The Necessity of Giving the Dowry

Qur'anic verses:

[And give the women (on marriage) their dower as an obligation;²⁴ but if they, of their own good pleasure, remit any part of it to you, take it and enjoy it with right good cheer} [Al-Nisa: 4]

{But if you decide to take one wife in place of another, even if you had given the latter a whole treasure for dower, take not the least bit of it back: Would you take it by slander and a manifest sin? And how could you take it when you have gone in unto each other, and they have taken from you a solemn covenant?} [Al-Nisa : 20-21]

Prophetic Hadiths:

"The stipulations most entitled to be abided by are those with which you are given the right to enjoy the women's private parts (i.e. the stipulations of the marriage contract).

[Reported by Al-Bukhari]

"If one marries a woman on a given dowry and he intends that he will give her nothing, he is considered a deceiver. If he dies without paying her right, he will meet Allah as adulterer on the Day of Judgment. [Reported by Al- Tabarani]

²⁴ Giving of dowry is an obligatory right of the wife, for there are many texts concerning this issue. No one can do anything to this dowry except with her permission. Moreover, it is desirable that it be presented to her, either as a whole or in part before the consummation of the marriage, as a sign of honouring her, and as a proof of the intention to start a good life with her. There is no limit for dowry. It is permissible to be as much as even millions. It is also permissible to be as little as even an iron ring. It is worth noting t11at extravagance in dowry is detestable, and that the lesser the dowry, the more the marriage is easy and blessed.

The Address While Marriage Proposal

It is recommended to give a short address when (i.e before) making a marriage proposal. Such an address begins by praising Allah, thanking Him and asking Him to bless the Prophet) pbuh). The best address is the following one:

The Address while Need

Praise be to Allah, we thank Him, seek His help and His forgiveness. We seek refuge in Allah from the evils of ourselves and that of our bad deeds. He whom Allah guides is truly guided, and he whom Allah leaves to stray, none can guide him. I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, besides Him no other partner is and I bear witness that Muhammad is His Messenger.

Then it is recommendable to read the following three Qur'anic verses:

{O ye who believe! Fear Allah as He should be feared, and die not except in a state of Islam}

[Al-`Imran: 102]

{O mankind! Fear Your Guardian Lord, Who created you from a single Person, created, out of it, his mate, and from them twain scattered (like seeds) countless men and women; --Fear Allah, through whom ye demand your mutual (rights), and be heedful of the wombs (that bore you): for Allah ever watches over you.}