

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Basic Teachings of Islam

Purity and Cleanliness – Wudu

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Purity and Cleanliness

- A person must have purity and be clean before worshiping God Almighty. A person who prays without purity is committing a great sin because he is disrespecting the religion.

Purity and Cleanliness

- Almighty Allah says:
 - Surely Allah loves those who repent and keep themselves clean. (Qur an:2:222)
- The Holy Prophet said:
 - 1. Cleanliness is half of Imaan (faith).
 - 2. Be careful about the urine since it will be the first thing that a person will be asked about in the grave.

Purity and Cleanliness

- Cleanliness is of two kinds
 1. Minor cleanliness and that is Wudu (Ablution).
 2. Major cleanliness and that is Ghusl (Bathing).
- There is need of Wudu for minor impurities and Ghusl for major impurities.

Purity and Cleanliness

- There are two ways of achieving cleanliness
 1. Washing with water and that is the original source to achieve cleanliness.
 2. Using the earth-dust (ie. Tayammum) when water is not available or harmful for health.

Types of water

- Following types of water are permissible for cleaning purposes:
 1. Rain water
 2. Sea water
 3. River water
 4. Fountain water
 5. Well water
 6. Ice/snow water
 7. Hailstone water

Types of water

- Furthermore we can divide water into three kinds depending on its suitability for cleanliness:
 1. Taahir Mutah-hir (Purifying)
 1. This is general water which is both clean and suitable for cleanliness.
 2. Taahir Ghair Mutah-hir (Pure)
 1. It is clean but unsuitable for cleaning purposes like fruit and vegetable juices or any water that has undergone change.

Types of water

3. Najis (Impure)

- This is water which has been contaminated by filth. This is of two types:
 - Very large amount of water or flowing water : Such water does not become impure by mixing impurity until its colour or taste or odour has changed.
 - Small amount of water (Less than 216 litres). This becomes impure by the mixing of impurity whether its colour or odour or taste has been altered or not. Impure water is unfit for consumption and ritual purity.

Left over water

- A small pool of water that has been used by animals for drinking can be divided into four categories
 - 1. Pure and suitable for purifying:** This is a pool of water from which either man or any Halal animal (i.e. camel, cow, goat, sheep, etc.) has drunk.
 - 2. Impure:** This is the water from which a dog or a pig or any of the Haraam animal (i.e. wolf, lion, etc.) has drunk.

Left over water

3. **Pure but not really fit for purifying:** This is the water from which a cat, a wild hen or a bird of prey etc. has drunk. It is permissible to use it when the pure water is not available.

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How to perform Wudu

- There is a great reward for performing Wudu. Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) has said that on the day of judgement, my nation will be called and their faces, hands and feet will be shining with the water of the Wudu. So perform Wudu as much as you can.

Minimum Elements of Wudu – *Fard*

The performance of the following is obligatory in *wudu*:

1. washing the face from the hairline to below the chin, and from ear to ear, once;
 1. (If one's beard is thick, it is not necessary to force water through the hairs to beneath the skin when washing the face;)
2. washing both hands up to and including the elbows, once;
3. wiping [with a wet hand] a fourth part of the head;
4. and washing both feet up to and including the ankles, once.

If even so much as the area of a fingernail should remain dry on the surface of any of the four parts of the body which are *fard* in *wudu*, the *wudu* will be invalid.

The Sunnah way of making Wudu

- The performance of the following is *Sunnah* in wudu':
- 1. the intention, *niyah*;
- 2. beginning by saying, "*Bismilldh it Rahnaan it Raham*";
- 3. [to wash the right before the left, except for the hands, face, head, and ears which are washed simultaneously];
- 4. washing the hands up to the wrists and between the fingers three times;
- 5. using *miswak*, a tooth-stick [or otherwise cleaning the teeth];
- 6. rinsing the mouth out three times with water, [using the right hand to draw the water];
- 7. rinsing the nostrils three times with water [using the right hand to draw the water] and cleaning the nostrils [using the left hand];

The Sunnah way of making Wudu

- 8. washing the entire face, three times;
- 9. washing both arms up to and including the elbows and hands, three times;
- 10. wiping, the entire head, the ears [and the back of the neck, all with the same stroke; It is not necessary to re-wet the hands in between [the wiping of the head and the wiping of the ears);
- 11. washing both feet, up to and including the ankles, and between the toes, three times;
- 12. keeping the prescribed sequence as described above;
- Wudu should be performed as one continuous process, This means that one may not pause so long that the water on the last limb to be washed dries before one begins washing the next limb.

After making Wudu

- We can read a prayer after making Wudu:
- I bear witness that there is no god except Allah. He is One and has no partner. And I bear witness that Muhammad is His servant and messenger. O Allah! Make me of those who often repent; and of those who are purified. Glory be to You, O Allah, and all praise! I seek Your forgiveness and repent to You.)
- Thereafter, two nafl [non-obligatory] prayer can be offered.

What breaks the Wudu

- Anything coming out of the private parts:
- That impurity which comes out from any part of the body and then flows – e.g. blood, pus. [Then, blood or pus which oozes to the surface of a wound and congeals without flowing out over the surface will not break *wudu*;
- More than a mouthful of vomit;
- **Loss** of consciousness regardless of the cause;
- Insanity, intoxication, and sleeping invalidate one's *wudu*. Sleeping, either on one's back or side, or propped up against something which if removed would lead to one's falling, breaks *wudu*
- Laughter in prayer; [If it is audible to others] by a mature person, and in the prayers comprised of *ruku`* and *saja'ah*.

What is disliked during making Wudu

- 1. to use excess water;
- 2. to use too little water so that washing becomes like wiping;
- 3. to violently splash water on the face instead of with ease;
- 4. to talk, saying things other than glorification and supplication to Allah;
- 5. to ask others for help without excuse;
- 6. and wiping the head three times.

Other points

- **Serious Medical Conditions**
- If one is unable to control his urination or wind due to serious medical complications he will be considered as excused.
- The rule for an excused person is that he makes fresh Wudu for each prayer whether obligatory or voluntary.
- **Doubts about Wudu**
- If one is certain that he has done Wudu and then he has doubt about being unclean he will be considered clean since doubt can not over ride a certainty.