

Marriage (Nikaah) Manual

Contracting a Permanent Marriage

(According to Shia Ithnaa-'Ashari School of Islam)

*"And one of His signs is that He created mates for you from yourselves,
that you may find rest in them, and He put between you love and compassion;
most surely there are signs in this for people who reflect."*

Al Qur'an, Chapter 30, Verse 21

References: 1. Tohfatul Awaam, Lahore Pakistan (Urdu edition), 2. A Manual of Islamic Beliefs and practice by
Ali Muhammad Naqvi; The Muhammadi trust of Great Britain. 3. Sheikh Safdar Ali Razi, Austin, Texas.

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Bismillaahir Rahmanir Raheem

In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Contracting a Permanent Marriage (Nikah)

Contents

Preliminary steps

- A. Choosing Representative(s) (Wakeel) agreeable to both parties.
- B. Verbal consent from the two principals.
- C. The Principals must agree upon a dowry
- D. Pre-nuptial agreements (if any) need to be signed and notarized

At the start of the Ceremony

- 1. Recite Al Qur'an (esp. Chapter 30, verse 21)
- 2. Recite Sermon (Khutba) in Arabic and give translation. (Page 2)
- 3. Recite *Sigha* (marriage vows) **
 - a) By two Representatives. (pages 3 & 4)
 - b) By one representative. (pages 5 & 6)
- 4. Dua in Arabic with translation. (Page 7)
- 5. Hadith in English (sayings of the Prophet pbuh&p) This is optional. (Page 9)

**** Reciting the last line of the Sigha is mandatory and sufficient by itself for Nikaah. Repeating them in Arabic is highly recommended. The Bride and the Groom must understand the meaning of what is being said.**

Sermon

Bride's representative recites this before the main rite of the Marriage

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ إِقْرَارًا بِنِعْمَتِهِ وَلَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ إِخْلَاصًا لَوْ خَدَانِيَّتِهِ وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ سَيِّدِ بَرِيَّتِهِ وَعَلَى الْأَصْفِيَاءِ مِنْ عِتْرَتِهِ أَمَا بَعْدُ
فَقَدْ كَانَ مِنْ فَضْلِ اللَّهِ عَلَى الْإِنَامِ أَنْ أَعْنَاهُمْ بِالْحَلَالِ عَنِ الْحَرَامِ فَقَالَ سُبْحَانَهِ وَتَعَالَى وَأَنْكِحُوا الْإِيَامِي مِنْكُمْ
وَالصَّالِحِينَ مِنْ عِبَادِكُمْ وَإِمَائِكُمْ ط إِنْ يَكُونُوا فَقَرَاءَ يُغْنِيهِمُ اللَّهُ مِنْ فَضْلِهِ ط وَاللَّهُ وَاسِعٌ عَلِيمٌ. وَقَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ
عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ تَنَاكُحُوا وَتَنَاسَلُوا تَكْثُرُوا فَإِنِّي أَبَاهِي بِكُمْ الْأَمَمَ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وَلَوْ بِالسَّقَطِ وَقَالَ النِّكَاحُ مِنْ سُنَّتِي فَمَنْ
رَغِبَ عَنْ سُنَّتِي فَلَيْسَ مِنِّي وَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ الطَّيِّبِينَ الطَّاهِرِينَ.

Bismillahir Rahmaanir raheem

*Alhamdu-Lil'laahi iqraaran bi-ni'matihi wa la-a ilaaha il'lal -laahu ikhlaasan li-wahdaaniy-yati-hi wa sal'lal-laahu
'alaa muhammadin say'yidi bariy-yatihi wa 'alal asfiyaa-e min it'rati-hi amma ba'du faqad kaana min fad'lil-laahi
alal-anaami an aghnaa-hum bil-halaali anil-haraami fa-qaala sub'haa-nahoo wa Ta-'alaa wa an-kihul-ayaamaa
minkum was-saali-heena min ibaa-dikum wa imaa-ekum. i(n)yakoo-noo fuqa-raa-a yugh-ni-himul-laahu min
fadli-hee. wal-laahu waasi-un aleem. Wa qaala Rasool-ul-laahi sal'lal-laahu alai-hi wa aali-hee wa sal'lama
tanaa-kahoo wa tanaa -saloo tak'thu-roo fa-in'nee ubaa-hee bi-kumul-umama yaumal-qiyaa-mati walau bis-siq-ti
wa gaalan-nikaahu min sun'natee fa-man raghiba an sun'natee fa-lai-sa min'nee wa sal'lal-laahu 'alaa
Muhammadi(n) wa aali-hit' taiy-yi-beenat-taahi-reen.*

