



Under the Supervision of
Shaikh Azhar Iqbal (MZA)



Salah and Tarbiyah Q&A – Part 10

Age Group: Kids and Teens

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Salah Q&A

Q1: Before you have told me about the actions which invalidate or break the wudu. Are there any actions which don't break wudu but are still considered unacceptable (مكروه)?

A: Yes, the مكروبات of wudu are as follows:

- Using your left hand to put water in your mouth
- Washing your face with one hand without any excuse (عذر) or handicap
- Splashing water on your face with force while washing your face
- Using less than the necessary amount of water for sunnah wudu
- Using more than the necessary amount of water for sunnah wudu
- Talking while doing wudu
- Doing masah (keeping a wet hand) on the front part of your neck
- Pouring the remaining water of wudu in an impure (ناپاک) place
- Pouring the drops remaining from wudu in the water vessel from which you are doing wudu
- Leaving any sunnah of wudu



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Q2: Can small children come to the masjid?

A: Very small children (e.g., 2-3 years) who don't have the sense of keeping themselves clean should not be brought into the masjid. Small children who can keep themselves clean (e.g., 4-5 years) can come to masjid but should be supervised continuously by parents.

Q3: I have bought slippers dedicated for the masjid. Is that ok?

A: It is against the sanctity of masjid to wear slippers (چپل) inside masjid, even if they are slippers which are dedicated for masjid. Also, such an action is generally not considered respectable by the people. You can wear leather slippers which are called khuff in Arabic (خف) and mozay (موزے) in Urdu.

Q4: Oh! Well, I went for Umrah and there, I saw many men and women who were doing tawaaf in masjid-e-haraam with their slippers on.

A: This is completely wrong. It is against the sanctity of masjid-e-haraam or any masjid to wear slippers, even if they are dedicated for Masjid-e-Haraam.

- If your feet are injured and they might bleed or cause much pain if you don't wear slippers, then you can wear slippers.
- Even in this case, try to wear khuff (mozay) first. If your feet still bleed or cause pain, then wear slippers.

Q5: If I feel a need to spit while I am in masjid, what should I do?

A: Note below:



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- You are not allowed to spit inside the masjid in any place, e.g., near a back wall, or the place where you keep slippers.
- If it becomes extremely necessary, you can spit in bathroom or the place of ablution (وضوخانه)
- If this is not possible, then you can spit within a tissue paper silently.
- If you have developed a habit of spitting unnecessarily, then try to leave it.

Q6: I see several people who immediately leave the masjid as soon as the congregational jamaat finishes. Is this ok?

A: No, this is not ok. Note below:

- Islam recommends saying some supplications (azkaar) immediately after the obligatory Salah, e.g., saying astaghfirullah 3 times, 4th kalima etc.
- Your دعا is accepted after congregational prayers. So, make دعا
- It is also against adaab of masjid to hurriedly try to leave the masjid and possibly disturb others who are completing their Salah and doing zikar.

Q7: Am I allowed to talk about worldly things in the masjid?

A: Please note below:

- You do not come to masjid for the sake of talking about worldly matters. You come to masjid for worship.
- However, imagine that you are in masjid and you have offered your Salah and done zikar etc. You now have a need to talk about something important and necessary (ضرورى) to someone on a worldly matter. So, you can do that without disturbing anybody's worship in a low voice.



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- You cannot talk about things which are not allowed, e.g., telling false stories, vulgar or indecent talk etc.

Q8: Am I allowed to use the loudspeaker of masjid for making announcements?

A: Please note below:

- The loudspeaker of masjid is for saying Azaan and Iqaamah only.
- It has not been bought so that residents can start announcing whatever they want to announce
- However, if some person/child is lost, then for the sake of benefit to humanity, announcements can be made from the masjid's loudspeaker.

Q9: Can I sleep or eat in the masjid?

