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Purification

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Introduction To Purification



The Arabic term for purification is Tahaarah. Tahaarah linguistically in the Arabic language means cleanliness. It is the act of purifying oneself from all matters including physical and spiritual impurities.

The most important cleanliness is cleanliness of the heart from illnesses of the heart.



The Importance of Purification



Purification is an essential aspect of Islam. Allah ﷻ loves those who purify themselves.

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ وَيُحِبُّ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

"...Indeed, Allah loves those who are constantly repentant and loves those who purify themselves." (2:222)

أُسِّسَ عَلَى التَّقْوَى مِنْ أَوَّلِ يَوْمٍ أَحَقُّ أَنْ تَقُومَ فِيهِ ۚ فِيهِ رَجُلٌ يُوْحَىٰ أَنْ يَتَطَهَّرُوا ۚ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُطَهَّرِينَ

"...A mosque founded on righteousness from the first day is more worthy for you to stand in. Within it are men who love to purify themselves; and Allah loves those who purify themselves." (9:108)

One of the reasons why purification is so important has to do with the relationship it has with Salah (prayer). Salah (prayer) is the second pillar of Islam coming right after the Shahadah (testimony of faith). Salah (prayer) is a cornerstone of Islam and it is the first thing that we will be questioned about on the Day of Judgment. This

great act of worship requires Tahaarah (purification). Tahaarah is a precondition for Salah (prayer).

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“The key to prayer is purification.” (Ahmad, Abu Dawood, Tirmidhi, ibn Maajah)

The Prophet ﷺ also said,

“Allah does not accept prayer without purity.” (Muslim)

Before one performs Salah, one must be in a state of ritual purity (i.e. wudhu), and one’s body, clothing and place of prayer must be free of impurities.



Types of Ritual Impurity and How To Remove It



There are two types of ritual impurity: minor ritual impurity and major ritual impurity.

A person is in a state of minor ritual impurity if any of the following things occur:

- Something exits from the front or rear private parts (i.e. urine, feces, passing wind)
- Unconsciousness, whether due to insanity, fainting, or deep sleep
- Touching the private parts directly with the hand (i.e. with no barrier)
- Sexual relations (foreplay and pre-cum)

A person in a state of minor ritual impurity is NOT permitted to do the following:

- Touch the Qur'an
- Pray Salah
- Perform Tawaaf (circumambulate the ka'bah)

A person is in a state of major ritual impurity if any of the following things occur:

- Intercourse (specifically meaning the insertion of the male sexual organ into the female sexual organ, regardless of whether ejaculation occurs)
- Ejaculation (whether it occurs with desire or without desire, whether the person is awake or asleep)
- The menstrual cycle (hayd) or post-natal bleeding (nifaas)

فَاعْتَرِلُوا الْبَسَاءَ فِي الْمَحِيضِ ح وَلَا تَقْرُبُوهُنَّ حَتَّىٰ يَطْهُرْنَ ح فَإِذَا تَطَهَّرْنَ فَأْتُوهُنَّ مِنْ حَيْثُ
أَمَرَكُمُ اللَّهُ ح

“Keep away from wives during menstruation. And do not approach them until they are pure. And when they have purified themselves, then come to them from where Allah has ordained for you. Indeed, Allah loves those who are constantly repentant and loves those who purify themselves” (2:222)

A person in a state of major ritual impurity is NOT permitted to do the following:

- Touch the Qur’an
- Pray Salah
- Perform Tawaaf (circumambulate the ka’bah)
- Recite Qur’an
- Stay in the masjid (mosque)

A person removes ritual impurity by using water with the intention of purification. If one is in a state of minor ritual impurity, then one uses water to make wudhu (ablution) and this removes minor ritual impurity. If one is in a state of major ritual impurity, then one uses water to make ghusl (take a shower) and this removes major ritual impurity.



Using Water For Purification



We previously mentioned that if a person is in a state of minor or major ritual impurity, then the person removes ritual impurity by using water with the intention of purification.

The water that is used for purification is water that is pure and can purify other things.

Pure water can be water from the sky (i.e. rain, snow, hail) and running water (i.e. rivers, seas, wells, springs, oceans).

