



Rishta Nata Etiquettes

Shura Proposal 2 (2024)





What are Etiquettes ?

The set of rules or customs that control accepted behavior in particular social groups or social situations

Correct behavior and good manners



Rishta Nata Etiquettes

Scenario 1

Zainab receives a call from Kinza regarding a proposal for her daughter, Aisha. Kinza sends her son's profile to Zainab and insists that she sends Aisha's profile with her latest pictures (preferably without excessive purdah). Kinza mentions that her son is a doctor and earns well, so she thinks that there is no lack of good rishtas for him. She also mentions that her son is only allowed to marry a girl who she and her wider family would approve of and according to her requirements the girl must be pretty, well-educated and modern.

Discussion question:

Identify good and bad points in this scenario.



Khutba Nikah Verses

04:02

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 ﴿٢﴾

O ye people! fear your Lord, Who created you from a single soul and created therefrom its mate, and from them twain spread many men and women; and fear Allah, in Whose name you appeal to one another, and *fear Him particularly respecting ties of relationship*. Verily, Allah watches over you.

33:71-72

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا ﴿٤١﴾

O ye who believe! fear Allah, and say the right word.

يُصَلِّحْ لَكُمْ أَعْمَالَكُمْ وَيَغْفِرْ لَكُمْ ذُنُوبَكُمْ ۗ وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ فَقَدْ فَازَ فَوْزًا عَظِيمًا ﴿٤٢﴾

He will bless your works for you and forgive you your sins. And whoso obeys Allah and His Messenger, shall surely attain a mighty success.

59:19

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْتَنْظُرْ نَفْسٌ مَّا قَدَّمَتْ لِغَدٍ ۗ وَاتَّقُوا اللَّهَ ۗ إِنَّ اللَّهَ خَبِيرٌ بِمَا تَعْمَلُونَ ﴿١٩﴾

O ye who believe! fear Allah; and let every soul look to what it sends forth for the morrow. And fear Allah; verily Allah is Well-Aware of what you do.



The relationship between *Taqwa* and *Rishta Nata*

How many times is the word “**TAQWA**” mentioned in the verses of khutbah Nikah?


5 times





The relationship between *Taqwa* and *Rishta Nata*

How can *Taqwa* be observed during the *Rishta Nata* Process?

- ❖ Exercising **honesty and humility** in all matters.
 - ❖ Maintaining **dignity of everyone** involved.
 - ❖ Following **Islamic teachings and guidance** at all times.
 - ❖ Avoiding **extravagance and innovations**.
- 

Choosing the Right Spouse - Guidance in Ahadith

Guidance for Men

The Holy Prophet^(sa) said:

تُنكحُ الْمَرْأَةُ لِأَرْبَعٍ لِمَالِهَا وَلِحَسَبِهَا وَلِجَمَالِهَا وَلِدِينِهَا فَاطْفَرُ بِدَاتِ الدِّينِ تَرَبَّتْ يَدَاكَ

A woman is married for four things, i.e., her wealth, her family status, her beauty and her religion. So you should marry the religious woman (otherwise) you will be losers. (Sahih Bukhari 5090).

Ultimately, the physical and superficial things we pursue fade away with time and become meaningless. At such a point, it is the beauty of the *Imaan* [faith] we find in one another that keeps the bond of marriage strong.

Guidance for Women

The Holy Prophet Muhammad^(sa) said:

إِذَا خَطَبَ إِلَيْكُمْ مَنْ تَرْضَوْنَ دِينَهُ وَخُلُقَهُ فَرُجُوهُ إِلَّا تَفْعَلُوا تَكُنْ فِتْنَةٌ فِي الْأَرْضِ وَفَسَادٌ عَرِيضٌ

“When someone with whose religion and character you are satisfied asks to marry your daughter, comply with his request. If you do not do so, there will be corruption and great evil on earth. He was asked: “O Messenger of Allah, even if he falls short with regard to wealth and compatibility?” The Holy Prophet^(sa) responded, repeating himself three times: “If there comes to you one with whose religion and character you are pleased, then give (your daughter) to him in marriage.” (Tirmidhi 1084).



