



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



"Deen Before 'I Do'"

What Really Matters?



Sayyid Samer Hakim



Sura Nisa

Ayah 1

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ اتَّقُوا رَبَّكُمُ الَّذِي خَلَقَكُمْ مِنْ نَفْسٍ
وَاحِدَةٍ وَخَلَقَ مِنْهَا زَوْجَهَا وَبَثَّ مِنْهُمَا رِجَالًا كَثِيرًا
وَنِسَاءً وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ الَّذِي تَسَاءَلُونَ بِهِ وَالْأَرْحَامَ إِنَّ
اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلَيْكُمْ رَقِيبًا ﴿١﴾

O mankind, fear your Lord, who created you from one soul and created from it its mate and dispersed from both of them many men and women. And fear Allah, through whom you ask one another, and the wombs. Indeed Allah is ever, over you, an Observer

Spouse Selection





Deal Makers

Must Haves

Deal Tweakers

Flexibility



Deal Breakers

Must not haves



- Non Negotiable
- Absolutely Must Have



- Preferable
- Add-ons
- Can cope with it



- Un-acceptable
- Not changeable



Self Selection





Rights & Obligations

Marital Taqwa Map

Due Diligence

Rules

Etiquettes

You

Me

Husband

Wife

Husband

Wife

Deal Makers

Deal Tweakers

Deal Breakers

Deal Makers

Deal Tweakers

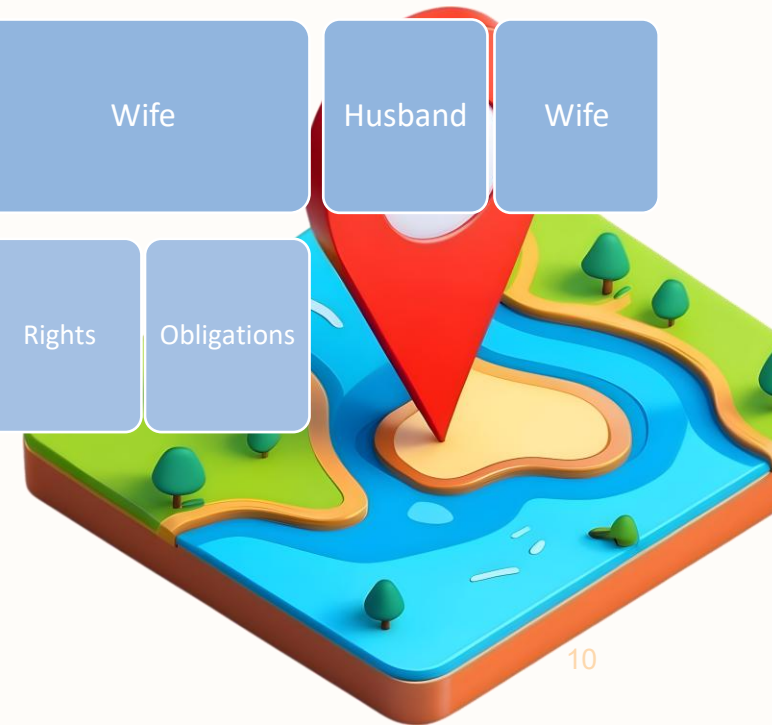
Deal Breakers

Rights

Obligations

Rights

Obligations





SCENARIO 1 - Culture

A practicing 21 year man proposes to an 18 year old female Muslim. He's known for his piety, humility, and good character. But the girl's family quietly refuses, citing skin colour or his nationality.





SCENARIO 1

“He’s a good guy, but...

My daughter won’t be able to love him.

“We don’t know his background.

He’s not from our tribe or country.””

Surah Hujjarat
49:13

يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ إِنَّا خَلَقْنَاكُمْ مِنْ ذَكَرٍ وَأُنْثَىٰ
وَجَعَلْنَاكُمْ شُعُوبًا وَقَبَائِلَ لِتَعَارَفُوا ۗ إِنَّ أَكْرَمَكُمْ
عِنْدَ اللَّهِ أَتْقَاكُمْ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ عَلِيمٌ خَبِيرٌ ﴿١٣﴾

Surah Al Baqara

2:221

وَلَا تَنْكِحُوا الْمُشْرِكَاتِ حَتَّىٰ يُؤْمِنَنَّ ۚ وَلَا أُمَّةً مُّؤْمِنَةً خَيْرٌ مِّنْ مُّشْرِكَةٍ
وَلَوْ أَعْجَبَتْكُمْ ۚ وَلَا تُنكِحُوا الْمُشْرِكِينَ حَتَّىٰ يُؤْمِنُوا ۚ وَلَعَبْدٌ
مُّؤْمِنٌ خَيْرٌ مِّنْ مُّشْرِكٍ وَلَوْ أَعْجَبَكُمْ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ يَدْعُونَ إِلَى النَّارِ ۗ
وَاللَّهُ يَدْعُو إِلَى الْجَنَّةِ وَالْمَغْفِرَةِ بِإِذْنِهِ ۗ وَيُبَيِّنُ آيَاتِهِ لِلنَّاسِ لَعَلَّهُمْ
يَتَذَكَّرُونَ

