

M.A.L.I. 2014

Reflections and Commentaries on

Surah 4 Ayat 34

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا
مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ فَاالصَّالِحَاتُ قَانِتَاتٌ حَافِظَاتٌ لِّلْغَيْبِ بِمَا حَفِظَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّاتِي
تَخَافُونَ نُشُوزَهُنَّ فَعِظُوهُنَّ وَاهْجُرُوهُنَّ فِي الْمَضَاجِعِ وَاضْرِبُوهُنَّ فَإِنِ
أَطَعْنَكُمْ فَلَا تَبْغُوا عَلَيْهِنَّ سَبِيلًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلِيمًا كَبِيرًا

4:34 Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allah has given the one more (strength) than the other, and because they support them from their means. Therefore the righteous women are devoutly obedient, and guard in (the husband's) absence what Allah would have them guard. As to those women on whose part ye fear disloyalty and ill-conduct, admonish them (first), (Next), refuse to share their beds, (And last) beat them (lightly); but if they return to obedience, seek not against them Means (of annoyance): For Allah is Most High, great (above you all). (Yusuf Ali, translation)

MALI SKIT REFLECTION

Surah 4: ayat 34 Reflection by students of the Muslim American Logic Institute (M.A.L.I.)

Qur'an

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ ۗ

"The men, surely they are the supporters of women, protectors and providers to foster peace between them, because Allah has made some of them to excel others and they spend generously from their money, goods, services, property, cash or animals".

Qur'an

فَالصَّالِحَاتُ قَانِتَاتٌ حَافِظَاتٌ لِّلْغَيْبِ بِمَا حَفِظَ اللَّهُ ۗ

"The good women are submissive and obedient to Allah, protecting the property of their spouses covering the unseen secrets in their absence, protecting themselves in the absence of their spouse, as Allah prescribes and commands it".

Qur'an

وَاللَّاتِي تَخَافُونَ نُشُوزَهُنَّ فَعِظُوهُنَّ وَاهْجُرُوهُنَّ فِي الْمَضَاجِعِ وَاضْرِبُوهُنَّ ۗ

"Those who you fear and expect from them disagreeable animosity, rough treatment and remoteness, sincerely advise them and remind them of consequences; stay away from their beds and strike them with wise words or a thoughtful example".

Qur'an

فَإِنْ أَطَعْتُمْكُمْ فَلَا تَبْغُوا عَلَيْهِمْ سَبِيلًا ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلِيمًا كَبِيرًا ﴿٣٤﴾

"Then if they yield or submit to you, then do not look for the expedient path against them. With Allah the Most High is the power".

M.A.L.I. STUDENT REFLECTIONS

I. Kamaal Saleem Rasheed MALI Sat 9 AM Surah 4: Ayat 34

Most family concerns center around finances(money), so Allaah(swt) made men(rejaalun) responsible for providing the essential needs for the family; food, clothing, and shelter. HE has given men the capacity to go out into the world to seek a livelihood, and bring back the fruits of their labor to share with their family. This reassures his wife and children that he can fulfill his family's obligations, thus bringing a sense of security and stability to the household. If the women trust that the men will be a good provider, then this eliminates anxiety, fear, and alienation.

The pious women (saalihaat) will guard and protect the intimacy of the family by constructing a hijab(barrier) to prevent any inclination to violate this sacred trust. But if, they disobey Allaah (swt) with regards to this matter, then do not be intimate with them, counsel them, strike them lightly not to do harm, but with the intent to get their attention. So, when they realize their error, do not block their path to Allaah (swt).

II. Aqila Sharif-Hanifa, Saturday 9 AM Class, Surah 4: Ayat 34

Surah 4: Ayat 34 has detailed instructions for the consolidation and strengthening of family life in the Islamic Community. This is a continuation of those instructions given in Surah 2 *Al Baqara*. Principles for the smooth running of family life have been laid down and ways of settling family disputes have been taught. Rules have been prescribed for marriage and rights of wife and husband have been apportioned fairly and equitably.

