

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are primarily triangles and polygons, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The overall composition is clean and modern, with the text centered in a white space.

Parenting Classes - Introduction

SIM Parenting Classes

1. The expectation of God and Sharia

Q: What do parents see as their duty with regard to their children?

- ▶ Our aim for our children should be for them to enter Jannah
- ▶ Hadith of the Holy Prophet (S):

Most of my people who will gain entry into Janna will do so on the basis of God Consciousness (Taqwa) and Good Character (Akhlaq).

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا قُوا أَنْفُسَكُمْ وَأَهْلِيكُمْ نَارًا وَقُودُهَا النَّاسُ وَالْحِجَارَةُ...

- ▶ [66:6] O you who believe! save yourselves and your families from a fire whose fuel is men and stones...

Our Children are Amanah:

- ▶ **Risalah al Huquq (on the rights of your child):**
 - ...And you are responsible for what has been entrusted to you (**Amanah**) in teaching him good conduct (**Akhlaq**), and guiding him toward his Lord and helping him to obey Him (**Taqwa**) on your behalf and for himself.
- ▶ Your child given to you as Amanah - for their growth AND yours
وَاعْلَمُوا أَنَّمَا أَمْوَالُكُمْ وَأَوْلَادُكُمْ فِتْنَةٌ
- ▶ [8:28:64:15] And know that your property and your children are a trial
- ▶ Mums and Dads are prepared and yet unprepared for their parenting role.
- ▶ Tarbiyah - the child's spiritual nurturing

2. Spiritual versus Material Concerns.

Q: What do parents do to ensure that the children are spiritually healthy?

- ▶ A child is a human being and so is made up of 2 dimensions
 1. physical and
 2. spiritual.

- ▶ As parents we have to ensure we cater/nourish both.
 1. The physical well-being of the child :
 - Provide - food, clothing and shelter
 - Protect against - malnutrition, disease and extreme climateIf only this then we are bringing up a very healthy animal

 2. The spiritual well-being of the child:
 - Provide - belief, fulfilment of obligation and good character
 - Protect against - sins, bad habits and evil peers.Now we are building an Insan

3. The Influences on your Child.

Q: What are the sources influencing your child?

- ▶ Nowadays more than ever, the child's mind and soul receives multiple inputs, often conflicting.
- ▶ Their personality is shaped by the nature of these inputs and how they make sense of them.
- ▶ Protect their **soul** as you protect their body - physical effect on the child of 2nd hand smoking; what about spiritual effect on the child- not recognised
 - Adhan/Iqamah at birth - 1st thing they hear
- ▶ Suratu 'Abasa, [80/24] فَلْيَنْظُرِ الْإِنْسَانُ إِلَى طَعَامِهِ
 - So let man be careful about his food
 - (spiritual nourishment according to Imam Sadiq (A))

4. Forming a Parenting Bond

▶ **Q: On average how much of your communication with your kids is about telling them off for what they did or did not do or scolding them etc.?**

A 20%

B 49%

C 60%

D 80%

- ▶ Friends and peers take the place of the parents - as parents have to fight for quality time with child;
- ▶ Need to know who your child's friends are.
- ▶ Child should not fear you but fear displeasing you
- ▶ Parents must help their children:
 - Build a relationship with God
 - Fostering a home environment that enhances what is taught by religion

Use the 3Ms as support

How much importance do you give to Religion?

- ▶ Primarily the responsibility of bringing up the children is the parents - but they have the 3Ms as support:
 1. Masjid
 2. Mimbber
 3. Madressa
- ▶ The role of 3Ms is teaching = children LEARN Islam
The role of parents is raising = children LIVE Islam
- ▶ Time is of essence here - parents have a limited window, perhaps a 10-12 year window, which is critical (Cooking frogs)

Before you leave:

What are the challenges I face in raising my children?

- ▶ Please write each challenge on a separate post-it note
- ▶ Stick the post-it note on the flip-chart paper, on your way out
- ▶ JazakAllah Khayr