

"And among His signs, another one is that He created for you mates from among yourselves, that you may dwell in tranquility with them, and He has put between you, affection and mercy. Surely in that are indeed signs for a people who reflect." [Ar-Rum, 30:21]

The relationship between a husband and wife is one of the closest bonds which exists between two human beings. Through the ties of marriage, each becomes aware of the other's secrets, their faults and their virtues like no one else.

As the aforementioned ayah from the Qur'an shows, the institution of marriage does not set the agenda for a domination of one sex over the other, as many nowadays perceive. Rather, marriage is one of the great bounties of Allah through which both men and women achieve tranquility, love, security and companionship. This is why Allah describes the husband and wife as being garments for one another:

"They are garments for you and you are the same for them" [Al-Baqarah, 2:187]

This may at first, seem like a strange and unusual analogy to make. But with closer thought and reflection, we can realize what a beautiful and apt similitude Allah (S.W.T) has given here. For just as a garment covers and protects a person, so too does the husband and wife protect his or her companion by providing security; by helping to keep the eyes restrained and the private parts protected (from illicit sex); by covering each other's mistakes; and also by shielding them, not only from worldly harm, but more importantly from the Hellfire as well. The use of this analogy also gives an indication of the intimacy and closeness that exists between man and wife, just like the closeness there is between the garment and a person's skin; nothing separates them, nothing comes between them.

#### **Rights in the Marriage**

Very often we find that discussions about marriage tend to become centered around the issues of rights and duties in a marriage (e.g. does the wife have to cook and clean for the husband, can the husband strike his wife, etc). Although these questions are undoubtedly important, this is not the place to start answering them. Marriage is not simply about demanding rights and discharging duties. Marriage is principally about mutual co-operation and about encouraging one another towards obedience to the Allah (S.W.T). The act of marriage itself is considered to be "half the religion" or "half of iman" [1]. This is why the Prophet (saw) advised the men: "A woman is married for four reasons: for her property, her status, her beauty and her Religion; so try to get the pious one that you may be successful". [2]

As far as rights and responsibilities are concerned, anyone who studies the commands in the Qur'an and the Sunnah in this regard will find that Allah has divided these up in a very wise and just manner. Thus, although the rights and duties of the wife are different to that of the husband, they are nevertheless fair and in proportion. This fact is indicated to in the following ayah:

"And they (women) have rights (over their husbands) similar to those exercised over them, in an equitable manner, but men have a degree (of responsibility) over them." [Al Baqarah 2:228]

Explaining this verse, Ibne Abbaas said: "I verily adorn myself for my wife the same as she adorns herself for me. Also I would not ask her to fulfill all the rights which she owes me, so that it would become binding upon me to fulfill all the rights which I owe her." [3] This is how Ibne Abbaas; one of the foremost of the people of Paradise, understood the relationship between the husband and wife. He understood how many rights his wife had over him and that is why he feared that if he were to ask for all the rights which his wife owed him, then she too, in turn, would ask for all her rights and he would not be able to fulfill them.

But how different the scenario is today amongst the Muslim communities, where the wife is expected to be dutiful and bear all sorts of hardship and oppression, whereas the behavior of the husband seems to be of no consequence whatsoever! Who from amongst the Muslim men today, follow the same thinking as Ibne Abbaas (R.A)?

There can be no doubt whatsoever that the rights that the husband has in a marriage are tremendous and he is the one at the head of the family, but he must be very careful not to exploit his rights and his authority in order to oppress the wife and be unjust to her. In the same way, the wife too must not constantly be demanding her divinely bestowed rights whilst being woefully neglectful of her duties to her husband. She should always bear in mind that it is more important for her to discharge her duties to her husband than it is to receive the complete rights which her husband owes her. [4] This is because by discharging her duties as a wife, she is not only fulfilling the rights of her husband but also fulfilling her obligations towards Allah. Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) said: "By the One in Whose Hand is the soul of Muhammad, no woman has fulfilled her obligations to her Lord until she has fulfilled her obligations to her husband - even if he were to ask her for himself when she is mounted in the saddle, she would not refuse his request." [5]

So just because a man is failing in his duties as a husband, this does not give the wife the right to withhold some of his rights, since ultimately when a woman serves her husband, she should be doing so to seek the pleasure of Allah (S.W.T) rather than the pleasure of her husband alone.