The status of women in the society has been determined and the declaration of the rights of orphans has been made. Laws and regulations have been laid down for the division of inheritance, and instructions have been given to reform economic affairs. The foundation of the religious laws has been laid down, and drinking has been prohibited, also instructions have been given for cleanliness and purity. In Surah 4:34, Muslims have been taught the kind of relationship good men and women should have with Allah and with each other. Men are the protectors of women and makers of wealth. Women protect their person as well as the wealth in the absence of the male. The women submit their obedience to Allah. This behavior preserves the souls of both the male and female. Striking the wife, in Qur'an, means without violence to dissolve issues. Prophet Muhammad (swt) never displayed this behavior. He asked His followers not to as well. The Qur'an is not introducing something to us, but is eradicating a behavior within us that we are already displaying. Allah is striking us with examples for guidance, reminding us that Al Qur'an is our guide. Instructions have been given for self-discipline in the Muslim Community. Understanding Qur'an is how we establish a new society.

An exception to a general rule of nature is that if a husband and wife makes an agreement that he stays home and she goes out to earn the income doesn't mean she is taking his role. The general idea is the man is to be the responsible one. However, a mutual agreement has been made. This is an acceptable agreement in the religion. Preference is that the wealth is in the hands of the male.

In our society we realize that all Muslims do not have knowledge of what the preference should be. We basically practice whatever is the tradition of the environment we are in. It becomes a problem when trying to assimilate cultures with different understandings and concepts of the religion that it may cause conflict, which has nothing to do with the religion itself.

Exceptions to principles apply also. For instance, our children become attracted to those in their environment due to the many ways of communication through cell phones, Facebook, computers, and twitting of which parents have no control. This may contribute to parents not having dominance of the children's marriage.

Gradual change comes in how we understand Qur'an and take the best of what America has to offer. The people that came before us applied principles of the Qur'anic reading to their time, and we must apply the changes to those rules that make logical sense in the religion to "Our Reality."

III. Walter Shaahid, M.A.L.I. Saturday 9 AM class, Surah 4: Ayat 34

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

The men are guardians, providers over the women in which Allah has preferred some of them over others, with what they spend from their wealth. The righteous, pious women are obedient to Allah, protector of the secrets in what Allah would have guarded. Those who fear hostile, harsh women should warn them (remind them about consequences), leave them alone in bed, and (if necessary) separate or avoid them!

Commentary

Men are responsible as guardians (caretakers) over the affairs of women . Some men may be wealthier than others, better providers etc. As providers they are due consideration of obedience, If they fulfill the condition as Allah has deemed fit. Marriage is a two-way street. The acts of obedience are conditional for both, based on their service to Allah. Muhammad the Prophet Said; "The best of you is he who is excellent to his wife." Having such a standard of obedience to Allah, neither should have a problem obeying each other.

The next statement speaks to a certain type of woman and the reprimand allowed. (1) To Warn, (2) Leave the bedroom, and (3) The word Adrabu, root Daraba , often, many have translated it as , strike, beat, etc... The Prophet has said in a report; "Not to strike the face or cause discoloration to the skin (Bruise) or any part of the body. (This is in the most extreme case). He also said; "Men who resort to this (very light reprimand in the heat of anger), ARE NOT the best amongst you". Allah said in Qur'an Surah, 39 Ayat 55, "To follow the best (meaning) sent down", which is why I translated Daraba as "strike with a warning about consequences". Then the next steps are to separate, leave or avoid. There is no record of the Prophet ever hitting or acting in such a manner to his wives.

IV. Phyllis Abdul-Raheem, Saturday 9AM class Surah 4: Ayat 34

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

Men are the maintainers of women. They are guardians, standing upright. They guard and establish because of their righteousness. They distinguish or honor by spending their wealth generously and his individual or combined possessions for necessities of life, cash or living creatures. The good of the group are submissive, obedient to Allah, by preserving the wealth of the spouse in his/her absence; Guarding their desires in the absence of their spouse; Shielding the secret/concealed and fearing what Allah has ordered. Violation of marital duties by husband or wife in his/her absence, admonish them and give them good sincere advice or counsel. Strike them with words (Dharibaa) – rapping- not violence or excruciating pain.

Commentary

Men are the protectors and maintainers of women. Spouses preserve and shield what Allah has ordained in the absence of their spouse. When there is a violation of marital duties then fear Allah and resolve with words. I don't agree with the translators who define the words literally as beat or strike referring to treating your spouse with violence. My interpretation of this part of the verse is to always adhere to what Allah has prescribed in the marriage and when there is a violation, then you should talk about it and seek counseling if necessary.

