

# Islam Question & Answer

General Supervisor:  
Shaykh Muhammad Saalih al-Munajjid

## 171295 - The Best Joy of this World is a Righteous Wife

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### the question

I have been having a boy/ girl friend relationship with a girl for 6 years. The thing is she grew up in a very modern family and was not taught much about Islam. She did not know anything about Islam but to pray and read some short Surahs. And she did not wear any head coverings or hijab and her mother didn't think it's obligatory to do so and her mother also does not cover. I also was not very religious but about 1 year ago I came to learn about the sunnah (Prophetic traditions) and started to live according to sunnah.

At the time we were arranging the marriage and her father has spent a lot of money for the wedding. But I refused to marry her until she wore good Islamic dress but she refused to do so for some unknown reasons. (I think it's family reasons because her father disliked sunnah very much and disliked her to cover.) But she said she would cover her head after marrying. But I didn't give her that chance and I left her.

Again sometimes later I felt sad for what I did to her, and wanted to marry her because she was very sad and cried a lot and was living a very lonely life. And the other thing is she always prayed daily and her faith was very strong about Allah and His Messenger (Peace be upon him). and now she started to pray naafil (voluntary) prayers and is learning about Islam slowly. and she always was a very humble person and cared about her parents very much. And she had many other good qualities too. For these reasons I thought I would marry her and slowly teach her about Islam. But now her father is not allowing us to marry and since I have a big beard and am living according to sunnah her father thinks I will enslave her and mistreat her.

Please advise me regarding this matter.

### Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

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Firstly:

There is no doubt that relationships between men and women who are not their mahrams (close relatives who one can never marry) are haram (unlawful). This has been discussed previously in the answer to many questions, including [93450](#) and [26890](#). We would like to remind you of the seriousness of this relationship, in response to what you say in your question: "I have been having a boy girl friend relationship with a girl for 6 years". We praise Allah for having blessed you with guidance and enabling you to become religiously committed and to repent.

Secondly:

We have previously explained on our website who is the religiously committed woman who a man should look for when he wants to get married. See the answer to question no. [96584](#)

It is on this basis that the wise man should choose the one who will accompany him in this world. It was narrated from 'Abdullah ibn 'Amr that the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "This world is temporary joys, and the best temporary joy of this world is a righteous wife." Narrated by Muslim, 1467; Ibn Maajah, 1855, with the wording, "Indeed, this world is no more than temporary joys, and there is no temporary joy of this world that is better than a righteous wife."

It was narrated from Abu Hurayrah (may Allah be pleased with him) that the Prophet (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) said: "Women may be married for four things: their wealth, their lineage, their beauty and their religious commitment. Choose the one who is religiously-committed, may your hands be rubbed with dust (i.e., may you prosper)."

Narrated by al-Bukhaari, 4802; Muslim, 1466.

Thirdly:

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The essential matter in the nature of your relationship with this girl and her family is that they know that you are religiously committed and are keen to follow Islam and the Sunnah, whether with regard to your outward appearance or your character and interactions, or your wife and household. So they have to understand that the foundation on which your life is based is Islam, and that they have no right to try to have a say in any of that, or to interfere in your private matters, especially those that have to do with religious commitment and the Sunnah.

In that case, if her father refuses to let her marry you for the reason you mention, then you should not worry about him or about the family at all, and you should forget about this girl and look for a wife from another family who will accept you and the path you are following, and will be in harmony with you instead of asking you to compromise in order for them to accept you.

The same applies with regard to the girl. Even though you have told us of some of her other good characteristics, the basic problem is what you yourself said, that she is a very humble person and cares about her parents very much, to such an extent that she refuses to wear hijab or Islamic clothing before marriage. Yes, if you felt that she dislikes her family's opinions and that she is keen to become as religiously committed as you are, but she is not able at present to go against her family, but if she marries you she will be obedient to you and will follow your wishes with regard to wearing hijab and following the Sunnah, then we would say yes, try to marry her and take her out of the environment which is not helping her to obey Allah.

But if she gives into her family's opinions then we do not advise you to marry her at all, because this is something that may cause many problems between you later on, and it may be difficult for you to continue married life together, if the situation is as you have described.

To sum up:

We do not advise you to go ahead and marry the girl you mentioned, because it is fraught with serious matters that may affect the very foundations of the marriage.

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Yes, if they accept you as you are, without stipulating any conditions that have to do with how you live your life and the choices you make for yourself, or interfering in your private affairs, and you know that the girl will help you in that, then in this case only we would tell you that there is nothing wrong with marrying her.

We ask Allah to guide you and bless you with a righteous wife.

And Allah knows best.