Thus, to use the old clichéd expression, marriage is all about a little "give and take." It's not about "giving as much as you get", for that kind of attitude will only create an environment of hostility and ill-feeling. On the contrary, Allah (S.W.T) says to the men:

"And live with them (i.e. your wives) honorably." [An-Nisaa, 4:19]

The famous commentator of the Qur'an, Haafidh Ibn Kathir explained that living with them honorably includes "using soft speech with them (i.e. not speaking to them harshly) and ameliorating your deeds and appearances as much as you can." He then said; "As you would like that FROM her, so do the same FOR her." Above all, it must be remembered that this pleasant companionship which Rasoolullah (sallallaahu alayhi wasallam) exemplified perfectly in his relationship with his wives, as did of course his Companions; can only truly come about if both partners regard the marriage first and foremost as an Islamic duty. And as with all Islamic duties, there are limits; he who transgresses them has in the end, harmed only himself. As Allah (S.W.T) says:

"Whosoever transgresses the set limits (Hudood) of Allah, then indeed he has wronged himself." (At-Talaaq, 65:1)

As for those who keep to the limits and deal justly with each other, then Allah (S.W.T) grants them a good and happy life together; a life of obedience towards Allah (S.W.T) which Allah (S.W.T) will reward with eternal happiness in the life of the Hereafter:

"Whoever does righteous deeds, whether male or female, provided he (or she) is a true believer, verily to him we shall give a good life (in this world) and We shall surely grant them a reward in proportion to the best of what they used to do (i.e. Paradise)." [An-Nahl, 16:97]

#### Footnotes

(1) As the Prophet (S.A.W) said: "When the servant marries, then he has completed half of the Deen. Then let him fear Allah with regard to the remaining half" (Saheeh ul-Jaami, No.443)

(2) Narrated by Abu Hurairah (R.A) and collected in Sahih Muslim (Eng trans. vol.2, pg.749, no.3457)

(3) Tafsir Ibn Kathir. Its chain of narration is declared to be Hasan by Shaikh Muqbil ibn Haadee in his checking of Ibn Kathir.

(4) This is what is meant is Suratul-Baqarah that "men have a degree of responsibility over them" (2:228).

(5) Saheeh. Collected in Sunan Ibne Maajah, Musnade Ahmad and others.

## <u>Tips For Better Relationship Between Husband &</u> <u>Wife</u>

Although many Muslims may be in a failing marriage at this moment and on a fast track to divorce and its terrible consequences, there are many ways to put their marriage back on the right track if the husband and wife are sincere in their desire to reconcile. The following principles can be applied by Muslims whose marriages is currently in trouble or by Muslims who would like to avoid any problems in their marriage.

#### Examples of Negative relationship of Husband & Wife

Many Muslim spouses treat each other as adversaries rather than partners. Some husbands feel that they are the bosses and whatever they say goes. While some wives feels that they must squeeze everything they can out of their husband, never showing their husband that they are satisfied with anything he does or buys for them in order to trick him into doing and buying more. This makes him feel like a failure if he is unable to give them the lifestyle that their friends and families enjoy. Other husbands speak very harshly toward their wives, humiliating them, and even physically abuse them, with their wives having no voice or opinion in the family.

#### Marriage in the Sight of Allah

It is very sad that a relationship which Allah (SWT) has established for the good has become a source of contention, deception, trickery, tyranny, humiliation, and abuse. This is not the purpose of marriage. Allah (SWT) says about in the Holy Quran, "He created for you mates from among yourselves, that you may dwell in tranquility with them; and He has placed love and mercy between your (hearts)" (30:21, Yusuf Ali Translation).

#### Do not be a Tyrant

Muslims are not supposed to be dictators and tyrants and this specifically applies to the husband, since Islam has made him the head of the household. Even so he should treat the wife well. The Prophet Muhammad (sallallahu alaiyhi wasallam) was reported to have said, "The most perfect Muslim in the matter of faith is one who has excellent behavior and the best among you are those who behave best towards their wives." (From Mishkat al-Masabih, No. 278(R) Transmitted by al-Tirmidhi).