Scenario 2

Maria is submitting a Rishta profile to Rishta Nata department on her son's behalf. She is giving inaccurate information about her son's education and job. She is keen to find a girl who can be a good housewife. Her son is expecting his future wife to work full time and help him in bills and rent. He is also expecting a car as a gift from his future in-laws. He doesn't want to pay haq mehar as he doesn't believe in the concept of haq mehar. Maria is aware that her son is interested in someone else but believes that he will change his mind once married.

Discussion question:

- What is being done here against the advice given by the Holy Quran and the Holy Prophet (saw)?
- What could be the possible long-term consequences of this on:
 - **The Bride and the Groom?**
 - **The 2 families?**
 - **The Jama'at and the society as a whole?**



Dos and Don'ts of Rishta Nata

Do you agree with the following statements?

Practise utmost honesty & Taqwa in all matters related to the proposal in hand.



Discuss the importance and benefits of giving preference to Deen over Duniya (worldly matters) with our children before embarking on the Rishta Nata journey.



Clarify all the things that are important to you (such as standard of purdah, link with the Jama'at etc) before arranging a meet and greet.



Pressurise the girl's family to share the pictures of the girl before any other details have been discussed.



Guide but not pressurise or force your children to accept a Rishta that is not to their liking.



Share the pictures of the girl with your wider family /or post them on social media.



Respect the purdah boundaries once the Rishta Nata process has begun.



Make enquiries in a respectful manner.



Dos and Don'ts of Rishta Nata

Embark on the Rishta Nata journey with special emphasis on Dua & Sadaqat from the start.



Pass remarks about the appearance and the information shared for rishta purposes, to an individual or the family, particularly when declining a proposal.



Involve your children and prioritise their likes and dislikes (i.e. seek their approval in their Rishta decisions)



Talk to others/put others off of a Rishta that may have been declined by your family for your personal reasons.



Make unacceptable demands of Dowry/Haq Meher/Gifts etc.



Give inaccurate information about your employment or financial status.



Have unrealistic expectations such as separate housing, car, down payment for the house etc.



Make sure you are satisfied with the profile information before asking for photos.



Pay careful attention to maintaining dignity of everyone involved in the Rishta Nata process.



Practice patience and resilience if a proposal is declined due to any reason.





Islamic Values and Morals

Importance of Nikah and Marrying within the Jama'at

- ❖ To enable a man and a woman to **experience love and happiness**, within Islamic law.
- ❖ To provide a legal union which **safeguards society** from moral and social degradation.
- ❖ To provide a **stable and righteous environment** for the upbringing of future generations.



Islamic Values and Morals

Maintaining Purdah and Chastity

- ❖ The Holy Quran directs believing men and women to **restrain themselves from looking at each other** so openly as to be sexually excited by each other. *(24:31)*
- ❖ It further directs them to **restrain their ears** from listening to **flirtatious and tempting talk** and to avoid occasions which might lead to temptation. *(24:32)*

Prohibition of Pre-marital Relationships

- ❖ **Islam does not permit sexual relations, even preliminary acts of physical love, outside of marriage.**
- ❖ Adultery, fornication and having secret relationships with the opposite sex is a moral lapse which is categorically condemned in the strongest terms by Islam. This prohibition includes **dating, secret paramours and experimental living together**, as these are regarded as **major sins**. *(24:3-4)*



Who are our Role Models?

- ❖ Hazrat Khadija (ra)
- ❖ Hazrat Aisha (ra)
- ❖ Hazrat Fatima (ra)
- ❖ Hazrat Amman Jaan (ra)

What qualities did they possess?

- ❖ Their spirit of sacrifice
- ❖ Their obedience
- ❖ They supported their partners during the most difficult of times
- ❖ Giving preference to Deen over Dunya (worldly affairs) in all matters



Self Reflection Activity

- Do you think you are a role model for the youngsters:
 - As a parent?
 - As a relative?
 - As a member of the Jama'at?
- Are you someone who could be approached for advice and guidance by your children and youngsters about the Rishta Nata process?

Would you like to share a positive personal experience that may be of benefit to others?



Sources of further information

- *Book: [Garments for Each Other](#)*
- *Book: The Islamic Marriage System: [The Islamic Marriage System](#)*
- *Islam on Marital Rights: [Islam on Marital Rights](#)*
- *An-Nusrat magazine, issue 1, 2023-2024: <https://lajna.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/publications-an-nusrat-issue-1-english-2023-2024.pdf>*
- *Lajna Ima'illah website: <https://lajna.org.uk/>*



Jazakumullah