Translation:

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful

Praise be to Allah in acknowledgement of His Blessings. There is no god except Allah . Sincere devotion (due) to His Oneness. May Allah bless Muhammad, the master of His creation, and the pure ones from his household. It is from the Grace of Allah upon mankind, that He has guarded them through what is legal from what is illegal. He, may He be glorified and exalted, has said; "Marry those among you who are single, or the virtuous ones among your slaves, male or female. If they are in poverty, Allaah will give them means out of His Grace, for Allaah is All-encompassing, All-knowing (24:32). And the Messenger of Allaah, may Allaah Bless him and his family and grant them peace, has said; "Marry and beget offsprings; multiply, so that I may be proud of you before the nations, even through a miscarriage." And he has said; "Marriage is part of my practice (Sunnah), and he, who dislikes my practice, is not from me." May Allaah Bless Muhammad and his family, the noble, the pure.

Two representatives (Wakeels) performing Nikah (Permanent Marriage.)

(One representing the Bride and the other representing the Bridegroom)

"Sigha" (Marriage vows)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Immediately, Bridegroom's Representative replies:

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my client(groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my client(groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my client(groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

First, Bride's representative says:

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي، مُوَكَّلَكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Muwak'kilaka Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with your client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي بِمُوكَّلِكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Bi Muwak'kilika Alal Mah'ril Maloom .

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with your client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry).

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي مِنْ مُوكَّلِكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Min Muwak'kilika Alal Mahril Maloom

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with your client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الصِّدَاقِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alas Sidaa'qil maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي لِمُوكِّلِكَ عَلَى الصِّدَاقِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Li Muwak'kilika Alas Sidaa'qil Maloom

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with your client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

قَبِلْتُ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tut' Tajweeza Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted on behalf of my client (groom) that she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr.

زَوَّجْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي مُوكِّلِكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Muwak'kilika Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I have given my client (bride) to your client (groom) to be his wife at agreed upon Mahr.

قَبِلْتُ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tut' Tazweeja Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted on behalf of my client (groom) and she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr

زَوَّجْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي، بِمُوكِّلِكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Bi Muwak'kilika Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I have given my client (bride) to your client (groom) to be his wife at agreed upon mahr.

قَبِلْتُ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tut' Tazweeja Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted on behalf of my client (groom) that she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr

زَوَّجْتُ مُوكِّلَتِي مِنْ مُوكِّلِكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Min Muwak'kilaka Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I have given my client (bride) to your client (bridegroom) to be his wife at agreed upon mahr.

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ وَ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

*Qabil'tun Nikaha Wat' Tazweeja Li Muwak'kili Alal
Mahril maloom*

I have accepted the Nikah on behalf of my client (groom),
and she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr

أَنْكَحْتُ وَ زَوَّجْتُ مُوَكِّلَتِي مُوَكِّلَكَ عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

*An'kah'tu Wa Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Muwak'kilaka
Alal Mah'ril Maloom*

I have given in Nikah my client (bride) to your client
(bridegroom), and to be his wife at agreed upon mahr.

It is sufficient to recite the last line above, on behalf of the bride, and on behalf of the bridegroom. It should be in Arabic with correct pronunciation. Translation in a language understood by the parties should be provided. It is highly recommended to repeat the Sigha several times in Arabic as presented in this document.

One representative (Wakeel) performing Nikah of both the Bride and the Bridegroom
"Sigha" (Marriage vows)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Immediately reply:

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my
client(groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

Start here

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوَكِّلَتِي، مُوَكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

*Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Muwak'kili Alal Mah'ril
Maloom*

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with my
client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my
client(groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوَكِّلَتِي بِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

*Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Bi Muwak'kili Alal Mah'ril
Maloom*

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with my
client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الصِّدَاقِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tun Nikaha Li Muwak'kili Alas Sidaa'qil maloom.

