

Duties And Responsibilities Of A Child Towards Parents And Society

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Received: 25 June 2025; **Accepted:** 19 July 2025; **Published:** 31 August 2025

Abstract: This article provides an understanding of the duties and responsibilities of a child towards parents and society.

Keywords: Father, mother, child, affection, upbringing, respect, knowledge, compromise, envious, stubborn, arrogant, dishonorable, companion, courage.

Introduction: Duties of a child towards parents:

- Listening to parents' advice, always helping them, being kind and attentive, providing both moral and financial assistance in family matters;
- Sincerely sensing what their parents need and showing practical care in this regard;
- Not reproaching them for the moral and financial help given to the family;
- Not neglecting to visit them on birthdays, holidays, and festive occasions;
- Showing special care to elderly parents, treating them with kindness, and helping to fulfill their wishes and dreams;
- When the time comes and they pass away, accompanying them with respect to their final resting place, holding the ceremonies modestly and without extravagance, with the presence of close relatives and those who knew and respected them.

The great encyclopedic scholar Abu Nasr al-Farabi, in his treatise *On the Attainment of Happiness*, stated: "The sole task of education is to prepare the ideal person who fully meets the demands of society and serves to preserve its unity, peace, and prosperity."

Our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, in the section *Youth are the Builders of New Uzbekistan* of his book *The*

Strategy of New Uzbekistan, emphasized the following:

"Whenever I meet with young people, I never tire of repeating these words: 'Cherish knowledge, strive for knowledge!' As you can see, nations and states whose people are educated, who master modern knowledge and skills, and who raise their young generation in this spirit are developing rapidly."

On the rights of family members. In the family and in society, husband and wife have equal rights. Here, we are speaking about the rights established by law. Such equality is expressed in the right to vote and be elected, to choose a profession, to work, to receive education, to choose a life partner, and so on. However, from the point of view of biological and psychological structure, there is no such equality between the sexes. Therefore, there are certain differences in the rights and duties of men and women regarding household management, raising children, and the division of labor in family responsibilities.

The duties of husband and wife have been mentioned above. It is impossible to list all of them. Based on family conditions, each person must use their reason to define their duties and perform them in such a way that every guest who comes to the house, when leaving, praises the mutual respect among the family members and admires the wisdom and intelligence of each of them.

Children who see their father and mother, the ones pulling the cart called family, being supportive of one another, showing mutual courtesy, and treating each other with kindness, will take them as an example and try to emulate them. For a child may forget your advice, but they will never forget what they have seen. This aspect of child upbringing in the family should never be neglected.

For example, if you bought sweets from the market and immediately gave them to your youngest child, telling them not to show anyone, the child, being a child, might proudly show the sweets to all their siblings without sharing. This will make the others feel hurt. They will think being the youngest is the best, since they get all the gifts, sweets, and affection. As a result, feelings of isolation and detachment may arise among the children.

To prevent such situations, whenever you bring something home, always distribute it fairly. During the process of distribution, parents should not forget themselves either. This is very important. If your children witness this process, later when they grow up and start earning, they will not forget to set aside a share for you as well. This fair distribution in front of children will be the greatest lesson for them. First, it will increase their love for one another, and second, they will always remember their parents. Otherwise, if you distribute everything only among your children and exclude yourselves, later they may stop remembering you and think only of themselves.

Especially when you grow old and lose strength, this mistake made in upbringing will turn into great torment for you, an irreparable regret. If you treat your children equally, considering the elder as elder and the younger as younger, and act accordingly; if you accustom the younger ones to consult with the elders, and the elders to respect and protect the younger ones; if you praise their good deeds and encourage them, while correcting their wrong actions in time and clearly explaining why those actions are bad, then you will have accomplished a very important and significant educational task for the development of your children and your own future peace and well-being. Seeing their compassion and respect, you will be satisfied with your life, and the hardships and struggles you endured for their upbringing will be forgotten.

If a person does not illuminate his path with the light of knowledge, he will remain on the road of darkness and ignorance. The light of the human heart is strengthened by knowledge and enlightenment. The dignity of humanity is attained through knowledge. No one has ever been harmed by knowledge. Acquiring knowledge itself is an art. Whatever evils have occurred

in the world, all of them have arisen through ignorance. The greatest disaster is ignorance, which destroys humanity. A woman who has received a good education and improved her character with the light of knowledge will be respected everywhere. Knowledge is an adornment for a woman. Any woman who saves her mind from ignorance will comprehend honor, dignity, and the value of womanhood. Such a woman will never be mistaken in anything. But an ignorant woman will make many mistakes in raising children.

From the words of Khurmuz the sage:

“What is worthy for a person is that he learns wisdom, knows the science of prudence, and engraves it upon his heart. Old age cannot hinder the attainment of wisdom and virtue. Whoever has placed wisdom in his heart—neither a warrior, nor a hero, nor a king, nor anyone else can take it away. A person must align his intentions with his words so that his tongue does not say one thing while his heart intends another.”

