

The Fundamentals of Fiqh



Chapter 2: *Taharah* (Purity)

Rizwan Hussain Al Azhari

In light of the Quran & Sunnah

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يُحِبُّ التَّوَّابِينَ وَيُحِبُّ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

‘Surely Allah loves those who repent and keep themselves clean’ (2:222)

الطُّهُورُ شَطْرُ الْإِيمَانِ

‘Cleanliness is half of faith’ (Muslim)

إِسْتَنْزَهُوا مِنْ الْبَوْلِ، فَإِنَّ عَامَّةَ عَذَابِ الْقَبْرِ مِنْهُ

“Beware of (smearing yourselves with) urine, because it is the main cause of punishment in the grave” . [Ad-Daraqutni]

What is Taharah?



Literally: Cleanliness

In Shariah: The removal of ritual impurity and dirt

Cleanliness is of 2 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.

How to achieve Cleanliness

1. Washing with water
2. *Tayammum* (using the earth-dust)

Types of water:



☞ The 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

Suitability for cleanliness



1. *Taahir Mutah-hir* (Purifying)

This is general water which is both clean per se and suitable for cleanliness.

2. *Taahir Ghair Mutah-hir* (Pure)

It is clean but unsuitable for cleaning purposes. E.g. fruit juice

3. *Najis* (impure)

Water contaminated by filth.

Najaasa (impurity)



In Shariah it refers to both **physical and ritual impurity**. There are two types of Najaasa:

1. *Najaasa Hukmiyyah*: Minor or major ritual impurity which necessitates either Wudu or Ghusl.
2. *Najaasa Haqiqiyyah*: Physical explicit impurity. e.g. Blood, urine or faeces. This is spit into a further two types:
 1. *Mughallazah*: caused by running blood, alcohol, vomiting with mouthful, flesh of dead animal, urine and faeces of men and haram animals.
 2. *Mukhaffafah*: like the urine of halal animals and horses.

Muslim Bathroom etiquette



☞ Some rules for reliving oneself are;

-Entering with the left foot and making dua '*Allahumma innee a'oozu bika minal khubuthi wal khabaa'iath*'.

-Exiting with the left foot and making dua '*Alhamdulillah illazi azhaba annil aza wa aafaanee*.' Or simply, '*Ghufranaka*'

☞ If out in the open, find an isolated place, out of sight.

☞ Keep body covered as much as possible

☞ Not to recite any part of the Quran or speak to someone, except in emergency. No replying to salaam nor praising Allah when sneezing.

☞ '*I'm in the toilet!*' – Makrooh tahrimi

☞ Always urinate when sitting down.

Istinjaa (removal of filth)



Istinjaa is the cleaning of filth pertaining to private parts with water or soft paper or stones.

It is **Makrooh Tahrimi** to do *Istinjaa* with either types of food or something respectable according to *sharia* like the right hand.

It also includes things that can harm the skin like glass as well as those things that provide benefit to man, jinn or animals like cotton, bones or grass (forage).

It is **Sunna Muakkadah** to perform *Istinjaa* after relieving oneself.

Some natural practices



- ☞ In Islamic terminology, they are referred to as *sunan al fitrah*. Some of them include;
- Not shaving the beard
 - Circumcision- removal of skin covering the front of the male genital organ
 - Clipping the nails and moustache
 - Shaving pubic and armpit hair

مِنَ الْفِطْرَةِ حَلْقُ الْعَانَةِ، وَتَقْلِيمُ الْأَظْفَارِ، وَقَصُّ الشَّارِبِ

"To shave the pubic hair. to clip the nails and to cut the moustaches short, are characteristics of the Fitra." (Bukhari)

Makrooh tahreemi (severely repugnant) to leave them for 40 days. Sunnah to remove every Friday