I have accepted the Nikah (marriage) on behalf of my client(groom) at agreed upon Mahr.

قَبِلْتُ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tut' Tajweeza Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted on behalf of my client (groom) that she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr.

قَبِلْتُ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tut' Tazweeja Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted on behalf of my client (groom) and she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr

قَبِلْتُ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Qabil'tut' Tazweeja Li Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I have accepted on behalf of my client (groom) that she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوَكَّلَتِي مِنْ مُوَكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Min Muwak'kili Alal Mahril maloom

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with my client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

أَنْكَحْتُ مُوَكَّلَتِي لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الصِّدَاقِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Ankah'tu Muwak'kilati, Li Muwak'kili Alas Sidaa'qil Maloom

I perform Nikah (marriage) of my client (bride) with my client (groom) at agreed upon Mahr (dowry)

زَوَّجْتُ مُوَكَّلَتِي مُوَكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Muwak'kili Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I have given my client (bride) to my client (groom) to be his wife at agreed upon Mahr.

زَوَّجْتُ مُوَكَّلَتِي، بِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Zaw'wajtu Muwak'kilati, Bi Muwak'kili Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I have given my client (bride) to my client (groom) to be his wife at agreed upon mahr.

زَوَّجْتُ مُوَكَّلَتِي مِنْ مُوَكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Min Muwak'kili Alal Mah'ril Maloom

I have given my client (bride) to my client bridegroom to be his wife at agreed upon mahr.

قَبِلْتُ النِّكَاحَ وَ التَّزْوِيجَ لِمُوكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

*Qabil'tun Nikaha Wat' Tazweeja Li Muwak'kili Alal
Mahril maloom*

I have accepted the Nikah on behalf of my client (groom),
and she has become his wife at agreed upon Mahr

أَنْكَحْتُ وَ زَوَّجْتُ مُوَكِّلَتِي مُوَكِّلِي عَلَى الْمَهْرِ الْمَعْلُومِ

*An'kah'tu Wa Zaw'waj'tu Muwak'kilati, Muwak'kili
Alal Mah'ril Maloom*

I have given in Nikah my client (bride) to my client
(bridegroom), and to be his wife at agreed upon mahr.

It is sufficient to recite the last line above, on behalf of the bride, and on behalf of the bridegroom. It should be in Arabic with correct pronunciation. Translation in a language understood by the parties should be provided. It is highly recommended to repeat the Sigha several times in Arabic as presented in this document.

Optional Dua

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

دُعَاءُ

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ.

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهُمَا فِي زَوَاجِهِمَا كَمَا بَارَكْتَ فِي زَوَاجِ آدَمَ مِنْ حَوَاءَ عَلَيْهِمَا السَّلَامُ. ا اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهُمَا فِي زَوَاجِهِمَا كَمَا بَارَكْتَ فِي زَوَاجِ إِبْرَاهِيمَ خَلِيلٍ مِنْ هَاجَرَ عَلَيْهِمَا السَّلَامُ. اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهُمَا فِي زَوَاجِهِمَا كَمَا بَارَكْتَ فِي زَوَاجِ حَبِيبِكَ وَ نَبِيِّكَ مُحَمَّدٍ الْمُصْطَفَى صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ مِنْ خَدِيجَةَ الْكُبْرَى أُمِّ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَلَيْهَا السَّلَامُ. اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهُمَا

فِي زَوَاجِهِمَا كَمَا بَارَكْتَ فِي زَوَاجِ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ عَلِيِّ بْنِ أَبِي طَالِبٍ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ. مِنْ فَاطِمَةَ الزَّهْرَاءِ سَيِّدَةِ نِسَاءِ الْعَالَمِينَ عَلَيْهَا السَّلَامُ. اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَهُمَا فِي زَوَاجِهِمَا كَمَا بَارَكْتَ فِي زَوَاجِ كُلِّ مُؤْمِنٍ وَ مُؤْمِنَةٍ مِنَ الْأَوَّلِينَ وَ مِنَ الْآخِرِينَ. آمِينَ. آمِينَ. آمِينَ يَا رَبَّ الْعَالَمِينَ وَ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِهِ الطَّاهِرِينَ.

