Sanori Sahib's speech delivered on November 2008 - At the occasion of wedding ceremony of Mansoor Ahmad son of Mahmood Ahmed Sahib of Georgia Jamaat.

Bismillah-i-Rehman-i-Rahim

My Very Dear and Respected Brothers, Sisters and Youngsters! Assalam-o-alaikum,

Today, with the Grace of Allah the Almighty we have gathered here to celebrate the marriage of our dear Mansoor Ahmed Raja son of our respected Mahmood Ahmed Sahib. The word "Shadi" used in Urdu for marriage, means happiness and joy; as it is the start of a joyous life together, where the couple will Insha-Allah live together happily ever after.

For a peaceful and happy life of husband and wife, Allah the Almighty has granted us guidance in the Holy Quran. I will present some of that to you. In Chapter 30: surah Al-Rum, Allah the Almighty says in verse 22: "Of His signs it is that He has created mates for you, from among yourselves, so that you may find peace of mind through them, and He has put love and tenderness between you. In that surely are signs for a people who reflect."

Love between husband and wife leads to procreation and continuity of human life on Earth. This shows a design and a purpose behind it and the existence of a designer, and also of a better and fuller life after the life on this Earth.

Then in Chapter 2 Surah Al-Baqarah Verse 188 Allah the Almighty says: "They (i.e the wives) are a garment for you and you are a garment for them."

How beautifully in this concise term, Allah the Almighty has described the purpose of marriage, that they are a cover for each other, providing comfort, protection and beauty. The garments provide cover from heat and cold; so do husband and wife safeguard each other in times of hardship or illness, providing a cover of care and sympathy and love.

In His Holy Book, Allah the Almighty has given us many principles for a pure and peaceful life.

Explaining the role of men, Allah the Almighty has said, in Chapter 4 Surah Al-Nisa Verse 35: "Men are guardians over women because Allah has made some of them excel others, and because men spend on them of their wealth. So virtuous women are obedient and guard the secrets of their husbands with Allah's protection."

Safeguarding the rights of women, Allah the Almighty says: "And they (the women) have rights similar to those (of men) over them in equity." As far as personal rights are concerned, the husband and wife stand equal but as pointed out in the previous verse (4:35) men have a supervisory authority on account of the physical advantage they possess and the financial responsibility that they carry for providing for the household.

Then in Chapter 4 Verse 129, Allah the Almighty says: "And, if a woman fears ill treatment or indifference from her husband, it shall be no sin for them that they be suitably reconciled to each other; and reconciliation is best... And if you do good and are righteous, surely Allah is aware of what you do.

The Holy Quran, which is the Word of Allah the Almighty, has furnished guidance for all spheres and occasions in human life.

Allah the Almighty has granted us the principles following which a person can become a true believer and "Muttagee" (the one who holds love and fear of Allah).

To draw close to Allah the Almighty and to win the pleasure of Allah a person has to strive sincerely, with steadfastness. Allah the Almighty, the Creator and Master of the Universe has drawn the attention of man to the fact: "O, Our Lord! You are the sustainer of all the worlds! You have not created this universe in vain.

This statement of Allah the Almighty will apply to you when your deeds are in line with "Total submission and obedience to Allah, the Almighty and the Prophet of Allah."

In Chapter 11, Surah Al-Hud, Verse 8, Allah the Almighty has indicated that all the deeds you do in this world are tests of how you behave whether in accordance to the guidance given to you.

Then Allah the Almighty indicates the purpose of creation in verse 57 of chapter 51 saying: "And I have not created the jinn and the men but that they may worship me." Allah the Almighty, the provider and sustainer has provided us with the principles and guidelines in the Holy Quran, so that we can find the straight path to piety and closeness to God Almighty.

I will now give you a brief but concise introduction of the Holy Quran:-

After the glorious seven verses of surah Al-Fateha, which in a nut-shell is the gist of all subjects contained in the Holy Quran.

Allah the Almighty says in the opening words of the next chapter: "In the name of Allah, the Gracious, the Merciful". "I am Allah the All-Knowing". This shows that Allah the Almighty is the fountain-head of all knowledge, blessings and grace like it is said in Verse 8 Chapter 40, Al Mu'min: "Our Lord, you encompass all things with your mercy and knowledge.

In the third verse it is said: "This is the perfect book, there is no doubt in it. It is a guidance for the righteous."

Here, I would like to give a short introduction of the Holy Quran:

<u>Holy Quran</u> is the Book, from beginning to the end, each word is as revealed by Allah the Almighty upon the Holy Prophet Muhammad (p.b.u.h).

This is the book about which Allah the Almighty himself declared in chapter 98: "Contained in it are lasting commandments". What that means is that the teachings contained in it are for all times and they also contain the gist of the true teachings as was given to the previous prophets of Allah the Almighty. The Holy Quran is that book which is the Light, Guidance, Healing and Mercy. The light contained in it is

providing guidance to billions of human beings for the last fourteen centuries; as Allah the Almighty has undertaken to safeguard the Holy Quran Himself. As recorded in Verse 10, Chapter 15, Al-Hijr, Allah the Almighty says: "Verily it is We, who have sent down this Exhortation, and most surely We are its Guardian".

This book contains those perfect teachings.