

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Basic Teachings of Islam

Purity and Cleanliness – Ghusl [Bathing]

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Bathing

- Almighty Allah says :
 - If you are in state of major ritual impurity then bathe yourself. (Qur an :5:6)
- Ghusl (Bathing) literally means to pour water on the body. According to Shari'ah it is the washing of the whole body with purifying water as specified by Shari'ah.
- **There are three types of Ghusl:**
 - Obligatory
 - Sunnah
 - Recommendatory

Obligatory Bath

- Ghusl becomes obligatory in the following events:
- After having husband and wife relationships
- Wet dreams
- For women: After completing their periods and the postnatal bleeding

Sunnah Bath

- It is sunnah [way of the Holy Prophet] to have bath for the following:
- Ghusl for Jumu'ah Prayer.
- Ghusl for two Eid Prayers.
- Ghusl before wearing the Ihraam for Hajj and Umrah.
- Ghusl for staying at Arafat.

Recommended Bath

- Recommended types of Ghusl are numerous like:
 - After one has recovered from unconsciousness.
 - For entering Makkah Mukarramah.
 - For entering Madinah Munawwarah.
 - Ghusl for one who has washed a dead body.
 - When a unbeliever becomes a Muslim.
 - Ghusl on the night of Al-Qadr (27th Ramadan) and Al-Baraa'ah (15th Sha'baan).
 - Ghusl for the prayer for Solar and Lunar eclipse and seeking rain.
 - Ghusl for wearing new clothes.
 - Ghusl after doing repentance.

Obligatory Aspects of Ghusl

- The following three things must be done in Ghusl, otherwise the Ghusl is invalid:
- Rinsing the mouth vigorously and gargling.
- Cleaning the nostrils with water and taking water up to the soft part.
- Washing the whole body such that not a single hair or any part of body remains dry. Otherwise the Ghusl will be invalid.

How to perform Ghusl

- Make the intention to perform Ghusl for achieving purity.
- Wash your hands three times
- Wash the private parts and remove any physical filth from the body. Any kind of physical filth that may be on the body should be removed first so it does not extend with the pouring of water.
- Then make Wudu without washing the feet.

How to perform Ghusl

- Pour water on the right shoulder three times
- Pour water on the left shoulder three times.
- Wash the whole body from head to toe.
- Once the Ghusl is complete, wash the feet with clean water.
- One should also be scrubbing simultaneously to ensure that all the body is thoroughly washed.

Disliked acts during Ghusl

- Not to face towards Qiblah
- No one should be watching you during Ghusl
 - If that's not feasible, you should remain covered from belly button to the knee during Ghusl
- Not to recite any prayers during Ghusl or speak to others

Things that impure person cannot do

- Following things are forbidden in state of ritual impurity:
- **Prayer:**
 - Almighty Allah says:
 - "Do not pray when you are intoxicated until you know what you are saying and when you are in state of ritual impurity without taking a bath."
- **Recitation of the Quran:**
 - No part of the Holy Quran can be recited, even if it is less than a single verse.
 - However, if someone recites the Qur'anic verses with the **intention** of making with Dua, praising Almighty Allah or to begin something then it is permissible. [Such as Ayat al-Kursi]
 - Since first Kalmah, second Kalma etc are not part of the Holy Quran, they can be read in the state of impurity.

Things that impure person cannot do

- Touching the Qur'an or a verse without a cover:
- Since Almighty Allah said, "Verily the Glorious Qur'an is in the wellkept book it should not be touched except by the clean."
- The whole book of Qur'an is forbidden to be touched by the impure people but in other books only the verses are forbidden to be touched, not the rest of the book.

Things that impure person cannot do

- **Entering the mosque:**
- An impure person must not enter or even pass through a mosque.
- The Holy Prophet has said:
 - "I do not allow the menstruating woman and ritually impure person to enter the mosque".
- However if an impure person has to pass through the mosque because there is no alternative way then he must perform Tayam-mum before walking through.
- Circumambulation (round trip) of the Ka'bah is also forbidden.

Things that impure person cannot do

- Circumambulation (round trip) of the Ka'bah:
- The Holy Prophet has said, "The round trip of Ka'bah is like
- prayer except that you may talk about anything good during the
- round trip".