

THEME 2 - RESPECTING EACH OTHER

تَعْظِيمُ حُرْمَاتِ الْمُسْلِمِينَ

Learning objectives:

- To learn to respect all human beings as Allah's creation.
- To be able to show the Muslim community as a loving family that cares for one another and is united.
- To be able to explain that respect is earned by good deeds. For example: being kind, generous and considerate of others needs.

In this theme, you will learn:

Respect is understanding that every person is important and must be treated in the right way. Respect brings out a positive emotional feeling about others, care, friendship and closeness. To earn respect, you will have to show that you care about other people's feelings and you do not interfere in their business.

قَالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَمَنْ يُعْظِمْ شَعَائِرَ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّهَا مِنْ تَقْوَى الْقُلُوبِ﴾ [الحج

32: وَقَالَ تَعَالَى: ﴿وَاخْفِضْ جَنَاحَكَ لِلْمُؤْمِنِينَ﴾ [الحجر: 88] وَقَالَ

تَعَالَى: ﴿مَنْ قَتَلَ نَفْسًا بِغَيْرِ نَفْسٍ أَوْ فَسَادٍ فِي الْأَرْضِ فَكَأَنَّمَا قَتَلَ

النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا وَمَنْ أَحْيَاهَا فَكَأَنَّمَا أَحْيَا النَّاسَ جَمِيعًا﴾ [المائدة: 32]

Allah ﷻ says: “Anyone who respects Allah’s symbols, displays true piety of the heart” (22:32). “Take the believers under your wing” (15:88). “Whoever kills another person - unless it is in lawful retaliation for taking a life or for creating terror in the country - it is as though he has killed the whole of humanity, and anyone who saves a life, it is as though he has saved the whole of humanity” (5:32).

[1] عن أبي موسى قَالَ : قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ: «الْمُؤْمِنُ لِلْمُؤْمِنِ كَالْبُنْيَانِ يَشُدُّ بَعْضُهُ بَعْضًا» وَشَبَّكَ بَيْنَ أَصَابِعِهِ. مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

1. Abu Musa رضى الله عنه reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “The relationship of the believers is like the brick wall, each brick strengthens the other.” He ﷺ illustrated this by interlacing his fingers.

COMMENTARY: This Hadith enjoins unity in the Muslim community, each member is like a brick, when they are all combined they strengthen each other. It emphasises that when these individual “bricks” are joined together, they complement and reinforce one another. The interlocking nature of bricks in a wall symbolises the cohesion, solidarity, and cooperation that should exist within the Muslim community. Just as a strong wall made of bricks is capable of withstanding external forces, such as storms or earthquakes, the unity of the Muslim community provides resilience against the various trials and tribulations that may arise.

[2] عن النعمان بن بشير قَالَ: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ: «مَثَلُ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ فِي تَوَادُّهِمْ وَتَرَاحُمِهِمْ وَتَعَاطُفِهِمْ، مَثَلُ الْجَسَدِ إِذَا اشْتَكَى مِنْهُ عُضْوٌ تَدَاعَى لَهُ سَائِرُ الْجَسَدِ بِالسَّهَرِ وَالْحُمَّى» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

2. Nu'man bin Bashir رضي الله عنه reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “The Muslims in their mutual kindness, care and sympathy are like one body. If one limb suffers, the whole body reacts by being wakeful or develops fever.”

[3] عن أبي هريرة قال: قَبَّلَ النَّبِيُّ الْحَسَنَ بْنَ عَلِيٍّ رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمَا، وَعِنْدَهُ الْأَقْرَعُ بْنُ حَابِسٍ، فَقَالَ الْأَقْرَعُ: إِنَّ لِي عَشْرَةً مِنَ الْوَالِدِ مَا قَبَّلْتُ مِنْهُمْ أَحَدًا. فَنظَرَ إِلَيْهِ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ فَقَالَ: «مَنْ لَا يَرْحَمُ لَا يُرْحَمُ!» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

3. Abu Huraira رضي الله عنه reported: The Prophet ﷺ kissed his grandson Al-Hasan bin 'Ali رضي الله عنه in the presence of Al-Aqra' bin Habis, when Aqra saw this he commented: “I have ten children but I have never kissed any one of them.” The Messenger of Allah ﷺ looked at him with dismay and said, “The one who is not kind to others will not be treated kindly.”

[4] عن جرير بن عبد الله قال: قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ: «مَنْ لَا يَرْحَمُ النَّاسَ لَا يَرْحَمُهُ اللَّهُ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

4. Jarir bin 'Abdullah رضي الله عنه reported: Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “He who is not kind to people Allah will not be kind to him.”