وَأَنْزَلْنَا مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً طَهُورًا

“...and We send down from the sky pure water.” (25:48)

وَيُنزِّلُ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنَ السَّمَاءِ مَاءً لِيُطَهِّرَكُمْ بِهِ

“..and sent down upon you from the sky, rain by which to purify you...” (8:11)

If the water changes in its colour, odour or taste by something that is najas (impure), then this water becomes impure and cannot be used for purification.

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Examples of Najas (impure) substances include urine, feces and blood.

If a person has anything that is najas (impure) on their body, clothing or place of prayer, then the person uses pure water to remove the impurity by washing it away or anything else necessary to remove the impurity.



Etiquettes of Using The Washroom/Toilet



For even the smallest matters, like using the washroom, we are given guidance in Islam. The Prophet ﷺ said, “Nothing remains that brings you closer to Paradise or further from the Hellfire except that it has been explained to you” (al-Mu`jam al-Kabîr).

1. Before one enters the washroom, one should say:

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنَ الْخُبْثِ وَالْخَبَائِثِ

(Allahuma inni auzubika minal khub-si wal khaba-ith)

“O Allah, I seek refuge in You from the male and female devils.”

2. One should enter the washroom with the left foot first and exit with the right foot.
3. A person should not enter the washroom with something Islamic that has the name of Allah, like the Qur’an or du’as (supplications).
4. A person should also not do any dhikr (words of remembrance of Allah) or du’as (supplications) in the washroom.
5. Creating privacy is important so if the washroom is in a public or

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open place, then one should try to distance themselves, so they can be as private as possible.

6. One should not remove their garments until their body is close to the ground or toilet (expose private parts only when necessary).
7. It is not permissible to face or turn ones back towards the Qiblah (the direction of the Holy Kabah) whilst using the toilet if it's in an open area, if there is a barrier then it is permissible.
8. It is not permissible for one to urinate or defecate in the pathways of people or where they might take shade or under a fruit tree or in a hole or groove.

If a person urinates or defecates in these places, it can cause harm to the person.

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“Beware of the things which causes the people to curse you.” When the companions asked what those things were, he ﷺ replied, “The person who urinates or defecates on the pathways of people or the one who urinates or defecates under the shade people make use of” (Muslim).

9. One should not urinate in the places where one takes his or her bath.
10. It is recommended that one sits while urinating, however standing is permissible.
11. A person should keep themselves clean of urine and feces. A person should not urinate on a hard surface as the urine may splash back on the person.

The Prophet ﷺ passed by one of the gardens of Madinah or Makkah and he heard the sound of two persons being punished in their graves.

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“They are being punished, but they are not being punished for anything that was difficult to avoid.” Then he ﷺ said, “No. One of them used not to protect himself from his urine, and the other used to walk around spreading malicious gossip.” Then he called for a palm leaf, which he split in two and put one piece on each grave. It was said to him, “O Messenger of Allah, why did you do that?” He ﷺ said, “May their punishment be reduced so long as this does not dry out (or until this dries out)”(Bukhari and Muslim).

12. One should clean their private organs with their left hand and not their right hand. One should also not touch their private parts with their right hand.

The Prophet ﷺ said,

*“When any one of you goes to the lavatory, he should neither touch his penis nor clean his private parts with his right hand.”
(Bukhari).*

13. It is best to use water for cleansing, but other materials are permissible (such as: rocks, leaves, toilet paper) given it removes the filth completely.
14. While cleansing, one must at least use three pieces to clean themselves if they are only using a dry material (i.e. toilet paper, stones, cloth, etc) to clean themselves. A person should wipe themselves with the dry material as many times as required for the impurity to be removed.
15. It is not permissible for one to clean themselves with a bone or dung.
16. The best method of cleansing is to first use toilet paper (or other substances like rocks or leaves) and then wash with water.

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“Do not cleanse yourself with the excretion of animals nor the

bones of those animals for verily, they are for the Jinn” (Bukhari)

17. Upon leaving the washroom one should say,

عُفْرَانَاكَ

(Ghufra-naka)

“O Allah, I seek your forgiveness.”