V. Hafeeza Muhammad M.A.L.I. Saturday 9 AM class Surah 4: Ayat 34

With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer

The men stand firm as protectors and guardians for the welfare of the women, since Allah prefers some of them over others in view of the fact that they invest from their possessions including their real estate, their cash and their animals. So the good women are submissive and obedient to Allah, protecting the wealth of their spouses and protecting themselves in the absence of their spouse, as Allah prescribes and commands it

As for those you are afraid may practice deception or trickery, turn away from them; then give good advice to them and remind them of the consequences; then leave their sleeping places; then strike them without violence. But if they yield to you, do not seek means against them. Surely Allah is the exalted, the Most Great.

Commentary

The Quran provides instruction on every aspect of life, if we choose to accept its guidance. Often the words that we translate are difficult for us to accept using the filter of contemporary society. However, if we submit to Allah and obey Allah perhaps we will gain the understanding needed to utilize the Quran properly in our everyday life.

VI. Sameerah Hasan, Saturday 9AM class Reflection on Surah 4: Ayat 34

With Allah's Name, The Merciful Benefactor, The Merciful Redeemer.

It is Allah's preference that men are the maintainers, and protectors of women, because some of them have been positioned by Him to do so with their wealth and their persons. Therefore, the honorable women who are conscious of their Lord, should display sincere obedience by protecting, and maintaining the interest of the seen and unseen provisions provided for them, for it is stated by Allah, The Knower of all things, that it should be so.

VII. Fowziyyah Ali, Saturday 9 AM M.A.L.I. class Surah 4 Ayat 34

With the Name Allah, the Merciful Benefactor, the Merciful Redeemer

The men surely they are the supporters over them (the females), protectors and providers with what distinguishes them, because Allah has made some of them to excel others and because they spend generously of their money, goods and services, property, cash or animals.

Then, the good females submit obedient to Allah, protecting the property of their spouse, protecting the unseen and the covered during their absence, and are authorized by Allah.

As to those who you fear and you expect disagreeableness, animosity, rough treatment or remoteness, sincerely advise them and remind them of the consequences, abstain or refrain from places of sleep, and strike without violence. And, if they yield to you, then do not look for an expedient path against them. With the Most High is the Power.

Commentary

Men should protect and provide for their families generously from whatever resources Allah has blessed them with, money, goods and services, property, cash or animals. The generous giving should be done in a kind manner, not harsh or begrudging this duty. Women should submit obediently to Allah, the Most High and in fulfilling their obligation to the Creator, they should protect not only the property of their spouse, but all the unseen and private secrets and family matters that should be covered from others during the absence of the husband. Women are authorized by Allah, the Creator and Sustainer to carry out these responsibilities.

Disagreements, animosity, rough treatment and remoteness are attitudes and behaviors which can ruin any marriage or relationship. The consequences involve sincere advice, reminders and abstaining from sharing the bed. The command to strike or hit without violence or pain, if actually followed would greatly reduce physical and mental abuse. It is important for us to remember that Allah's guidance in Qur'an is presented as a way to gradually CORRECT what already exists.

VIII. Rasul Salim, Sunday 11:00 am class, Surah 4 Ayat 34

Many of the scholars have called Al Islam, the religion of merciful logic. It means it's a logic that doesn't just come right in and knock a thing down, or just say, this is wrong and throw it out right away. However, logic respects your attachments to it. It respects the time that you have been in that state or frame of mind, the standards of the society, etc. During the time of *Jahiliyah*, men were given women into their charge like children and if they wanted to discipline the women the society permitted that. Women had no authority to just do what they wanted to do. They were expected to act as if they were children with limited authority to do what they wanted to do. Not, that a man treated his wife like a child all of the time; No! Nevertheless, he felt he had the right to use whatever power he had in his possession to put her in check or bring her to conform. So that was the state of the society. Understand that was a savage society an ignorant uncivilized society.

Now here comes civilization behind savagery and the wisdom in Al Islam is not to abruptly change things. But gradually put out the bad influences and bring the new logic to be realized in time, gradually, not

suddenly. Then you won't lose people that can be converted, that will be converted and help to build a society. When you are starting from savagery, you need to have patience with the ignorance of the people, to some extent. That is why certain things are not abolished all at once. Even drinking alcohol was not abolished all at once in the Qur'an it was abolished gradually. So really, it is saying: don't be physical with women. That's what it is saying. But, only the wise will get that. The savage won't get that. The wise men will get that, those who are socially mature, humanly mature men, in the intellect, will get that. They will get that and they will know that God doesn't want them to be physical with their women.

