ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE IN CARE OF THE ELDERLY PEOPLE IN GERIATRIC HOMES IN CAIRO

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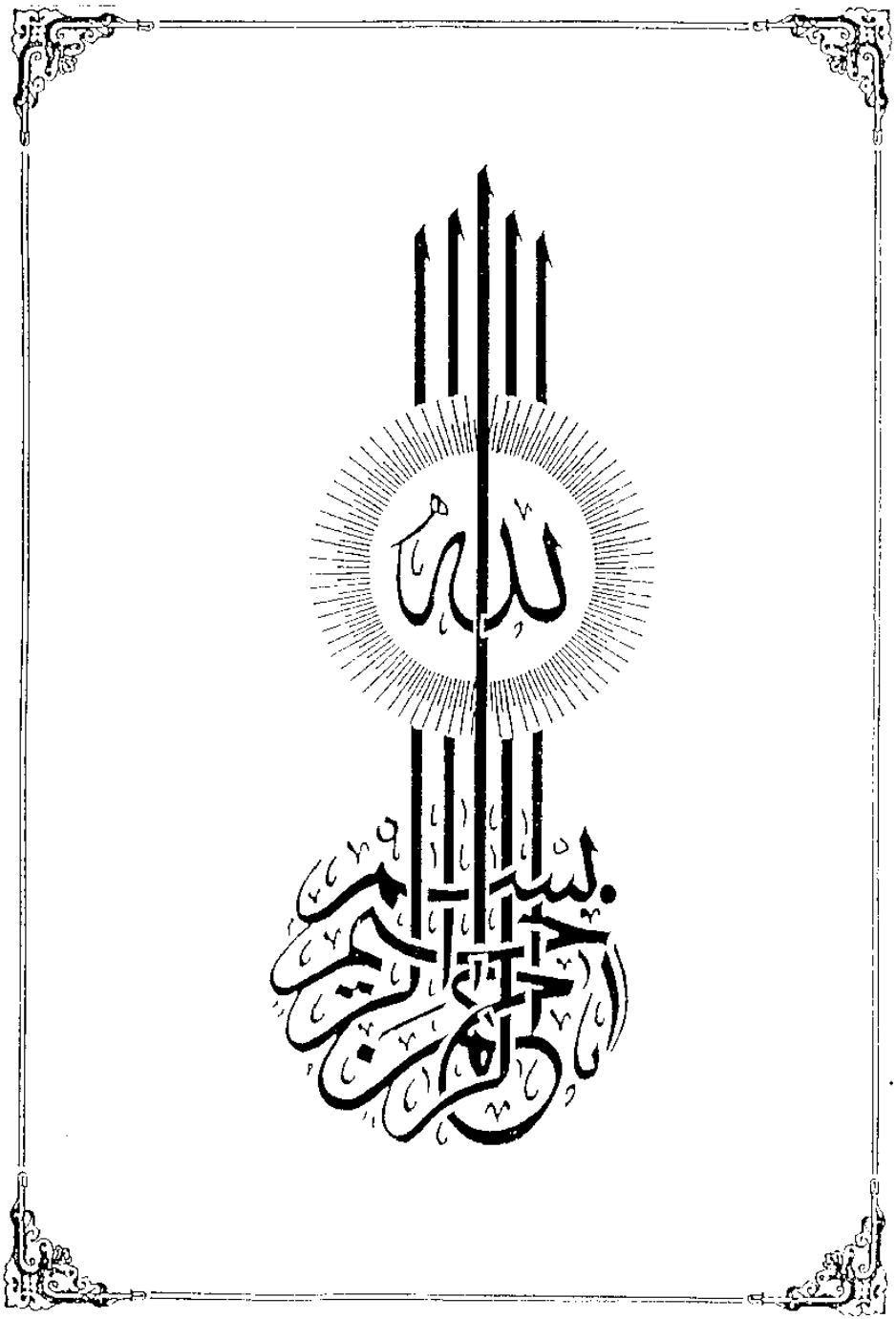

Love is not just for the young

Love is for every one.

No matter how old are you

Twenty or ninety two just

You have heart for feeling it.

No matter of weather either spring or winter just you

Have heart to warm it.

Love is not just for the young

Love is for every one.

Through
Mass media

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

" وقضى ربك الا تعبدوا الا اياة وبالوالدين احسنا اما يبلغن عندك الكبـــــــر أحدهما أو كلاهما فلاتقل لهما أوف ولاتنهرهما وقل لهما قولا كريما وأخفض لهما جنـــــــاح الذل من الرحمة وقل رب أرحمهما كما ربياني صغيرا . (صدق الله العظيم)

سورة الأسراء (أية ٢٣ ، ٢٤)

" أكرم أباك وأمك وأحب قريبك كنفسك " .

متى : أصحاح : ١٩ عدد ١٩

D E D I C A T I O N

To

All who taught me a letter

to whom I will be grateful

forever

To

My Husband, Parents and Children

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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Many parts of the world are facing the phenomenon of aging. As pointed out by **WHO (1982)**, the number of people aged 60 years or more was about 380 millions and is expected to reach almost 600 millions by the year 2000. This was mainly attributed to the provision of better services and improved living conditions. It was also emphasized that aging problems are increasing due to urbanization, developed industrialization, modern medical technology and social innovations. The difficulty of accomodating old people because of smaller living areas and the increased need of privacy aroused the need for provisions of means to accomodate this group as well as to provide care for them.

Kamerman (1975) stated that the problems of elderly in relation to housing, health care, social relation and finance; provoked the awareness of health and social policy decision authorities about their needs. Therefore, they were urged to establish specific policies to meet the needs and resolve the problems of old people. According to **Schmidt (1975)** elderly people might be divided into two groups, the young old (65-75 years) and the old old who are more than 75 years old.

In Egypt as reported by **CAPMAS (1987)** the young old were estimated in 1986 to be 1,380, 165 persons constituting a ratio of one to thirty of the population. Their number in the future is expected to increase as declared by **Girgis (1983).**

Continued efforts to provide better living and improved health care is part of the community responsibility for nursing care of the elderly **(Thompson, 1984).** As pointed out by **(WHO, 1976 and 1977)** nurses are expected to provide preventive, promotive, supportive, curative and rehabilitative care for the elderly as an integral part of the total health system. Their role in this respect would contribute to assist the elderly people to strengthen their own coping abilities; this could be achieved through interaction and by initiating proper relationship based on trust and understanding in order to establish the plans of care. Moreover, **Leahy (1985) and WHO (1977)** mentioned that nurses involved in care of the elderly must possess professional knowledge and skills related to the aging process; relevant health needs as well as personal and community resources available to meet these needs.