#### Be Partners in the Decision Making Process.

Follow the principle of shura and make decisions as a family. This will create harmony within the family as decisions will not be imposed and everyone will feel that they had some part in the decision making.

#### **Never be Emotionally Abusive**

Never be emotionally, mentally, or physically abusive to your spouse. The Prophet (sallallahu alaiyhi wasallam) never mistreated his wives and is reported to have said, "How can they beat their women in daytime as slaves and sleep with them in the night?"

#### Be Mindful of Your Words

Be very careful what you say when upset. Sometimes you may say things in anger that would never have been said in calm. If you become angry, wait until you are calm before resuming the conversation.

#### **Show Affection**

Show affection for your mate. Be kind, gentle, and loving.

#### Be a Friend to Your Spouse

Show interest in your spouse's life. Too often, we live in the same house but do not know anything about each other's lives. It would be great if the husband and wife can work together for the same cause or on the same project. For example, they could attend a weekend class of Islamic learning.

#### Show Appreciation

Show appreciation for what your spouse does for the family. Never make your husband feel that he is not doing enough for the family or that you are not satisfied with his work or his efforts, unless, he is truly lazy and does not even try to provide for his family. The Prophet (sallallahu alaiyhi wasallam) was reported to have said, "On the Day of Judgment, Allah will not look upon the woman who was ungrateful to her husband." If the wife takes care of the house and the children, the husband should not take it for granted, but should show his appreciation of her. It is hard work, and no one likes to feel unappreciated.

#### Work Together in the House

The Prophet (sallallahu alaiyhi wasallam) is known to have helped his wives in the house. If the Prophet (sallallahu alaiyhi wasallam) was not above doing housework, modern Muslim husbands should nott feel that they are.

#### **Communication is Important**

Communication, Communication, Communication! This is the big word in counseling and rightly so. Husbands and wives need to communicate with each other. It is better to deal with problems early and honestly than to let them pile up and explode.

#### **Forget the Past Problems**

Do not bring up past problems once they have been solved.

#### **Live Simply**

Do not be jealous of others who are living a more luxurious life than your family. The rizq (sustenance) is from Allah (SWT). In order to develop the quality of contentment, look at those who have less than you and not at those who have more. Thank Allah (SWT) for the many blessings in your life.

#### **Give Your Spouse Private Time**

If your spouse does not want to be with you constantly, it does not mean that he or she does not love you. People need to be alone for various reasons, such as wanting to read, to think about their problems, or just to relax. A request to be alone by either spouse does not mean that he/she is committing asin.

#### Admit Your Mistakes

When you commit a mistake, admit it. When your spouse commits a mistake, excuse him or her easily. If possible, you should never go to sleep angry with each other.

#### **Physical Relationship is Important**

Be available to your spouse sexually, without your sexual relationship being characterized by selfishness. The Prophet (sallallahu alaiyhi wasallam) was reported to have said, 'It is not appropriate that you fall upon your wives like a beast, but you must send a message of love beforehand."

#### **Have Meals Together**

Whenever possible, try and eat together as a family. Show your appreciation towards the one who cooks and the one who cleans, whether it be the husband or the wife. The Prophet (SAWS) never complained about food that was put before him.

#### Be Mindful of Your discussion Topics

Refrain from discussing with other people things that pertain to your marriage which your spouse would not like having discussed, unless an Islamic reason arises. Unfortunately, some husbands and wives complain to other people even about their spouse's physical appearance; this is a recipe for disaster. Information about your intimate relations should be kept between you and your spouse.

Many of us tend to treat our spouses in ways that we would never treat other people, with whom, we try to be polite, kind, and patient, but with our spouses, we often do not show these courtesies. Of course, we are usually with our spouses at our worst times— when we are tired and frustrated after a hard day. After a bad day at the office, a husband usually comes home angry and on edge, while the wife may have had a hard day as well with the children and the housework. Wives and husbands should discuss this situation which could become a potential time bomb. So if they are short-tempered with each other during these times, they will understand the reasons rather than automatically think that their spouse no longer loves them.

