**KHAISER SPEECH [EZ Speech No. 15250]**

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Remarks by Mr. Noor Khaiser on the occasion of his son’s best friend’s wedding.

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GOOD EVENING, LADIES AND GENTLMEN. I FEEL HONORED TO HAVE BEEN ASKED TO SAY A FEW WORDS ABOUT SALMAN [GROOM’S LAST NAME] THIS EVENING ON THE OCCASION OF HIS MARRIAGE TO A BEAUTIFUL AND WONDERFUL WOMAN, [BRIDE’S FULL NAME], WHOSE FAMILY WE WELCOME HERE TONIGHT WITH JOY AND OVERFLOWING HEARTS.

AS YOU MAY KNOW, SALMAN IS MY [SON’S FIRST NAME]’S BEST FRIEND AND HAS BEEN A FRIEND OF OUR FAMILY FOR MANY, MANY YEARS. HE’S A WONDERFUL YOUNG MAN, A DEVOUT MUSLIM, AND AN AMERICAN PATRIOT WHO’S SERVED HIS COUNTRY AS A [RANK/JOB/TITLE] IN THE U.S. ARMY FOR [NO.] YEARS. AND FOR THOSE WHO DON’T KNOW HIM, I CAN TELL YOU THAT THERE’S A GREAT DEAL TO RECOMMEND SALMAN [LAST NAME] AS BOTH A FRIEND AND AS A HUSBAND.

FIRST OF ALL, OF COURSE, IS THAT HE HAS IMPECCABLE TASTE IN WOMEN. I DON’T THINK HE COULD’VE FOUND A MORE BEAUTIFUL, A MORE CARING, OR A MORE COMPETENT AND SELF-ASSURED WOMAN AS HE HAS FOUND IN [BRIDE’S FIRST NAME]. SHE’S SUCH A WONDERFUL “CATCH,” AS THEY

SAY, AND HE’S AWFULLY LUCKY TO HAVE FOUND HER AND WON HER HEART.

THEN THERE’S SALMAN’S COURAGE. YOU DON’T SIGN UP FOR OVERSEAS DEPLOYMENTS AS A [RANK] IN THE ARMY WITHOUT KNOWING YOU MIGHT WELL BE IN HARM’S WAY AT ONE POINT OR ANOTHER, BUT YOU DO IT ANYWAY IN SERVICE TO YOUR COUNTRY. THIS TAKES GUTS AND FORTITUDE AND COURAGE, AND AN UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO A SET OF CORE VALUES THAT YOU’RE WILLING TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR. THIS CERTAINLY DESCRIBES SALMAN [LAST NAME] TO A “T”.

ANOTHER THING THAT DEFINES SALMAN IS HIS LOVE OF CHILDREN. I SEE THIS QUALITY IN HIM EVERY TIME I SEE HIM INTERACT WITH MY OWN GRANDKIDS. HE SEEMS TO UNDERSTAND INSTINCTUALLY WHAT THE GREAT AMERICAN CLERGYMAN AND ABOLISHONIST, HENRY WARD BEECHER, MEANT WHEN HE SAID, *“CHILDREN ARE THE HANDS BY WHICH WE TAKE HOLD OF HEAVEN.”* I HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO DOUBT THAT WHEN SALMAN AND [BRIDE’S FIRST NAME] HAVE KIDS OF THEIR OWN, HE’LL BE THE MOST LOVING AND AFFECTIONATE AND DEDICATED FATHER ANY MAN CAN BE . . . AND I HOPE HE SPOILS THEM TO DEATH!

AND FINALLY, SALAM [LAST NAME] IS A MAN OF FAITH. BY HIS WORDS AND HIS DEEDS, HE EXEMPLIFIES THE FINEST QUALITIES OF ISLAM. DESPITE HIS YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE, HE HAS NEVER LOST FAITH IN THE ESSENTIAL GOODNESS OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT, NOR IN THE POWER OF AN ALMIGHT GOD, WHOM HE CALLS ALLAH. AND HE KNOWS, IN THE WORDS OF THE QU’RAN, HIS HOLY BOOK, THAT *“THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN GOD . . . AND WHO DO GOOD DEEDS; THEY WILL HAVE THEIR REWARD FROM THEIR LORD AND NO FEAR WILL COME UPON THEM, NOR WILL THEY GRIEVE.”*

AND IN CASE ANY OF YOU MIGHT BE WONDERING, THERE’S ABSOLUTELY NO PROHIBITION IN THE QU’RAN AGAINST A MUSLIM MAN MARRYING A NON-MUSLIM WOMEN. ALL THAT IS REQUIRED IS THAT THE WOMAN BELIEVES IN GOD AND DOES GOOD DEEDS. IN FACT, MARRIAGE IS EXTRMELY IMPORTANT IN THE ISLAMIC FAITH. FOR AS IT IS WRITTEN IN THE QU’RAN: *“AMONG [ALLAH’S] SIGNS IS THIS, THAT HE CREATED FOR YOU MATES . . . THAT YOU MAY DWELL IN TRANQUILITY WITH THEM, AND HE HAS PUT LOVE AND MERCY BETWEEN YOUR HEARTS. HE HAS MADE FOR YOU . . . SONS AND DAUGHTERS AND GRANDCHILDREN, AND PROVIDED FOR YOU SUSTENANCE OF THE BEST.”*

SO OUT OF THIS UNION OF SALMAN [LAST NAME], A MUSLIM FROM [HIS COUNTRY OF ORIGIN] AND [BRIDE’S FULL NAME] OF [CITY], CANADA, BRIDGING BOTH FAITHS AND DISTANCE, A HOLY AND LOVING MARRIAGE HAS OCCURED.

AND SO I’D LIKE TO CONCLUDE MY REMARKS THIS EVENNG BY PARAPHRASING THE BLESSING OF THE ANCIENT MUSLIM SCHOLAR, MULLA MUHAMMAD BAQIR [RAISE A GLASS TO THE MARRIED COUPLE]: *“YOUR LOVE STORY WILL LAST FOREVER. IT WILL BEGIN IN THIS LIFE AND, ALLAH BE WILLING, IT WILL CONTINUE IN THE HEREAFTER FOR EVER AND EVER.”*

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