Wudhu' (Ablution)



يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِذَا قُمْتُمْ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ فَاغْسِلُوا وُجُوهَكُمْ وَأَيْدِيَكُمْ إِلَى الْمَرَافِقِ وَامْسَحُوا بِرُءُوسِكُمْ وَأَرْجُلَكُمْ إِلَى الْكَعْبَيْنِ ۚ وَإِن كُنْتُمْ جُنُبًا فَاطَّهَّرُوا ۚ وَإِن كُنْتُمْ مَرْضَىٰ أَوْ عَلَىٰ سَفَرٍ أَوْ جَاءَ أَحَدٌ مِّنْكُمْ مِنَ الْغَائِطِ أَوْ لَامَسْتُمُ النِّسَاءَ فَلَمْ تَجِدُوا مَاءً فَتَيَمَّمُوا صَعِيدًا طَيِّبًا فَامْسَحُوا بِوُجُوهِكُمْ وَأَيْدِيكُمْ مِنْهُ ۚ مَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيَجْعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ حَرَجٍ وَلَٰكِنْ يُرِيدُ لِيُطَهِّرَكُمْ وَلِيُتِمَّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

“O you who have believed, when you rise to [perform] prayer, wash your faces and your forearms to the elbows and wipe over your heads and wash your feet to the ankles. And if you are in a state of janabah, then purify yourselves. But if you are ill or on a journey or one of you comes from the place of relieving himself or you have contacted women and do not find water, then seek clean earth and wipe over your faces and hands with it. Allah does not intend to make difficulty for you, but He intends to purify you and complete His favor upon you that you may be grateful.” (5:6)

Hadith on Wudhu’:

Narrated by Humran ibn Ibban رضي الله عنه:

‘Uthman رضي الله عنه called for Wudhu’ (water to perform ablution). He

then washed his hands three times, rinsed his mouth and sniffed water up his nostrils and blew it out. Then he washed his face three times, followed by his right arm up to (and including) the elbow three times, then his left arm up to (and including) the elbow three times. He then wiped his head (with wet hands), and washed his right foot up to (and including) the anklebones three times and then his left foot the same way. Uthman then said: "I saw the Prophet ﷺ make wudhu' (ablution) like this way of mine" [Bukhari and Muslim].



Ghusl (Ritual Shower/Bath)



When one is in a state of major ritual impurity, one makes ghusl (takes a shower) to remove the ritual impurity.

وَأَن كُنتُمْ جُنُبًا فَأَطَّهَرُوا

“..and if you are in a state of janaabah (sexual impurity),
then purify yourselves..” (5:6)

Hadith on Ghusl:

Narrated by ‘Aishah رضي الله عنها:

“When the Messenger of Allah ﷺ performed ghusl after sexual intercourse, he first washed his hands, and then he poured water over his left hand with his right hand and washed his private parts. He would then perform ablution for prayer, take some water and wash his hair thoroughly down to the roots then he poured water over his head three times and then poured water over the rest of his body, then washed his feet.” [Bukhari and Muslim]

4 SCENARIOS
WHERE GHUSL IS
OBLIGATORY

- Intercourse (when 2 private parts meets, even if there is no ejaculation).
- Wet dream.
- Death (ghusl is given to you).
- Upon the completion of hayd (menstrual bleeding) & Nifaas (bleeding after giving birth).

3 WAYS OF
TAKING GHUSL

- Complete wudhu' then take ghusl.
- perform wudhu' without washing the feet, perform ghusl and wash the feet at the end.
- Just take ghusl without wudhu'.

3 OBLIGATORY
ELEMENTS OF
GHUSL

- Have an Intention to remove major impurity by performing ghusl.
- Washing the private parts (Istinja) during or before ghusl.
- Make sure water reaches all parts of the body from top to bottom. This includes skin and the roots of the hair. It is also better to wash the mouth and nostrils as well.

7
RECOMMENDED
OCCASSIONS
OF GHUSL

- Friday Prayer.
- Two Eid Days.
- Becoming a Muslim.
- After washing a dead body.
- After gaining consciousness.
- Hajj (before putting the Ihram).
- Standing for Arafah.

5 RECOMMENDED ACTS OF GHUSL

- Say: Bismillaah.
- Washing hands before dipping them into the water container.
- Remove filthy matter at the beginning.
- Washing the limbs that are normally washed (i.e. the impurities around the private areas) for Wudhu' before washing the body.
- Rinsing the mouth, taking water into the nose and blowing it out and washing the inner side of the ears.

3 DISLIKED ACTS OF GHUSL

- Wasting water.
- Performing Ghushl in a filthy place.
- Not using any screen or barrier to block the view of others.

