

## Analysis of Razavi Conduct in the Formation and Consolidation of the Family Institution and Strategies to Confront Contemporary Challenges

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### Article info

### Abstract

#### Article type:

Research Article

#### Received:

7 November 2024

#### In Revised form:

11 February 2025

#### Accepted:

7 March 2025

#### Published:

26 February 2025

Upbringing in the family is the foundation of human growth and excellence. The performance of the family as a social unit plays an undeniable role in establishing the manner of social interactions and reactions, and healthy and constructive performance guarantees the health of society. Accordingly, in the conduct of the Ahl al-Bayt (peace be upon them), especially in the teachings of Imam Reza (peace be upon him), much attention has been paid to the upbringing of individuals in this environment. The main objective of the article was to examine the importance of forming the family, strategies for consolidating the family institution, and the role of parents in the emotional upbringing of children from the perspective of the conduct and teachings of Imam Reza (peace be upon him), using a descriptive-analytical method for data collection. The result of the investigation shows that adherence to religious teachings and acting upon the conduct and thoughts of the Infallible Imams (peace be upon them) will be a strong barrier against the obstacles to consolidating the family institution. To strengthen the relationships among family members, one should act by creating an emotional atmosphere and understanding the legitimate needs and desires of both parties.

**Keywords:** Family Institution, Imam Reza (peace be upon him), Razavi Family, Education and Upbringing.



**Reference:** Shojaei, Mahsa, Montazami, Morteza, Mohammadi Nabi Kandi, BabAllah. (2024). Analysis of Razavi Conduct in the Formation and Consolidation of the Family Institution and Strategies to Confront Contemporary Challenges. *Imam Reza (A.S.) and Contemporary Sciences*. 2(6). 160-194.

**Publisher:** Imam Reza (AS) International University

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.22034/ijs.2025.428843.1236>



## 1. Introduction

The family, as a fundamental pillar and the primary social institution, plays an irreplaceable role in the process of socialization, the transmission of cultural-ethical capital, and the shaping of individual and collective identity. In the epistemological framework of Islam, this institution is defined beyond a mere social contract as a “sacred covenant,” whose ultimate goal is the establishment of a center of “residence,” “tranquility,” and “affection.” However, in the contemporary world, the family institution faces unprecedented challenges and threats that seriously endanger its strength, stability, and even its very existence. These challenges are multidimensional and intertwined, including socio-cultural transformations, exhausting economic pressures, and the spread of moral vices. In facing these formidable waves, secular and human-centric approaches have failed to provide effective and sustainable solutions. This doubles the necessity of returning to the pure springs of religious knowledge and emulating the conduct of the Infallible Imams (peace be upon them). Among these, the practical conduct and teachings of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) are considered a precious treasure trove for providing authentic and operational solutions.

## 2. Research Objectives

This research aims to analyze the theoretical and practical conduct of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) in the realm of the formation, consolidation, and confrontation with the challenges of the family institution. The main objectives of this research are:

Explaining the philosophy and foundations of family formation from the perspective of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) (Explaining the Why);

Identifying and analyzing the most important obstacles and threats facing the consolidation of the family in the present era, inspired by Razavi conduct;

Providing practical and applicable solutions for actively strengthening and consolidating the family institution in ethical, emotional, economic, and social dimensions.

The main research question is: What fundamental foundations, principles, and solutions did Imam Reza (peace be upon him) provide in his theoretical and practical conduct for the “formation,” “consolidation,” and “confrontation with challenges” of the family institution, and how can this model be used as a comprehensive and practical roadmap to save the contemporary family from its current crisis?

### 3. Methodology

This research has been conducted relying on a descriptive-analytical method and utilizing a combined theoretical framework. The theoretical framework of the research is based on three main axes:

1. Family as a Divine-Social Institution: In this view, the family is defined as a “sacred covenant” and a center of “residence,” “affection,” and “mercy,” which has a dual function (internal and external).
2. Razavi Conduct as an Epistemological System: The conduct of Imam Reza (peace be upon him) is considered as an “integrated epistemological system” in which “theory” (theological and ethical teachings) and “practice” (the Imam’s social and familial behaviors) are intertwined.
3. Multidimensional Consolidation Model: Family consolidation is considered a dynamic and multidimensional process that can be analyzed in four interconnected spheres: the ethical dimension, the emotional dimension, the economic dimension, and the social dimension.

The research data has been collected based on narrative texts and primary Islamic sources related to Razavi conduct and has been examined using the content analysis method.

### 4. Findings

The research findings indicate that Razavi conduct provides a systematic and integrated model for family consolidation, which can be explained in the form of a four-dimensional model:

- Ethical Dimension: As the infrastructure of the family entity, it is based on virtues such as fidelity to covenants, covering faults, forgiveness (beautiful pardon), good character, and self-purification. These virtues produce symbolic capital and intra-family trust.
- Emotional Dimension: As the governing spirit of the family, it includes components such as the active expression of love and affection, honoring the personality of members, compatibility, and tolerance. This dimension directly impacts the satisfaction and sense of belonging of the members.
- Economic Dimension: As the material support of the family, it is based on operational strategies such as contentment, work and effort (as jihad), economic responsibility, and optimal resource management (avoiding extravagance and stinginess). This dimension provides the necessary psychological tranquility and security for

the flourishing of emotion and ethics.

- Social Dimension: As the protective shell of the family, it includes observing modesty, establishing healthy and tranquil relationships, enjoining good and forbidding evil within the family, and particularly, maintaining kinship ties. This dimension immunizes the family against external harms and abnormalities.

Furthermore, the most important obstacles to family consolidation from the perspective of Razavi conduct were identified and analyzed into four similar categories: ethical obstacles (such as fault-finding, lying, bad temper, and humiliation), economic obstacles (such as poverty, unemployment, and miserliness), emotional obstacles (such as sorrow, spousal abuse, and violence), and social obstacles (such as keeping up with the Joneses and bad companions).

## 5. Conclusion

The analysis of Razavi conduct confirms that in this intellectual framework, the family is defined as a “divine-social” institution with dual internal functions (providing residence, tranquility, and affection) and external functions (raising a righteous generation and spreading the monotheistic ideal). The fundamental innovation of this research lies in presenting the “Integrated Model of Family Consolidation Based on Razavi Conduct.” This model shows that the strength of the family is the result of the positive and dynamic interaction of the four dimensions—ethical, emotional, economic, and social—and any challenge arises from the weakening of one or several of these intertwined pillars.

The “Razavi Family Model,” with its characteristics of practicality, comprehensiveness, and conformity with human nature, can be utilized as a fundamental strategy and operational roadmap for thinkers in strengthening this sacred institution and confronting the challenges of the contemporary world. It is suggested that this model be promoted and implemented in the form of educational programs, counseling, and cultural-social policies. Furthermore, conducting applied and field research to measure the effectiveness of this model in reducing family harms is suggested for future research.

A Detailed Analysis of Razavi Conduct in the Formation and Consolidation of the Family Institution and Strategies to Confront Contemporary Challenges

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