[5] عن أبي هريرة: أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَالَ: «إِذَا صَلَّى أَحَدُكُمْ لِلنَّاسِ فَلْيُخَفِّفْ، فَإِنْ فِيهِمُ الضَّعِيفُ وَالسَّقِيمُ وَالْكَبِيرُ، وَإِذَا صَلَّى أَحَدُكُمْ لِنَفْسِهِ فَلْيُطَوِّلْ مَا شَاءَ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

5. Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported: The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “When one of you leads the Salah, he should not make it long since there will be weak, ill and old people in the congregation.”

COMMENTARY: This Hadith imparts a profound lesson about the importance of sensitivity, consideration, and awareness towards the circumstances of others. It reminds us of our duty as Muslims to cultivate empathy and compassion in our interactions, ensuring that we treat others with kindness, respect, and understanding.

[6] عن عائشة قَالَتْ: إِنْ كَانَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ لَيَدْعُ الْعَمَلَ، وَهُوَ يُحِبُّ أَنْ يَعْمَلَ بِهِ؛ خَشْيَةً أَنْ يَعْمَلَ بِهِ النَّاسُ فَيُفْرَضَ عَلَيْهِمْ. مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

6. ‘Aisha رضي الله عنها reported: The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم would sometimes stop doing a particular activity that he enjoyed, in case others started following him and regard it essential for them.

[7] عن ابن عمر أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَالَ: «الْمُسْلِمُ أَخُو الْمُسْلِمِ، لَا يَظْلِمُهُ، وَلَا يُسْلِمُهُ. مَنْ كَانَ فِي حَاجَةِ أَخِيهِ، كَانَ اللَّهُ فِي حَاجَتِهِ، وَمَنْ فَرَّجَ عَنْ مُسْلِمٍ كُرْبَةً، فَرَّجَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُ بِهَا كُرْبَةً مِنْ كُرْبِ يَوْمِ الْقِيَامَةِ، وَمَنْ سَتَرَ مُسْلِمًا سَتَرَهُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

7. Ibn ‘Umar رضي الله عنهما reported: The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم said, “A Muslim is a brother of another Muslim. He does not oppress him nor abandons him in time of need. Whoever fulfils the needs of his brother, Allah will fulfil his needs; whoever resolves the problems of his brother, Allah will resolve his problems on the Day of Judgment; and whoever covers up the fault of a Muslim, Allah will cover up his fault on the Day of Judgment.”

[8] عن أنس عن النبي قَالَ: «لا يُؤْمِنُ أَحَدُكُمْ حَتَّى يُحِبَّ لِأَخِيهِ مَا يُحِبُّ لِنَفْسِهِ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

8. Anas رضي الله عنه reported: The Prophet ﷺ said, “None of you can be a true believer until he likes for his brother what he likes for himself.”

COMMENTARY: This is the ‘golden rule’ of all moral teachings. Treat others as you would want to be treated. This would make us well wishers of each other, a truly powerful way of eliminating hatred from society.

[9] عن أبي هريرة: أَنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ قَالَ: «حَقُّ الْمُسْلِمِ عَلَى الْمُسْلِمِ خَمْسٌ: رَدُّ السَّلَامِ، وَعِيَادَةُ الْمَرِيضِ، وَاتِّبَاعُ الْجَنَائِزِ، وَإِجَابَةُ الدَّعْوَةِ، وَتَشْمِيتُ الْعَاطِسِ» مُتَّفَقٌ عَلَيْهِ.

9. Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه reported: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said, “A Muslim has five rights over a fellow Muslim: Responding to greetings, visiting him when he is ill, attending his funeral, accepting his invitation, and saying ‘Allah bless you,’ when he sneezes.”

Activities:

- Discuss the importance of respecting each other.
- Draw a spider diagram to illustrate the impact respect has.
- Look at the diversity in the Muslim community, the different countries where Muslims come from, their culture, food and clothing. Then discuss what is important, the differences or the fact that they are Muslim like me.

- Further discussion: How should a Muslim show respect for his non-Muslim neighbour, friend and classmate?

In this theme you have learnt:

- Respect is earned by your behaviour, treat others the way you want to be treated.
- There are many ways of showing respect such as visiting an ill person, attending a funeral, accepting an invitation and saying “Allah bless you” when someone sneezes.
- Always remember to be kind and respectful to other people’s views.