A: Please note below:

- Masjid is a place of worship – it is not a place to eat or sleep
- Only travelers and Motakifeen (معتكفين), i.e., those doing Aitekaaf, are allowed to sleep, eat, or rest in the masjid.
- If someone is not a traveler or a معتكف, then it is مكروه (disliked) to eat and sleep in masjid.

Q10: Ok but suppose I need to lie down for some time in masjid, or someone offers me food to eat. What should I do then?

A: Please note below:



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- Yes, there could be many occasions in which you need to eat or lie down/sleep in masjid.
- Whenever you enter the masjid, make an intention for aitekaaf as follows:

نويت سنت العتكاف - nuwaie tu sunnat al aitekaaf

- After making this intention, you can eat and sleep, but you need to be extremely careful that you do not dirty the masjid or disturb the worshippers in any way.
- Make sure you don't eat smelly things in the masjid, e.g., onions, garlic etc.

Q11: If there are pictures (of living things) on the wall of the masjid, is it ok for me to offer my Salah in this masjid?

A: Note below:

- If you offer your Salah in a masjid whose walls contains pictures of living things, then your Salah will become مكروه (disliked).
- The angels of blessings (رحمة) will not enter this masjid.
- The masjid administration should remove such pictures immediately – otherwise they will be sinning
- It is also not allowed to put up sceneries and pictures of other non-living things in masjid – masjid is not a scenic place – it is a place of worship.

Q12: Where should small children stand during the congregational salah with jamaat (جماعة)?

A: Please note below:



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- Small children should be attended by their parent/caretaker during jamaat
- The parent and the child should stand towards one of the sides of the saff/row (صف) of Salah
- Small children should not form their own saff behind the adults.
- If the parent is not there, then the child should stand alone towards any side of the row of adults.

Q13: Assume someone wants to spend some time in masjid in worship (e.g., 5 hours). He is a smoker. After 2 hours, he feels the need to smoke. He exits the area of masjid, smokes, and then comes back to worship. Is this fine?

A: Please note below:

- Smoking cigarettes is generally not considered a healthy, socially acceptable or beneficial activity.
- In other words, smoking carries many disadvantages
- In any case, if someone smokes and comes in masjid with unpleasant smell of cigarettes in his mouth, then this is مكروه تحريمي – i.e., it is extremely disliked in Islam and if you do it, then you will be sinning
- You should use toothbrush and miswaak so that the smell goes away
- Try to stop smoking.
- If you cannot, then make sure that there is no smell coming from your mouth.

Q14: Ok any other rights (حقوق) of the masjid?

A: Here they are:

- Go to masjid only for worshipping Allah



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- Make intention to build up your faith (ايمان) by worship in masjid
- Don't desert the masjid – make it alive with worship through Salah, recitation of Quran, zikr, sermons, learning and Tarbiyah etc.
- Always keep the masjid neat and clean – clean any dirt you see
- Perfume the masjid every Friday
- Don't come to masjid after eating smelly food, e.g., onions.

Q15: I entered the Masjid and saw some people doing zikr and some doing recitation of the Holy Quran. Should I say assalamoalaikum to them?

A: Please note below:

- You can say assalamoalaikum in low voice to people in masjid who are not currently worshipping and can hear you easily.
- If there are worshippers, do not say salaam in a loud voice on entering the masjid
- Rather say “السلام علينا وعلى عباد الله الصالحين” (salaam on us and on pious slaves of Allah)
- Don't go to the worshippers and start greeting them personally – this will disturb their worship.
- Please note that if people are just waiting for Salah and doing nothing else, even these people are worshipping (because waiting for Salah is also worshipping).

Q16: Can I talk a bit loudly in the masjid?

A: Note below:

- You are not allowed to talk loudly in the masjid because masjid is for worship – not for talking and conversation



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- If you talk loudly and disturb the worshippers, then you would be sinning
- If there are no worshippers, it is still discouraged to talk loudly.
- Also, see responses to the previous Q15

Q17: Why is there always a feeling of serenity and calmness in the Masjid?

