

Mothers' Day

With the divine exception of Adam and Eve, every other human being commencing from Cain and Abel, and through to the present generations, were all born out of a woman. Some people may have mothers, some people may be mothers themselves, some people may no longer have mothers and some most unfortunate people, may not know their real biological mothers.

A mother in the family, regardless of ethnicity, is the most important person in that family. She becomes the children's first teacher to guide them correctly to do good things and move them away from bad things.

The mother really makes up the family and the family constitutes the basic unit of society. It can be generalised that successes in the world are to some extent responsibilities of mothers, as mothers mentor their children for their children's betterment. Regardless of general socio-economic positions of all peoples, mothers want their children to be the best amongst their children's contemporaries.

The very first years of every individual's life, that is, its childhood is spent in the family. Children all over the world get the earliest and the most fundamental lessons in socialization and civilization in the family directly from their mothers.

Mothers have ideal leading positioning within the family circle and the success of every family has been largely because of the mother controlling the behavioural radius of that family circle.

The life cycle of a mother starts when she is herself a baby and depends on her own mother for full support. Then the baby grows up and after several years becomes a mother and has her own children. This new mother will generally follow the same blueprint, which her own mother practised upon her when she was a child. The motherly blue print becomes repetitive and recurrent upon all girls and new mothers.

When the children are much later grown up and have their own family, their mother becomes very old and becomes dependent on her children and grandchildren as her source of support.

The happiest mother is one whose grown-up children look after her. We see nowadays it is just so, especially by those of us who follow classical family traditions.

In some other traditions, there is practice of new nest, full nest and empty nest. However, traditions have their peculiarities and what seems correct to one tradition, may not be seen just as correct in another tradition. That variation is expected.

It is necessary to recognise how some of the mainstream religious cultures' Holy Scriptures has quotes on mothers.

The Bible (Christian)

" 6. Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honour your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise: 3 "that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth."^[a]

4 And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians (KJV) 6:1-4)

"6. Rebuke not an elder, but intreat [him] as a father; [and] the younger men as brethren; 2 The elder women as mothers; the younger as sisters, with all purity. 3 Honour widows that are widows indeed. 4 But if any widow have children or nephews, let them learn first to shew piety at home, and to requite their parents: for that is good and acceptable before God. 5 Now she that is a widow indeed, and desolate, trusteth in God, and continueth in supplications and prayers night and day." (1 Timothy (KJV) 5:1-5)

Manava Dharma Shastra (Hindu)

"The trouble that a mother and father endure in giving birth to human beings cannot be redeemed even in a hundred years. He should constantly do what pleases the two of them."(2:226)

The Qur'an (Muslim)

"23 And thy Lord has decreed that you serve none but Him, and do well to parents. If either or both of them reach old age with thee, say not fie to them, nor chide them, and speak to them a generous word. 24 And lower to them the wing of humility out of mercy, and say: My Lord, have mercy on them, as they brought me up (when I was) little." (17:23-24 Section 3 Moral Precepts)

"14 And We have enjoined on man concerning his parents — his mother bears him with faintings upon faintings and his weaning takes two years — saying: Give thanks to Me and to thy parents. To Me is the eventual coming." (31:14 Section 2 Luqman's Advice to His Son)

Obedience to mothers is placed next to submission to God, for among fellow human beings; none has a greater claim upon a person than his/her mother.

You should all be very proud of your mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

To all our mothers and mothers to-be, we say to you all “Happy Mother’s Day.”

For those who do not have a mother, please remember them in your prayer; that is your special gift to them.

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Jalal Ud Dean
Chairperson
Council of the Interfaith Search Fiji

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