

Incidents of ungratefulness to parents

Rasulullah (Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam) said: **“Allah delays the punishment of all sins, by His Will, except the disobedience of parents, He punishes the one who is undutiful to his parents even before his death.”**

These are some cases of ungratefulness and denial, we ask Allah Ta`ala for his protection and Safety:

The First Case

This is about an old weak woman; aged 84 years who lives in an old people’s home called “Ribaath ash-Shakireen” a charitable home for those who have nobody to look after them. The story of this old woman represents one of the worst cases of disobedience to parents. This old woman is not cut off ties, but has fulfilled her role in life as a mother before reaching this age.

The narrator of the story has said:

“I went with my friend to that home, “Ribaath ash-Shakireen” and saw that old woman. She told us that she had three children. However, when we asked her about them, she started crying and said, raising her hands high, ‘May Allah forgive them and grant them success.’ She said: “My husband died 16 years ago and nothing is left for me in this world, after Allah Ta`ala, except my four children. They have done well in their lives. The oldest one is a university teacher, one is an engineer and one is an officer in the army. As for my daughter, she is a doctor and she got married and left the country with her husband.”

We asked her: “Why do you have to live in this home since you still have your children?” She replied, in a painful and sad voice, that they did not want her in their lives. They neglected her and abandoned her after their father had died. They rarely asked about her; and if it were not for the home and some kind people, she could have ended up on the street.

Despite all the suffering, pain and ingratitude inflicted on her by her own children, she always wishes them well and asks Allah Ta`ala to grant them success in their lives. She was maltreated and neglected but still thanks Allah. However, she said that she missed her children very much and wanted to see them before she died. She added: “I do not wish them any harm, but Allah is Wise; He will deal with them justly in this world. I also miss my grandchildren and they should not prevent me from seeing them.”

This old woman was taken to hospital later because of a pain in her chest. After the diagnosis, the doctor found out that she was suffering from a clot in her heart. And even

now, she is still calling her children to visit her so that she may give them her blessing before she dies.

The Second Case

This is about one of those who forgot about his duty to his parents. He left his native land to the West to finish his studies, but returned to his native country as a different person. His nature changed; his behavior and morals were also corrupted. He treated his parents with ingratitude and rejection.

His father was happy to welcome him back home. One day he invited his friends to his father's home. His father welcomed them and treated them well; he brought drinks and food while his son was laughing and talking to his friends. When his father went to the kitchen to get more drinks, one of the guests asked the son: "Who is that man who welcomed us and brought drinks to us?" The son answered: 'He is a servant working in our house.'

The Third Case

This is about a very rich man, living in Basra (Iraq), who was always hoping to have a son. He was overjoyed when Allah granted him a baby boy. He looked after him and cared for him more than anything else in the world, until he became a strong young man. Unfortunately, one day the old man was stabbed in the back and so called on his son for help, but was surprised to see that it was his own son who had actually stabbed him. And in a painful agony, the old man said: 'I testify that none has right to be worshipped but Allah Alone, having no partners, and I testify that Muhammad is His Slave and Messenger; I ask Allah's forgiveness, Allah was right!'

The old man pronounced the Shahadatayn in order to meet Allah Ta`ala with sincere Faith, and asked Allah's forgiveness because Allah Ta`ala had warned him to be aware of his son, though he had not; so his saying, 'Allah was right', referred to Allah's verse, (O you who believe! Verily, among your wives and your children there are some enemies for you, therefore beware of them).

The Fourth Case

A social worker in an old people's home in Dahran (Saudi Arabia) said: "We had sent a letter to one of the guests' daughter to come to collect her mother. However, as soon as she arrived, she started swearing at me and abusing me, believing that I was the one who had written a report for her mother to leave the center. All the people who were in the center could hear her shouting and swearing, so some doctors tried to explain to her that the decision had been taken by a special medical committee.

She left without taking her mother, who had heard everything that her daughter had said. Everybody was expecting to witness her mother's anger and frustration, but were surprised to see her making excuses for her daughter, saying, 'Forgive my daughter, she

is a nice person but she is afraid of her husband.' Everyone at the hospital was saddened and touched by that incident.

From that day, I considered that old woman to be my mother. I looked after her and fulfilled her needs. However, one of her constant requests was to contact her daughter who refused to come or even answer our calls. But, to my surprise, her mother never stopped wishing her well."