Good marriages require patience, kindness, humility, sacrifice, empathy, love, understanding, forgiveness, and diligence. Following these principles should help in improving any marriage. The essence of this can be summed up in one sentence: Always treat your spouse the way you would like to be treated. If you follow this rule, your marriage will have a much greater chance for success. If you discard this rule, failure is just around the corner.

#### WHAT A WIFE CAN DO IN PREVENTING A DIVORCE

THE WIFE CAN PLAY AN IMPORTANT AND ACTIVE ROLE IN DECREASING THE CHANCES OF DIVORCE. The wife should try to draw her husband's attention towards herself through different means listed. Below are some general points that every pious wife should be aware of:

**1.** Avoid those things which lead to hatred and mistrust. To accomplish this, she must first understand the nature (*mizaaj*) of her spouse. The wife should try to know and understand those things which cause pleasure and displeasure to her husband. If the husband is in an unhappy or bad mood, she must try to please him and change his mood.

**2.** The wife must become aware of the appropriate time for asking something from her husband or letting him know about any of her needs.

**3.** The wife should cheerfully welcome her husband when he comes home, especially at the end of a long and hard day at work. Try not to discus any of your needs or problems right away. It is reported in a Hadith to the nearest meaning, "A pious woman is one, when her husband glances at her, pleases him."

**4.** The wife should beautify herself and dress-up attractively for her husband on a regular basis. It must be remembered that a woman is not permitted to adorn herself with make-up, attractive clothes, etc., except for her husband. It is of a great reward for the wife when she makes herself look nice for her husband. This will increase her husband's love for her and will assist him in protecting his sight from gazing at unlawful women. If his wife makes him happy he will never yearn for any other woman.

**5.** The wife should never pay attention towards those people, especially men, whom her husband does not like her to have any relations with. In Islamic Law (*Shariah*), it is necessary for a woman to cover herself from non-*mahrams* (men who are lawful for the woman to marry). If the husband does not like his wife to associate with any of her *mahrams*, she should, under proper limits, stay away from them also.

**6.** A wife should not greedily demand from her husband her needs nor should she treat him like an opponent. For example, she should not demand expensive jewelry and fancy clothes if her husband is unable to afford them. Instead, she should always remain conscious of her husband's situation and be willing to sacrifice her own interests for those of her family and husband. Through this she will be able to attain a position in her husband's heart, gaining his love, and the husband will do whatever he can to please his wife.

**7.** The wife should try to cook good food, applying different styles and tastes, which would please her husband.

**8.** A wife must not reveal her marital problems to anyone and everyone. Instead, she should seek the advice of an elder pious male family member (e.g. father, a married older brother, etc.) or get the advice of a trusted local Imam or scholar.

Any pious woman who understands these few points and tries to take care of them in her marital life with sincerity, will Insh'Allah (If Allah Wills) be able to save her marriage from divorce. She will be happy in this world as well as the here-after.

## BE A REALLY GOOD WIFE...

Let me tell you the ways to get to his heart Delicious food is where you should start A really good meal – there's nothing like it Be it steak or biryani, kebabs or fish When he returns home from work, greet him at the door A really nice smile will please him for sure Elegant clothes, make-up, perfume applied All these things make for an attractive wife. Serve him his meal and do it with style The domestic woes can wait for a while. Be a good listener – Was his day alright? Be ready to give him support and advice When he's home, try to be there for him No friend can be more important than him If he wants to go out put everything aside Let your company be the best thing in life Be smiling and cheerful and do make him laugh This is one more way of keeping his heart Use wisdom and tact when dealing with him Nothing can be gained by fighting with him If he does say something which you don't like

Do give it some thought, perhaps he's right As for his money, do spend it with care Remember all the hard work it took to get there Be grateful to him in deeds, words and thoughts Ingratitude to husbands is disliked by God If you do all this, it'll improve your life For marital bliss makes this world Paradise And think of the reward there is in the Next It'll motivate you into doing your best. **BE A REALLY GOOD HUSBAND...** For a woman, a good husband is the best thing in life This very world can become Paradise What are the things he should do and not do Keep on reading and I will tell you Be generous with money, there's no doubting this It's an important ingredient of marital bliss Spending on family is rewarded by God If done with the intention of pleasing the Lord He should treat his wife well, express his love Appreciate her for all that she does When he comes home from work, greet her and smile Realize that household chores is no easy life

