# Exploring the concept of parents as gifts from Allah (God)

Reading One:

Prophet Mohammad ﷺ was once asked, what is the best charitable act that I can do where paradise would be guaranteed? The Prophet said, look after your mother. The person asked and what else. The prophet said look after your mother. The person said what else. The prophet said look after your mother. The person said what else. The prophet said look after your father.

Reading Two:

On another occasion, a person went to Prophet Mohammad ﷺ for advice because he wanted to join the army. Prophet Mohammad ﷺ asked him if his parents were alive and he replied yes. The prophet Mohammad ﷺ then asked whether there was someone to look after them in his absence (because of the special circumstances of his parents). The person said no. Then the prophet said that if you want reward from Allah then in these circumstances your first responsibility is to look after your parents and you should not join the army.

(Hadith: Muslim, chapter 1, hadith 2548, 2549R3)