This is the wisdom of the Qur'an in saying *اضْرِبُوهُنَّ*; and it doesn't really refer to women. It refers to women only in the sense that it's addressing the brutality of men. But in the great theme and scheme of revelation, it is addressing something else. *اضْرِبُوهُنَّ*, it means, men if you want to manage society, then strike the emotional senses of the society. But, don't be severe. Strike their emotional senses lightly. That's a higher meaning. That's the wisdom for the wise. *بَحْرُ اضْرِبُوهُنَّ* comes from rowing the boat. When the paddles used for rowing the boat are used. When you bring them up and put them back down on the water that is *يُوهُنَّ بَحْرُ اضْرِبُوهُنَّ*. That expression comes from rowing the boat, striking the water. The water there means the sensitivities of the people. Strike their sensitivities to bring them to conform, but don't be extreme in that. Do it lightly, that's the meaning. So in this picture language given here a great wisdom is given through your women. These roles for men and women in the social framework of society are used as avenues through which great wisdom can be given to the wise and were not to be taken so literal.

IX. Aqila Sharif-Hanifa, Saturday 9 AM class more information on Surah 4 Ayat 34

Al-Quran the Book of Guidance

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

“Men are the guardians of the women, establishing their righteousness. They were favored and honored by this distinction. They invest generously in their wealth. You collect finances you believe is owned by the individual from sources such as goods, real property (such as real estate), cash or animals. The women submit their obedience to Allah. They preserve themselves in the absence of their mates. In their condition, marrying them will cover and protect the hidden secrets of their souls”.

Commentary

This verse begins by explaining the roles, rights, and responsibilities of both men and women as it relates to prescribed behaviors by Allah and why. Men are the makers of wealth. Women protect their person as well as the wealth in the absence of the male. This applies to the male as well. This behavior preserves the souls of each other.

Al Quran the Book of Guidance

“You (masculine) fear their (feminine) aversion or dislike, their (feminine) turning away and their (feminine) moving away. Advise them and remind them of the consequences, leave them alone, in their places of sleep wherever that maybe on earth. Strike them without violence and if they surrender to you, seek ways of dissolving it, (Allah) is Most Exalted, The Mighty”.

Commentary

This is further explanation of the role, rights, and responsibilities of both men and women as it relates to the prescribed behaviors by Allah and why. The Qur'an is not introducing something to us but is eradicating a behavior within us that we are already displaying. Allah is striking us with examples for guidance. Reminding us that Al Qur'an is our guide.

Prophet Muhammad (swt) was sent to mankind as an example. He is our mentor. We are to follow his behavior. There are a number of Hadith regarding striking the wives:

Good Manners, Bukhari: Book 8 Volume 73: Hadith 137, Narrated Abu Huraira

A man said to the Prophet, "Advise me! "The Prophet said, "Do not become angry and furious." The man asked (the same) again and again, and the Prophet said in each case, "Do not become angry and furious."

My point here in this hadith, striking is taking place because of an emotional state of mind of being angry.

Marriage ((Kitab Al-Nikah), Dawud: Book 11 Hadith 2138, Narrated Mu'awiyah ibn Hydah

I said: Apostle of Allah, how should we approach our wives and how should we leave them? He replied: Approach your wives when or how you will, give her (your wife) food when you take food, clothe when you clothe yourself, do not revile her face, and do not beat her.

Marriage (Kitab Al-Nikah), Dawud: Book 11 Hadith 2139, Narrated Mu'awiyah al Qushayri

I went to the Apostle of Allah (peace be upon him) and asked him: What do you say (command) about our wives? He replied: Give them food what you have for yourself, and clothe them by which you clothe yourself, and do not beat them, and do not revile them.

Domestic Violence Statistics

<http://domesticviolencestatistics.org/domestic-violence-statistics/>

- Every 9 seconds in the US a woman is assaulted or beaten.
- Around the world, at least one in every three women has been beaten, coerced into sex or otherwise abused during her lifetime. Most often, the abuser is a member of her own family.
- Domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women—more than car accidents, muggings, and rapes combined.
- Studies suggest that up to 10 million children witness some form of domestic violence annually.
- Nearly 1 in 5 teenage girls who have been in a relationship said a boyfriend threatened violence or self-harm if presented with a breakup.
- Every day in the US, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends.