Our mothers raised us with boundless love, sacrificing their rest, staying awake at nights, and devoting themselves to our upbringing. If we were upset or saddened, they circled around us with care; if we fell ill, they lost their peace of mind. No tree bears good fruit without a gardener. A mother is that gardener for us. She is always occupied with caring for us. Any child who understands this will place his mother above all else and always respect her.

A wise child never forgets a mother's love, even for a moment. When attempting even a small task, he informs his mother, seeks her approval, listens to her words, follows her advice, and always strives to make her grateful.

When grown-up children, having received a good upbringing and acquired a profession, visit their mother, they always remember that once they were nursed at her breast and raised in her arms. They will never speak harshly to her, but with gentle words win her heart. Bringing to mind the hardships and labors she endured for them, they strive to make her forget those hardships and bring her joy for a lifetime.

Serving one's parents is the duty of every child. But this duty is fulfilled especially when the parents have reached a time when they are in need of their children's service.

The manners of a child towards parents are such that he listens attentively to whatever the parents say. He does not walk ahead of them. Whatever they command—so long as it does not involve betrayal or sinful deeds—he carries out sincerely and wholeheartedly. When they rise from their place, he also quickly stands up. When they call him, he answers,

"At your service!" He always longs to make them happy. He stands before them with respect. He does not boast of what he has done for them. He does not become angry at them or look at them with a frown because of certain matters. He does not leave on a journey without their permission.

Among other rights of parents are these: in their presence he observes proper etiquette. He does not sit undressed before them. If some part of him hurts, he tries as much as possible to hide it so as not to worry his parents. In all such matters he observes the rules of courtesy.

It is narrated in books that parents have eighty rights over their child. Forty of them apply while they are alive, and the remaining forty after their death. Among the forty during their lifetime, ten relate to the body, ten to speech, ten to the heart, and ten to wealth.

The ten bodily rights consist in sincerely serving one's parents. That is: always looking at them with eyes of respect; not doing what they forbid; not undertaking any work without their counsel and approval; if they come to the place where you are sitting, immediately rising to welcome them; if they are sitting, remaining standing before them until they permit you to sit; never sitting in the place they occupy; when walking with them, not going ahead of them, except when the road is muddy, watery, or otherwise dangerous—only then may you walk in front. In their presence, sit with a cheerful face; do not frown, do not scowl, and when they call you, run to them.

The ten rights of the heart are as follows: first, look upon them with compassion and mercy. Second, always do as much good to them as you can. Third, let your joy be with their happiness. Fourth, if they grieve, you too grieve, and seek ways to ease their pain. Fifth, even if they speak excessively, do not find it bothersome. Sixth, if they scold you, instead of being upset, be glad. Seventh, no matter how much good you do for them, or however much you fulfill their rights, if their hearts are hurt even a little, consider it shameful for yourself. Eighth, whatever intentions they have, strive to help them achieve them. Ninth, the longer they live, the more joy you should feel. Tenth, the more they suffer, the more you should try to console them.

The ten rights relating to speech are as follows: first, speak to them gently and always with humility. Second, do not raise your voice before them. Third, do not speak too much to them and do not be rude. Fourth, do not call them by their names. Fifth, do not interrupt their speech. Sixth, do not reject what they say. Seventh, if they say, "Do this work," do not answer, "No." Eighth, even if they shout at you, reply in a low voice. Ninth, do not respond to their words with sighs

or groans...

The ten duties relating to wealth are as follows:

First – before buying clothes for yourself, provide for your parents.

Second – offer them food that is better and sweeter than what you yourself eat.

Third – when eating from the same table, place the best portions of the food before them.

Fourth – whatever item they wish to buy, purchase it for them.

Fifth – improve their home and furnish it well.

Sixth – give them money even if they do not ask, for they may be too modest to request it openly.

Seventh – with words such as, "Whatever I earn is for you; take whatever you desire freely and consider all of it as your own," remove any hesitation or shyness between you.

Eighth – if you live far away from them, occasionally invite them as guests and treat them with full honor and respect.

Ninth – honor your parents' friends as well, for by doing so you will bring pride and dignity to your parents in the eyes of their companions.

That is why the great statesman of India, Mahatma Gandhi, did not say in vain: "If we want the state to establish peace in the world, we must begin with the upbringing of children."

As children grow up in life, their fate does not part from two things: either they will be happy and prosperous, or they will be led astray and become unhappy.

How can children become happy? If a child listens to his parents, follows the path they indicate, sincerely accepts their advice, and does not merely listen but strives with all his strength to act upon it and keep it always in mind, then when that child grows up, he will certainly be happy.