A: Allah ﷻ sends His blessings on the masjid. There are also angels inside the masjid who are pious being who do not sin.

Q18: I want a secluded place in the Masjid where I can sit all alone with my Allah Taala and worship Him. Where should I sit?

A: Well, the whole masjid has been built for worship. You can sit anywhere you deem feasible. However, if you want seclusion, then you can search for some place towards the left or right side or in some corner which is not visited frequently.

Q19: In what ways can I worship my Allah Taala in Masjid or home?

A: Islam is Huqooq-Allah (rights of Allah) and Huqooq-al-Ibaad (rights of people). Everything within them is worship. But if you are talking about worship related to masjid, it is as follows:

- Offer Salah (obligatory, nafal)
- Do zikr
- Make دعا (supplication)
- Recite Quran
- Help in affairs of the masjid, e.g., cleaning the masjid
- Teach people or learn about Islam without disturbing any worshippers



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- Stand guard for some time (حراسة) for the sake of protecting the masjid.

Q20: I was once making دعا to Allah Taala in Masjid and started to shed tears. Then, I noticed some people looking at me. So, I stopped making دعا because I felt embarrassed. Was this ok?

A: No, this is not OK. Note below:

- The masjid is a place where you should definitely make دعا to Allah Taala with sincerity
- If you cry while making دعا, then this is a sunnah of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ - you are lucky that tears come to your eyes
- If you cry during دعا, then Allah ﷻ likes it because it makes you more sincere (عاجز) in front of Him
- There is no need to get influenced by people watching you – you should pay attention only to your دعا
- If people see you and they also start to cry during their دعا, then you will Insha'Allah get the reward for their دعا
- If shedding tears makes you proud of your imaan, then do istighfaar (7 times) after finishing your دعا
- Do not cry to show others – this will waste your action completely.

Q21: If I have the option to choose between doing zikr, reciting Quran and offering Nafal salah, what should I do first?

A: Islam strongly recommends Muslims to recite Quran and do zikr daily. Both are routines work for Muslims.

- So, start with Quranic recitation and then do zikr.
- Finally, offer Nafal salah.



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- But if the time of the Nafal salah is about to finish (e.g., daybreak is near and you want to pray Tahajjud), then you should offer Nafal first, then recite Quran and then do zikr.

Q22: I am a bit slow in doing things, so I always reach the congregational جماعت a bit late – is this OK?

A: No, this is not OK. This is a sign of weakness of faith and laziness in following religion.

Q23: So, what should I do?

A: Well:

- Make دعا to Allah ﷻ to give you the spiritual power to come for Salah on time
- Make a strong intention to always reach masjid on time.
- When you hear the azaan (آذان), then immediately start preparing for Salah. This will help you immensely to arrive on time.

Tarbiyah Q&A

Q1: Sometimes, I want to iron my clothes, and I iron them on the bottom side of my prayer mat (جانے نماز). Is this ok?

A: Yes, you can use your prayer mat as a base to iron your clothes. But as your prayer mat is dedicated and manufactured for worship of Allah ﷻ, it is better that you select some other cloth to use as base for ironing. Also, Muslims generally would not consider it a reasonable thing.



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Q2: Sometimes ants appear in my masjid. Can I use an insecticide?

A: Yes, you can insecticide to kill ants in masjid but try to ensure that the insecticide is not smelly. However, there are also other methods of driving away the ants – use them first.

Q3: My father pays the electricity bill of the masjid every month. So, I use the fans and AC of the masjid according to my desire. Is this OK?

A: No, this is not OK. Note below:

- If your father contributes to the masjid, his intention is to make Allah ﷻ happy. He would never like his money to be wasted on extra expenses.
- Allah ﷻ has prohibited us in the Quran from doing اسراف: spending more than what is necessary
- A masjid is Allah's ﷻ house and not my personal belonging – it is hence unethical to use its electricity according to your desires.
- It is hence unethical, inappropriate and a sin to use the resources of your masjid as you want.