The manner of the ghushl of the Prophet ﷺ:

1. Washed his hands
2. Poured water on his left hand and washed his private parts
3. A complete wudhu'
4. Poured water into the roots of his hair and head
5. Poured three handfuls of water over his head – beginning with the right then the left
6. Poured water over the rest of the body



Tayammum (Dry Ablution)



If water is not available or one cannot use it (e.g. for medical reasons), then one can use the substitute for water, which is clean earth, to perform Tayammum (dry ablution).

Tayammum is using earth or something similar on the face and hands with the intention of purification.

وَأِنْ كُنْتُمْ جُنُبًا فَاطَّهَّرُوا ۚ وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ مَرْضَىٰ أَوْ عَلَىٰ سَفَرٍ أَوْ جَاءَ أَحَدٌ مِنْكُمْ مِنَ الْغَائِطِ أَوْ لَامَسْتُمُ النِّسَاءَ فَلَمْ تَجِدُوا مَاءً فَتَيَمَّمُوا صَعِيدًا طَيِّبًا فَامْسَحُوا بِوُجُوهِكُمْ وَأَيْدِيكُمْ مِنْهُ ۚ مَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيَجْعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ حَرَجٍ وَلَٰكِنْ يُرِيدُ لِيُطَهَّرَكُمْ وَلِيَعْلَمَ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ

“..and if you do not find water, then seek clean earth and wipe over your faces and hands with it. Allah does not intend to make difficulty for you, but He intends to purify you and complete His favor upon you that you may be grateful.” (5:6)

Hadith on Tayammum:

Narrated by Ammar ibn Yassir رضي الله عنه,

“The Messenger of Allah ﷺ sent me on some errands and I became Junub, and could not find water. I rolled myself in the dirt just as

an animal does. I then came to the Prophet ﷺ and mentioned that to him, He ﷺ said: “This would have been enough for you,” and he struck the earth with his hands once, then he wiped the right hand with the left one, the outside of the palms of his hands and his face” [Bukhari and Muslim].

CONDITIONS FOR PERFORMING TAYAMMUM

1. One is unable to use water, either because of a lack of water or due to it causing you harm
2. Intention, like all other acts of worship, must be present
3. One may use soil, sand, gravel, dust, and even a rock for tayammum



METHOD FOR PERFORMING TAYAMMUM

1. Strike the ground once
2. Wipe the face
3. Wipe the right hand with the left
4. Wipe the left hand with the right



Tayammum can be used for both minor ritual impurity and major ritual impurity. The method of performing it is the same for both states of impurity.

Things that nullify tayammum:

1. The same things that nullify wudhu' also nullify tayammum
2. If one is suddenly able to use water (i.e. water is found, or the danger of getting sick is no longer present), then tayammum is automatically nullified and the person needs to make wudhu'

Menstruation and Related Matters

وَيَسْأَلُونَكَ عَنِ الْمَحِيضِ ۚ قُلْ هُوَ أَذَىٰ فَأَعْتَزِلُوا النِّسَاءَ فِي الْمَحِيضِ ۚ وَلَا تَقْرُبُوهُنَّ
حَتَّىٰ يَطْهُرْنَ ۚ فَإِذَا تَطَهَّرْنَ فَأْتُوهُنَّ مِنْ حَيْثُ أَمَرَكُمُ اللَّهُ ۚ إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ وَيُحِبُّ
الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

“And they ask you about menstruation. Say, “It is harm, so keep away from your wives during menstruation. And do not approach them until they are pure. And when they have purified themselves, then come to them from where Allah has ordained for you. Indeed, Allah loves those who are constantly repentant and loves those who purify themselves” (2:222)

Hadith on Menstruation:

Narrated by ‘Aishah رضي الله عنها,

Fatimah bin Abi Hubaish used to have a prolonged flow of blood, so the Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: “If it is the blood of menstruation it will be dark (almost black) and recognizable (by women). If it is that then leave the prayer. If it is other than that, then make ablution and pray.” [Abu Dawood and An Nasa’i]

MENSTRUATION/POST NATAL BLEEDING

Characteristics

1. Dark in colour
2. Has an odour
3. Associated with pain

Prohibited Acts

1. Having sexual relations
2. Performing Prayers
3. Fasting
4. Tawaaf
5. Reading the Quran (Allowed under specific circumstances)
6. Touching the Qur'an
7. Entering the masjid

Time Period

1. Menstruation - depends on cycle of the female. The minimum cycle is 24 hours. The maximum cycle is 15 days. The usual cycle is 6-7 days.
2. Post Natal - 40 days maximum, and the minimum is one burst of blood.