Surah An Nur
24:26

الْحَبِثَاتُ لِلْخَبِيثِينَ وَالْخَبِيثُونَ لِلْخَبِيثَاتِ
وَالطَّيِّبَاتُ لِلطَّيِّبِينَ وَالطَّيِّبُونَ لِلطَّيِّبَاتِ

Narration 25073



كَتَبَ عَلِيُّ بْنُ أُسْبَاطٍ إِلَى أَبِي جَعْفَرٍ فِي أَمْرِ بَنَاتِهِ وَ
أَنَّهُ لَا يَجِدُ أَحَدًا مِثْلَهُ فَكَتَبَ إِلَيْهِ أَبُو جَعْفَرٍ - فَهَمَّتُ
مَا ذَكَرْتَ مِنْ أَمْرِ بَنَاتِكَ وَأَنَّكَ لَا تَجِدُ أَحَدًا مِثْلَكَ فَلَا
تَنْظُرْ فِي ذَلِكَ رَحِمَكَ اللَّهُ فَإِنَّ رَسُولَ اللَّهِ ص قَالَ إِذَا
جَاءَكُمْ مَنْ تَرْضَوْنَ خُلُقَهُ وَ دِينَهُ فَزَوِّجُوهُ إِلَّا تَفْعَلُوهُ
تَكُنْ فِتْنَةً فِي الْأَرْضِ وَ فِسَادٌ كَبِيرٌ.



Ali bin Asbat wrote to Abu Ja'far (peace be upon him) regarding the matter of his daughters and that he could not find anyone like himself. So Abu Ja'far (peace be upon him) wrote back to him: I understood what you mentioned about the matter of your daughters and that you cannot find anyone like yourself. Do not look at it that way, may Allah have mercy on you, for the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings be upon

Narration 25075



عَنْ الْحُسَيْنِ بْنِ بَشَّارِ الْوَاسِطِيِّ قَالَ: كَتَبْتُ إِلَى أَبِي
جَعْفَرٍ أَسْأَلُهُ عَنِ النِّكَاحِ فَكَتَبَ إِلَيَّ مَنْ خَطَبَ
إِلَيْكُمْ فَرَضَيْتُمْ دِينَهُ وَ أَمَانَتَهُ فَرَوْجُوهُ إِلَّا تَفَعَلُوهُ
تَكُنْ فِتْنَةً فِي الْأَرْضِ وَ فِسَادٌ كَبِيرٌ.

From Al-Husayn bin Bishar Al-Wasifi who said: I wrote to Abu Ja'far (peace be upon him) asking him about marriage. He wrote back to me: When someone proposes to you and you are satisfied with his religion and trustworthiness, then marry him (to your women). If you do not do so, there will be tribulation in the land and great corruption.



- Religion and faith – Practical
- Akhlaq – Morals
- Trustworthy



1. To what degree does your faith play a central role in your life?
2. How committed are you to deepening your understanding of your faith, and how do you gauge your level of religious comprehension?
3. How significant is it to you that your future spouse shares your faith and values?



4. Could you elucidate your personal interpretations of modesty (عفاف shyness), (غيرة?) and jealousy (حياء),

.5 How do these concepts resonate in your daily life, and what importance do you assign to them?

6. What does the term “hijab” signify to you, and how do you define it?



7. Regarding social conduct and etiquette, what are your views on the appropriate level of interaction between non-mahrams (those who are not closely related)?

8. If one of your friends were to visit your home, what kind of interaction would you prefer your spouse to have with them?



9. In comparison to the rest of your family, do you have distinct preferences or behaviours when interacting with non-mahrams?

10. How integral is participation in religious gatherings to your life?

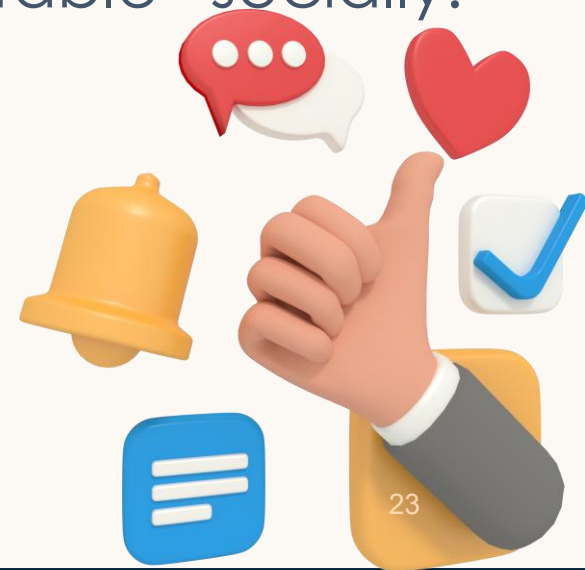
11. How would you react if your spouse were willing to forgo their prayers in favour of showing respect for a social gathering or

business meeting?



SCENARIO 2 - Status

A 20 y.o. girl from a financially struggling or humble background is being considered, but the 25 y.o. man's wealthy parents want someone more "presentable" socially.





Questions?