Q4: OK, so what are the rules then of using electricity in the masjid?

A: Note below:

- If the masjid administration has specified rules for use of electricity (fan, light, AC etc.), then apply those rules
- Do not operate anything for the congregational Salah because there are dedicated people typically to switch on/off the lights/fans/AC/heater for this Salah.



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- For individual worship, see if you can sit beneath an already-running fan or light, this is best – it will save resources
- If not possible, then take permission from masjid admin and turn on the lights/fans yourself.
- Use as much light as is necessary and only a single fan.
- If there are different types of fans in masjid, use the one which consumes the least energy
- When you finish worshipping, turn off your lights/fans. This is essential.
- If you see any fan or light not being used, then turn it off immediately.

Q5: OK so what are the rules for usage of water in the masjid?

A: Note below:

- Prophet ﷺ has prohibited wasting water, even if one was performing ablution (wudu) from a flowing river [Ibn-e-Majah, 425]
- According to one Islamic ruling, using water to wash your body parts more than 3 times during the ablution is haraam.
- Be careful not to waste water during wudu or any other work
- Open the tap so that you get the necessary amount of water to do wudu properly – neither less, nor more
- If you see any tap dripping water, close it immediately and get it fixed if it is leaking due to a fault.
- If you see anyone wasting water, then explain gently to him that Prophet ﷺ has prohibited wasting water.

Q6: OK. I know Islam allows me to do tayammum if I am unable to find water for ablution. Can you tell me when I can do tayammum?



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A: You can do tayammum when you are unable to find water within 1 mile of your location, or you are 100% sure (from previous knowledge or from news given by other people) that there is no water available within 1 mile of your location.

Q7: OK but what if there is water available within 1 mile, and if I go and search for it, then I am sure the time for Salah will run out. What do I do then?

A: Note below:

- If you want to offer Salah Jinaaza or Salah Eid, then do tayammum and offer these salah.
- If you want to offer obligatory salah, then go and search for water. If the time runs out, then offer Qaza salah.

Q8: I am with tayammum and suddenly, I come to know that water is available to me within 1 mile. Will my tayammum remain?

A: No, if I come to know that water is available within 1 mile of my location, then my tayammum will be automatically broken.

Q10: Ok what if there is water available within 1 mile but I am not allowed to use it?

A: Note below:

- If any person/traveler has his personal water (within 1 mile), but he refuses to let you use it, then do tayammum and offer Salah.



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- If water is publicly available, but some administration is refusing to let you use it, or threaten to cause you harm if you use it, then do tayammum and offer Salah. However, you would need to re-offer this Salah when the water becomes available.

Q11: Ok what if someone is selling water?

A: If someone is selling water for more than the market price, then you can do tayammum. If the price is as per market, or less than that, then you should buy water and do ablution with it.

Q12: With which things can I do tayammum?

A: You can do tayammum with anything which is from the same substance (جنس) as the Earth (on which we walk), and this is traditionally pure and natural. For instance:

- Clean soil (مٹی)
- Sand (ريت)
- Dust (گرد)
- Stones (پتھر)
- Dry mud (سوکھا کیچڑ)
- Lime (چونا)

Q13: How to do tayammum?

A: The method is as follows:

- Say بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم



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- Make an intention for doing tayammum
- Strike the ground once with both hands together and then shake off the dust
- Run your hands over your face so that your hand touches every part of your face
- Again, strike the ground once with both hands together and then shake off the dust
- Then run your hands over both arms (first right arm with left hand and then left arm with right hand)
- Include your elbows in running your hands over your arms
- Then do khilaal (خلال) – running your fingers within each other.

Q14: Which types of Salah can I offer with tayammum?

A: Tayammum is a substitute of wudu. With wudu, you can offer سنه موكده, فرض, سنه غير موكده, and نفل. Similarly, all types of Salah can be offered with tayammum as well.