ISTIHADHA

Blood that flows from a woman for reasons other than menstruation or post-natal bleeding (i.e. from a hemorrhage or vein)

CONCESSIONS

1. Permitted to join between the prayers (Dhuhr with Asr, Maghrib with Isha)
2. None of the things that are prohibited for the menstruating women or the women during post-natal bleeding are prohibited for the women who have istihadha.

Important Points:

1. When the cycle of menstruation or post natal bleeding ends, then a ghusl is required as purification.
2. If the female has doubt with regards to the period of her cycle, then she should (in order):
 - Go back to her regular routine as before
 - Try to distinguish between the types of blood
 - Follow the ruling of the females in her family



Prophetic Personal Cleanliness



The Prophet ﷺ said,

*“The fitrah (i.e. the natural pattern on which Allaah made mankind) is five things: circumcision, shaving the pubes, trimming the moustache, trimming the nails and plucking the armpit hairs”
(Bukhari and Muslim)*

1. Shaving the pubic hair
2. Removing the armpit hair
3. Trimming the moustache
4. Trimming the nails
5. Circumcision
6. Letting the beard grow (for men)
7. Using the Siwak (a type of toothbrush)

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“Siwaak cleanses the mouth and pleases the Lord” (Bukhari).

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“Were it not for the fact that I did not want to make things too hard for my ummah (nation), I would have commanded them to use the siwak at every time of prayer.” (Bukhari & Muslim)

8. Entering water into the nostrils and blowing out water.

The Prophet ﷺ said,

“Do wudhu properly, rub between the fingers and go to some lengths when rinsing the nose, unless you are fasting.” (Abu Dawood and Tirmidhi)

9. Washing in between the finger joints.

10. Cleaning the private parts (as mentioned in the Etiquettes of using the washroom/toilet section)

Important Note:

For the first four mentioned above, it is recommended that one performs these every week. The limit is 40 days, so within 40 days, these actions must be performed.

Anas ﷺ said,

“The Messenger of Allah ﷺ set a time limit for us to cut our moustaches, cut our nails, pluck our armpit hairs and shave our pubic hairs: we were not to leave it any longer than forty days.” (Reported by Ahmad, Muslim and al-Nisaa’i)



Glossary



سُبْحَانَكَ يَا مَنْ لَا يَلْبَسُ الْحُلَّةَ
Subhanahu Wa Taalaa –
Glorified and Exalted be He

سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَنْ لَا يَلْبَسُ الْحُلَّةَ
SalAllahu Alayhi Wa Sallam –
May Allah’s Peace and Blessings be upon him

سَلَامٌ عَلَيْكَ يَا مَنْ لَا يَلْبَسُ الْحُلَّةَ
Alayhis Sallam –
Peace be upon him

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْكَ يَا مَنْ لَا يَلْبَسُ الْحُلَّةَ
Radi Allahu Anhu –
May Allah be Pleased with him

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْكَ يَا مَنْ لَا يَلْبَسُ الْحُلَّةَ
Radi Allahu Anha –
May Allah be Pleased with her

رَضِيَ اللَّهُ عَنْهُمْ يَا مَنْ لَا يَلْبَسُ الْحُلَّةَ
Radi Allahu Anhum –
May Allah be Pleased with them



Fitrah: Natural Disposition

Ghusl: Shower/Bath following ritual impurity.

Purification According to Islam

Istihadha: Blood that flows from a woman other than menstration or post-natal bleeding.

Najas: Impurity, such as urine, feces or blood.

Salah: Prayer

Shahadah: Testimony of Faith, “La illaha illAllah Mohammadur Rasulullah”

Siwak: Type of toothbrush made from a twig.

Tahaarah: Purification

Tawaaf: Circumambulate the Ka’bah

Tayammum: Dry Ablution

Wudhu’: Ablution

NOTE: If you find any errors please notify us via email: info@newmuslimcare.com



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