Allaahumma Salli 'alaa muhammadin(w) wa aali Muhammad.

Allaahumma baarik lahuma fee zawaajihimaa kamaa baarakta fee zawaaji Aadama min hawwaa-a'

alai-himas-salaam. Allaahumma baarik lahuma fee zawajihima kamaa baarak-ta fee zawaaji Ibraheema min

Haajara alai-himas-salaam. Allaahummaa baarik lahuma fee zawajihima kama baarak-ta fee

zawaaji Habeebika wa Nabiy-yika Muhammadin Sal'lalaahu alaihi wa Aalihi wa Sal'lama min Khadi-jatil-Kubraa ummil-mu'mineena 'alaihimas-salaam. Allaahumma baarik lahuma fee zawajihimaa kamaa baarak-ta fee zawaaji Ameeril'mu'mineena Ali-yibni Abi Taalibin alaihis-salaamu min Faatimataz-Zahraa-e say'yidati nisaail-aalameena alaihas-salaam. Allaahummaa baarik lahuma fee zawajihimaa kamaa baarak-ta fee zawaaji kul'li mu'minin wa mu'minatin minal aw'waleena wa minal aakhireen. Aameen. Aameen. Aameen. Yaa Rab'bal aalameena wa sal'lal-laahu alaa Muhammadin(w) wa aalihit-tahireen.

Translation:

O' Allaah send blessings upon Muhammad and the family of Muhammad.

O' Allaah bless them both in their marriage, as You have blessed the marriage of Adam with Haw'wa, peace be upon both of them. O' Allaah bless them both in their marriage, as You have blessed the marriage of Your friend, Ibraaheem with Hajar, peace be upon both of them. O' Allaah bless them both in their marriage, as You have blessed the marriage of Your beloved and Your Prophet Muhammad peace and blessings be on him with Khadija, the senior, the mother of the believers, peace be upon her. O' Allaah bless them both in their marriage, as You have blessed the marriage of the commander of the faithful, Ali son of Abu Talib, peace be upon him with Fatima Zahra, Chief lady of the women of the world, peace be upon her. O' Allaah bless them both in their marriage, as You have blessed the marriage of every believing man and believing woman from those of the first and those of the last. Aameen. Aameen. Aameen.

O' Lord of the worlds, and Allaah bless Muhammad and his family.

Traditions attributed to Prophet Muhammad Puh&P

Bismillahir Rahmaanir Raheem

1. An unmarried man, even though wealthy, is surely poor and needy; same being true of an un-married woman.
2. He said; "Marriage is my tradition, and whoever dislikes my tradition, he is not from me, ... and whoever likes my tradition, then, he should follow it.
3. He said; "Whoever gets married has safeguarded half of his religion."
4. The institution of marriage in Islam is loved by Allaah swt more than any other such act.
5. He said; "Two Rakah of a married person's Salat are better and more excellent than seventy Rakat offered by an un-married person.

6. He said; "A suitable Muslim wife is a gift from the bounties of Allaah swt, better than any thing else."
7. He said; "Whoever desires to meet Allaah in a purified status, should get married to a pious woman."
8. He said; "If a religious person of good morals comes to you (proposing), and you are pleased with him, then (agree to) get married, for if you do not, then there will be great disturbance and corruption on earth.
9. He said; "Get married and produce offsprings, so that on the day of resurrection, I shall confront other nations with larger numbers among my nation.
10. Many traditions from the Prophet and his purified progeny (peace be upon them all) have emphasized on the wisdom of marriage. It expands the families and tribes, and strengthens the ties. Marriage increases livelihood, bounties and rewards from Allaah swt.

(The End.)

Sources: 1. Toh'fatul Awaam, Lahore, Pakistan (Urdu edition) 2. A Manual of Islamic Beliefs and Practice. Compiled by Ali Muhammad Naqvi. Published by The Muhammadi Trust of Great Britain. 3. Sheikh Safdar Razi Ali, Austin, Texas.

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