

In the name of God, the most merciful, the most compassionate. He is the one we ask for help.

To my dearest mother, may God protect you from any harm, and peace and God's blessings be upon you.

I am sending you this letter that is filled with yearning and longing for you. I waited every afternoon of the past time period to get a letter from you and I prayed to hear the best news about you, and thank God, on the eve of 20 Fajr, I received your letter which brought me great happiness. Thank God who comforted me. When I read the letter, I was surprised to find out that we may meet, which is what I have wished for, for many long years. I was not aware of that. What I knew was that we were to move to a different area where it would be faster to be in contact with you, and they justified the move that it was due possibly to a change in the security conditions here. I wish that we could have traveled to you, but God has decreed and what He wills, He does. Glory be to God. It was the middle of the night when we received the news to travel and we were extremely happy since we would be closer to you, and I became optimistic that we would be meeting you soon. So after the Fajr prayers, I arranged and gathered all the belongings and alas, we waited for a long time, but thank God anyway. All we can do is pray, and God willing, relief is near.

Dearest mother, how are you doing? We miss you very much.

'Abdallah and 'A'isha always mention you and pray for God to reunite us. But with regards to the letter and the pictures which you haven't received, do not worry. I will ask about them, God willing. The brothers may have forgotten to deliver them, and God willing, we will send them to you. It contained a letter for the father, for you, my brother Khalid, Maryam and Sumaya. It also contained my maternal uncle's letter with details regarding the thing. I hope you forgive us for the scarcity of letters. God knows, it is due to our conditions. But God willing, we will do our best to continue sending you letters, and God willing, we will send you pictures of 'Abdallah, 'A'isha, and Usama that are better than the last ones.

With regards to our news, we are well. All we are missing is seeing you and getting your news. Your pictures are always with me, and you are always in my thoughts, thank God. I pray to God to reunite us soon, God willing. I think you are aware of our

moves and a few things happened during the moves. I can't divulge them in a letter. But thank God for His protection. He delivered us from the hands of the tyrants. I hope that our reunion is near and I will tell you all about it in detail.

I spend my days doing household chores, teaching 'Abdallah - he finished learning the alphabet, thank God, and I occupy some of my time sewing, thank God. The children are well and in good health, thank God. But regarding my health, it is getting better. I was sick with malaria and typhoid. I went to a doctor in an area close to us and I was able to visit with Aunt Um 'Abd-al- Rahman BM for an hour. They are well, thank God. I have not mentioned anything regarding Khalid's issue, as I mentioned it to you in the letter that you have not received. They have responded regarding the engagement that there are other brothers who proposed. If the others do not work out, they will send for us. Aunt Um 'Abd-al- Rahman mentioned to me in her last letter that she hopes that this does not lessen our love to them and prayers for them. I responded to her that she should not worry, and that what is between us is much bigger than that, which is our sisterhood in God. What I think is that this is their way of apologizing. Aunt Um 'Abd-al- Rahman asked me again about you and if you were coming to see us, and I replied to her that I do not believe so. Their response to us was more than six months ago. She sends you her best regards. Her older daughter came recently, praise God.

With regards to news of the Peninsula, we received letters from my maternal aunt, Um Hasan. They send you their love. We have found a way to communicate with them. I have written a letter to my brother 'Abdallah, my sisters, my paternal uncle Sa'd, and my paternal aunt, Iman, and God willing, I will find a way to send it to them.

My dearest mother, I would like to ask your advice about the dilation and curettage procedure. A little over a year ago, I had a miscarriage and I was not able to have a D&C then. After that, I went to several doctors and they gave me conflicting advice. Some of them think I need to have a D&C and others think that I do not need it. I don't know what I should do. Please tell me what you think. I am, thank God, in good health. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

In closing, please give my regards to everybody and I hope for your blessings. Please do not forget us in your prayers. Abu-'Abdallah gives you his regards.

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Your daughter Khadija

24 Rajab