Q15: I did tayammum and offered Asar salah. Do I have to renew my tayammum for the Magrib salah?

A: No. You can offer Asar and Magrib with same wudu. Similarly, you can offer Asar and Magrib with same tayammum.

Q16: I go to school/college/university. Can you send me a daily schedule of how I should spend my time at home?



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A: Yes. Generally, you should **strike a balance** between the following tasks daily:

- Read Quran
- Do some zikr (ذکر) of Allah ﷻ morning and night
- Revise your schoolwork – do homework – prepare for exams
- Give time to your parents (Quran stresses respect for parents)
- Give time to your siblings
- Help others in household chores if needed (this is sunnah of Muhammad ﷺ)

Q17: How should I deal with my parents daily?

A: Note below:

- Tell them about your school day
- Ask their opinion on any problems or issues you are facing
- Offer them any help they want
- Listen to them respectfully when they talk with you.
- Do the household chores that they tell you to do.

Q18: I am a Muslim girl. My parents tell me not to do hijaab (حجاب) because hijaab will isolate me in my social circle. Should I stop doing hijaab?

A: Note below:

- Islam instructs you to obey your parents. But if parents are telling you do something against Islam, then you should not obey them in this case.
- The Quran has made it obligatory for Muslim women to do hijaab. If you don't do it, then you will be sinning (كُتِبَ عَلَيْهَا).



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- Not doing hijab might also lead to many other problems – remember that a disadvantage of sinning is that it may badly affect your worldly life as well as life of other people.

Q19: So, I should start doing hijab even though my parents are forcing me not to start doing it?

A: Yes.

Q20: What if my parents start to scold me on doing hijab?

A: Well, that's unfortunate for Muslims parents if they are stopping their child from following an obligatory order of Islam. Anyways, consider the following:

- You should listen to your parents' scolding very silently and not say a single word in return.
- When your parents are in a good mood, tell them lovingly and with respect that doing hijab is obligatory as the Quran says it – we must follow what the Quran says.
- Also, make **دعاء** to Allah ﷻ that your parents give you permission.

Q21: Ok. jazkaAllah khayr. Now tell me which Quranic verse contains the order for doing Hijaab?

A: It is verse 31 of Surah Al-Noor: *“And tell the believing women that they must lower their gazes and guard their private parts, and must not expose their adornment, except that which appears thereof, and must wrap their bosoms with their shawls, and must not expose their adornment”*



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Q22: You said above that not doing hijab will create other problems for me. What did you mean by that?

A: Well, the following can happen if you don't do hijab:

- As we told you earlier, you would be neglecting an obligatory command of the Holy Quran – hence, this would be a sin
- It will lessen your faith because modesty (حيا) is part of Islamic faith (as per hadith) – not doing hijab decreases modesty and hence, also your faith
- Islam gave respect to females due to their modesty – modesty is what makes females respectable. Not doing hijab decreases your modesty and hence, also your respect.

Q23: Oh ok. Now, one more thing. If I do hijab, would it stop boys or men from staring at me?

A: Well, hopefully yes. This is the reason hijab is important: it gives a silent message to those who have the bad sinning habit of staring at men. The message is: “I am showing my modesty by doing hijab so have some shame and stop staring at women”

Q24: That seems very logical to me. Now, also tell me what should I do when men make me uncomfortable by staring at me?

A: Well, just ignore them completely and pay no attention to them. If someone's stares disturb you too much, then tell him in a stern voice to have some shame and stop staring. You can also tell your father/brother or husband (if you are married) to talk to that man.



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Q25: How do I give time to my siblings?

A: Note below:

- Help them if they need assistance with anything, e.g., in studies or buying something from the market
- Care for them or show concern for them with respect to their study, social life, upbringing (tarbiyah) etc.
- Talk with them lovingly
- According to Islam, invite them to do good things and tell them to refrain from bad things.

والله اعلم بالصواب