- Ninety-two percent of women surveyed listed reducing domestic violence and sexual assault as their top concern.
- Domestic violence victims lose nearly 8 million days of paid work per year in the US alone—the equivalent of 32,000 full-time jobs.
- Based on reports from 10 countries, between 55 percent and 95 percent of women who had been physically abused by their partners had never contacted non-governmental organizations, shelters, or the police for help.
- The costs of intimate partner violence in the US alone exceed \$5.8 billion per year: \$4.1 billion are for direct medical and health care services, while productivity losses account for nearly \$1.8 billion.
- Men who as children witnessed their parents' domestic violence were twice more likely to abuse their own wives than sons of nonviolent parents.
- **However, in a conflicting survey taken by the CDC in 2010, it was found that 40% of the victims of severe, physical domestic violence are men.**

Where to Get Information and Help

Islamic Social Services Association (ISSA) of USA, Address: 1030 E. Baseline Road, Suite #105, PMB 955, Tempe, AZ 85283-1314; Shipping address: 2345 S. Alma School Rd, Ste 206, Mesa, AZ 85210; Phone: 1-888-415-9920 (toll free), Fax: (602) 532-7057, Email: info@issausa.org Book \$3.00: **Helping Victims of Domestic Abuse: A Guide for Imams and Community Leaders**

Baitul Salaam Network International Inc., PO Box 115470, Atlanta, GA 30310, Attn: CFO, Outreach Office: 1100 S. Indian Creek Dr, Stone Mountain, GA 30083 Phone: 770-255-8500 Email: General@baitulsalaam.org
The shelter program has housed or provided money for housing 1,317 women and children from various parts of the US and seven foreign countries (Pakistan, India, Egypt, Ghana, Iraq, Bangladesh and Tanzania). Outreach program have assisted thousands with gas money and bus fare (for job search), referrals for medical assistance, housing, legal and many other services.

Sound Vision: Domestic Violence A Muslim Response <http://www.soundvision.com/info/domesticviolence/>

The Peaceful Families Project (PFP) recognizes domestic violence is a form of oppression that affects people of all faiths. Our mission is to work towards ending all types of abuse in Muslim families by increasing awareness regarding the dynamics of domestic violence. We believe that a better understanding of religious and cultural values can be used as a resource to prevent domestic violence, and that religion and culture should never be used to justify abusive behavior. URL: <http://www.peacefulfamilies.org/mission-and-objectives/>

Muslimat Al Nisaa provides a home to homeless Muslim women and children and Muslim women victims of Domestic Violence in a residential setting, within an established Muslim community. - See more at:

<http://mnisaa.org/housing#sthash.6chMsOCU.dpuf> Health, counseling and other social services are provided at: Muslimat Al-Nisaa Health & Social Services Center, 5115 Liberty Heights Ave, Baltimore, MD 21207, Tel: (410) 466-8686 fax: (410) 466-5949.

Summary Statement about An-Nisaa (The Women) 4:34

الرِّجَالُ قَوَّامُونَ عَلَى النِّسَاءِ بِمَا فَضَّلَ اللَّهُ بَعْضَهُمْ عَلَى بَعْضٍ وَبِمَا أَنْفَقُوا مِنْ أَمْوَالِهِمْ فَالصَّالِحَاتُ قَانِتَاتٌ حَافِظَاتٌ لِّلْغَيْبِ بِمَا حَفِظَ اللَّهُ وَاللَّاتِي تَخَافُونَ نُشُوزَهُنَّ فَعِظُوهُنَّ وَاهْجُرُوهُنَّ فِي الْمَضَاجِعِ وَاصْرَبُوهُنَّ فَإِنِ اطَّعْتُمْ فَلَا تَبْغُوا عَلَيْهِنَّ سَبِيلًا إِنَّ اللَّهَ كَانَ عَلِيمًا كَبِيرًا

4:34 Men are the protectors and maintainers of women, because Allah has given the one more (strength) than the other, and because they support them from their means. Therefore the righteous women are devoutly obedient, and guard in (the husband's) absence what Allah would have them guard. As to those women on whose part ye fear disloyalty and ill-conduct, admonish them (first), (Next), refuse to share their beds, **(And last) beat them (lightly)**; but if they return to obedience, seek not against them Means (of annoyance): For Allah is Most High, great (above you all). *A. Yusuf Ali, translation.*

Through our studies with M.A.L.I., we have learned that Surah 4, Ayat 34 addresses the roles, rights and responsibilities of both men and women, particularly in the marriage relationships. Both males and females are given prescribed behaviors. The Quran not only introduces us to a way of thinking or behaving, but it also guides us on how to eradicate a behavior. We have within ourselves, the potential for excellence, and we have within ourselves, the lowest of the lowest types of attitudes and behaviors. In our weakness and ignorance we often display negative, harmful and immature characteristics. One purpose for learning Arabic Grammar, learning how to use Arabic dictionaries and to translate Arabic is to be able to understand for ourselves what the Qur'an is saying and guiding us to do. Because a translation has been made by previous scholars, such as Yusuf Ali, Pickthall, it does not mean that there can be no other translation. Al-Islam is a way of life which requires that we accept responsibility for our deeds, our actions, our choices. Therefore, we must know the source of our behaviors, why we are accepting on faith to act or think a certain way.