How can a child become unhappy? If a child does not listen to the words of kindness and affection spoken sincerely by his parents, if he disregards their advice, and refuses to heed the guidance of others as well, he will gradually go astray and eventually end up unhappy. Unhappy children, after they have grown up, do not consider themselves guilty of their own misfortune but instead cast blame on their parents, accusing them of being the cause of their unhappiness.

Respecting and honoring parents and relatives is not only during youth or times of wealth and prosperity, but throughout life until our strength is gone. The relationships and interactions of elders with one another strongly influence others, and the youth take

lessons from these relationships.

When we live together with our parents, we must always please them, avoid any shortcomings in the rules of respect due to them, and constantly ask about their well-being. After we marry and move to another house, we must still visit them often, kiss their hands, and receive their blessings. If we cannot visit, then we must inquire after them through letters.

If our knowledge and profession are higher than those of our parents, we must never be arrogant about it—this is among the highest human virtues. To be boastful and proud before parents because of one's career or learning is more disgraceful than to be ignorant and uneducated.

While parents are alive, it is the duty of loyal and devoted children to please them; and after their passing, to act upon the advice and counsel they gave during their lifetime, and to remember them with their good qualities. It should not be forgotten that besides parents, one must also show respect and honor to those who have acted as benefactors and extended a hand of kindness!

O dear child! Know that courage is the mother of all virtues. Whoever possesses the wealth of courage will also possess many different virtues. A courageous person is loved by everyone. In battle, a courageous person strikes fear into the heart of the enemy and inspires others to advance.

He who befriends a brave man will attain bravery, while he who keeps company with a coward will never escape sorrow. The promise of a brave person is both certain and swift.

It is related that Luqman the Wise was originally of Ethiopian origin. Historians and biographers have written much about his ancestry and upbringing. To recount it all here would take too long. He became famous for the advice he left behind. Some of his blessed words are as follows, spoken as counsel to his son:

O my son, always take patience and endurance as your companions. Do not fall into the trap of your desires; rather, know that restraining them is the greatest path. Be content with what you earn, do not strive to gain more than what is necessary. Be sparing with food, but be full of wisdom. Do not be rude to people, and do not say whatever comes to your mouth. Only then will you be safe from many kinds of calamities. If people praise you with qualities you do not possess, do not be deceived!

O my son, whenever you speak, let it be words of wisdom and counsel. Be the first to act upon what you say. Speak according to your profession and rank. Test

people in moments of anger, and test your friends when misfortune and hardship befall you. Always strive to perform pleasing deeds. When you speak, speak with evidence and proof. Consider your youth as a blessing. Be in the company of the wise. Honor your friends. Look upon people with a cheerful face!

O my son, always respect and serve your parents. Show sincere reverence to your teacher and mentor, and regard them even more respectfully than your parents. In all matters, take the middle path. Spend according to your means. Be generous. Honor your guest. Guard your tongue before him. Never be heedless of your enemy, even for a moment. Be modest in your desires. Before speaking, think about how you will respond. Keep away from envious and arrogant people. Consider contentment as true wealth!

O my son, always be a seeker of knowledge. Do not be stubborn, do not cling rigidly to your own words, but also pay attention to the words of others. Follow the path of compromise, always remain among people, do not isolate yourself from them. Respect the elders, speak of everyone with reverence, and never forget to repay the debt of anyone whose bread and salt you have partaken.

When you devote yourself to raising your child, do not flaunt the love and affection you give. Always look upon your child's upbringing with a sense of "caution."

Dear parents – fulfilling every single demand of your child may later strike you like a sharp sword; beware of this. If you must be strict with your child, let it be the last remedy. Do not display your child in fancy clothes, for that is only another form of spoiling. Do not rush to satisfy him with luxuries and delicacies; instead, focus on nourishing him spiritually. If your child has accomplished something, do not reward it with money—find other ways. If you place excessive affection upon your child, giving your entire being to him, your future will be disastrous. Do not bow before your child, do not circle around him at every whim—otherwise, you will perish.

However, if you make a promise to your child, be sure to fulfill it, for children are intolerant of falsehood. When the time comes, if you have elder, moral, and influential companions, let your child enter their circle. If those people address your child, let him respond; if no question arises, let him simply benefit from their conversation by listening.

The conclusion is this: beware of falsely accusing your child, for this will plant hatred in his heart towards you.

Upbringing requires mastery. Mastery walks hand in hand with talent, but even if you lack talent, nurture mastery within yourself. To scold and rebuke your child

is one twin of loving and cherishing him. Sometimes success in this matter cannot be attained either with kind words or strictness alone. Alas, the upbringing of a child is an ocean; let it be your program to seek out ways to draw drops from that ocean—perhaps the fortune that has never smiled upon some will smile upon you.

One of our poets said:

“Raising a child is hard – complicated,

Prepare yourself, seek advice.

Do not lag behind, do not ignore counsel,

For the words of fathers are a world of wisdom.”

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