He should share in the housework, lend her a hand Be patient with her, sometimes say "Thanks' A compliment or two also goes a long way 'I just loved the food you cooked today." Avoid scolding her and in fact, he should try To not say things that will make her cry A woman is sensitive - it's the emotions in her That makes her so loving, and a fine nurturer If she should err, rather than shout Explain to her gently what it's all about As for important decisions in life He should take them after consulting his wife She is after all, his partner and friend Happily together should their life be spent It's a great opportunity, not to be lost Why go for conflict when life is so short I urge you my friend, take my advice Be kind, patient, generous, enjoy Paradise. BE A REALLY GOOD WIFE... BE A REALLY GOOD HUSBAND ... BE A REALLY GOOD WIFE ... **BE A REALLY GOOD HUSBAND...** 

# Meaning of Love in Marriage

"And among His signs, another one is that He created for you mates from among yourselves, that you may find peace/comfort with them and He has put between you, affection and mercy. Verily in that are indeed signs for a people who reflect." [Ar-Rum, 30:21]

In this ayah, Allah (S.W.T) mentioned that one of the basic purposes of marriage is peace/comfort and love among the couple.

Allah (S.W.T) has created the woman such that she possesses a greater portion of love and affection as compared to a man in this world, as a mother, daughter, sister, and wife. This is why the Prophet (Sallallahu alaihi wassalam) advised the men; "marry with the wadood" (a woman who is the most affectionate and loving to the husband) (Mishkaat)

Our great scholars explain the definition of love in these words:

(Mohabbat naam hai mehboob ku rahat puhunchane ka)

Love is to provide utmost comfort to your beloved and this love involves sacrifice, care, respect, desire & attraction. And more important than these is obedience as it is said in Arabic: "Innal muhibba liman yuhibbu mutioo"

Love must go beyond affection or mutual attraction and be governed by what is for the highest good for the loved one.

First of all, our love should be for our Creator (Allah Subhaanahu wataala) and then His creations which include parents, children, spouse, siblings etc.

The goals of having a relationship full of love and affection are:

1) Real happiness, peace, and satisfaction in this life and hereafter

2) Achievement of tranquility, security and companionship.

Love does not brag, does not get puffed up Love does not behave indecently Love does not look for its own interests Love does not become provoked True love has strength and endurance.

### Taqwa (Fear of Allah) in a Marriage

by Shakul Islam Mufti Taqi Usmani

From all the verses of the Quran, Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) had selected these three specific verses for the marriage sermon. Why we wonder? The common factor that we find in all these verses is that they deal with the subject of Taqwa. What does Taqwa have to do with marriage, one may ask? Because, the only way a husband or a wife will fulfill the rights of their partner is by the virtue of Taqwa.

It is a given fact, that only by Taqwa, only with the fear of Allah in their hearts, will a person not consciously break or not fulfill their spouses right. The relationship between a husband & wife is very delicate; the trust is deep to such extents that sides which are not apparent to others are clear before them. A person might be able to wear a mask, hide his or her true self in public, but a person cannot hide it from his or her partner.

No marital problem can be solved in a court or through a mediator, if the couple cannot resolve their problems and accept their differences themselves. And the only way that can happen is if the couple are aware of each other's rights, and not only aware, but willing to fulfill it as well. If a person has Taqwa, they will come to realize that their partner is a boon, which is entrusted to them. Each is a responsibility upon the other, and each will be answerable to Allah if they do not try their utmost to fulfill or perfectly execute their responsibility. You might not be questioned by anyone in this world if you do not fulfill your obligation, but you will one day definitely be questioned regarding your negligence by Allah, and that is a given fact anyone be assured of. You will suffer the consequences of it, of every right & obligation you have never fulfilled. This sense of obligation and responsibility is called Taqwa.

Taqwa is the moral compass of a person. It serves as our conscious, which tells us if we are doing something wrong. Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) had wanted that when a couple start their life journey together, as a parting advice they be reminded of each other's rights through Taqwa, so that a bond and friendship can be formed not by the passions of youth which are quickly extinguished, but by the awareness that their spouse is a very priceless treasure, which has been entrusted to them. May Allah give us all the ability to fulfill the rights of our life partners, Aameen.