The previous translations of the section of Surah 4, Ayat 34 which relates to the word <dzaraba> meaning “to strike or hit”, and its interpretation or translation to mean that the male is allowed to strike or hit the female physically, is a translation, that we have learned that we do not have to just accept as the absolute truth.

Through studying grammar, learning to use Arabic dictionaries and read words without vowel markings, and to do translations of definitions for Quranic Arabic words, **we have learned that the word <dzaraba> has many diverse and broad meanings including, “strike without violence”, “strike with metaphors”, “strike the conscience”, “strike with words of wisdom”, etc.** Given this new insight, and thinking about the example and words of Prophet Muhammad, (peace be upon him), please consider the following three questions:

Question 1: If there are over 110 lines of information in the Hans Wehr dictionary, pages 538-539 about the word <dzaraba (dzarb), (dzarbi), in all of its various forms, why would you limit yourself to just one definition or translation?

Question 2: How much relief from anxiety is there for both males and females when they learn that there are alternate choices and options for the meaning of the word <dzaraba>?

Question 3: How much easier will it be for males and females to sincerely and compassionately fulfill their roles, rights and responsibilities towards each other when the option of physically hitting or striking is taken out of the equation?

HW stands for the Hans Wehr dictionary with # to indicate page number where definition is to be found

مِزْح	غَيْرَ	ضَرْبًا	أَضْرِبُوهُنَّ	#15
pain, violence	except, nothing more	hit, shun HW#538	strike	
HW#51	without – HW#690	give example HW#539		

Translation: strike, hit, or shun without pain or violence!

Translation: Give an example, without pain or violence!

From Arabic definition in A DETAILED DICTIONARY OF THE HOLY KORAN by ABOU FARES EL-DAHDAH

Through the Qur'an Allah (SWT) is striking our intellect, our consciousness, our emotions with examples for guidance. Also, Prophet Muhammad (swt) was sent to humankind as an example. He is our mentor. We are to follow his behavior. The following are two Hadith regarding striking the wives:

Marriage ((Kitab Al-Nikah), Dawud: Book 11 Hadith 2138, Narrated Mu'awiyah ibn Hydah

I said: Apostle of Allah, how should we approach our wives and how should we leave them? He replied: Approach your wives when or how you will, give her (your wife) food when you take food, clothe when you clothe yourself, do not revile her face, and do not beat her.

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SCRIPT & DVD Surah 4 Ayat 34

Surah 4 Ayat 34 describes the roles and responsibilities of males and females in a marriage relation. It also provides guidance on steps to take to resolve disputes. Students of M.A.L.I. through studying the Arabic grammar and translating words and definitions have learned that the generally accepted Yusuf Ali translation of the word meaning “to hit or strike” has other meanings. We have learned that hitting or striking should occur without violence; hit or strike the intellect; hit or strike using examples, metaphors or words of wisdom. The mercy and guidance of the Qur’an does not advocate or support physically or emotionally hitting or striking.

Students of the Muslim American Logic Institute (M.A.L.I.) wrote, produced and performed a dramatic skit about Surah 4 Ayat 34 at the Sixth Annual M.A.L.I. Qur’anic Arabic conference in Lawnside, NJ, June 20 – 22, 2014. You may order both a written copy of the script and a DVD of the performance.

A copy of the script by making a written request to:

Fowziyyah Ali ali.efz157@gmail.com

Tel: 256-539-5416 Address: 3784 University Dr. NW, Huntsville, AL 35816

Or email Zayd Abdul-Karim <drzpresence@gmail.com>

In your request please identify if you are representing an organization, and describe how you plan to use the script and why you want it. There is no charge for the script.

To obtain a DVD of the skit performance about Surah 4 Ayat 34

Please send a Money Order or Check in the amount of **\$10.00** to Masjid Freehaven, 280 Ashland Avenue, Lawnside, NJ 08045 Tel: 856-546-1500 attention: Malik Waliyuddin

Request DVD for Surah 4 Ayat 34 skit performed on Saturday, June 21, 2014.