



A husband and wife relationship does not work on the principle of instruct and obey, where the husband instructs and the wife obeys. Rather it is a relationship of love between the lover and the beloved. It is love that motivates us to be obedient, while our obedience enhances love for us in the hearts of others. Love and obedience work hand in hand in any marriage. In a marriage relationship, the husband expresses and shows his love for his wife and the wife expresses and shows her obedience towards her husband. The husband's love and the wife's obedience is what strengthens the bond of marriage. An oppressive husband or a disobedient wife is all it takes to cripple a marriage. If the husband rules with love and affection, then the wife will happily oblige and follow, and if the wife strictly obeys the husband, then the husband will be compelled to be more loving and caring. It nevertheless goes without saying that there can be no obedience to the creation in aspects that incur the displeasure of the Creator – Allah Ta'ala.