

CHILDREN AND MASJIDS

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "Save your masjids from children, insane people, trading, loud voice quarreling and the drawing of the sword." (Ibn Maja)

Children who do not know the masjid etiquette and have no idea of ritual cleanliness and uncleanness should not be allowed in the masjid.

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) says, "When the child is seven years old order him to perform prayer and when he is ten punish him for not praying."

It does not mean that when the child is seven years old he can pay due respect to the masjid. If he cannot do so he should not be brought to the masjid. The instructions and training for prayer can be given at home. If a child is seven years old and can show respect to the masjid and understands ritual cleanliness and uncleanness then he is allowed to come to the masjid.

ENTERING THE MASJID AFTER EATING ONIONS, GARLIC (OR SMOKING)

Házrat Muawia (R.A) narrates from his father that the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) forbid from two plants which are onions and garlic and said, "Whosoever eats them should not come near our masjid but if he is going to eat them then he should get rid of the smell by cooking them before hand." (Abu Dawud)

It is known from this hadith that one is not allowed to enter the masjid after eating something which creates an odour in the mouth.

When someone comes to masjid with an odour in the mouth he will trouble and distract the attention of the person standing next to him in the prayer which will result in him being sinful instead of receiving merits (Thawab). Further to this, Allah's angels who are in the masjids are troubled from people with odours in their mouths, clothes or body.

QUESTION & ANSWERS

The following questions and answers are taken from 'Fatawa Mahmoodia'. The answers were given by Mufti Mahmoodul Hasan Gangohi, who is a great Caliph of Hazrat Shiekhul-Hadith Moulanna Zakaria (R.A.)

Question : Is it permissible for a woman to drive?

The specified place for prayer in the house will not have the same status as a masjid because any Muslim is not allowed to come and perform prayer in that place without the permission of the owner of the house.

The women folk during the course of menses and puerperium (nifas), may make ablution and sit down in that place and remember Allah at the scheduled time of prayer and recite durood, do Istigfar (seek divine pardon for sins) etc. There by the habit of prayer will be maintained. The women folk can also perform I' tikaf in this place.

WORLDLY TALKS, READING THE QURAN AND DOING ZIKR LOUDLY IN THE MASJID

It is reported by Hazrat Hasan (b.p.u.h) that the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said, "A time will come upon the people when their talks in the masjid will be worldly, do not sit with them, Allah has no need for them."

Masjids are built to remember Allah and to recite the Holy Qur'aan. In other words it is to worship Allah. It is not a market or a public park.

The worldly talk that is permissible outside the masjid is not permissible inside, and the talk that is not permissible outside the masjid i.e. backbiting, lying, slandering will be extremely unlawful (Haram) in the masjid. It is stated in 'Fathul-Qadeer' that indulging in worldly talks in the masjid obliterates the deeds of forty days.

If a person does not sit down in the masjid to talk about worldly matters but incidentally talks about an important matter in a low tone then this is permissible. However it is desirable to refrain from this.

To read the Qur'aan loudly or to do zikr loudly is not permissible if it is causing disturbance to another person's prayer or to a person reciting the Qur'aan. (Shami Vol 1 Page 618)

It is a pity that people today are extremely negligent towards these regulations, they do not realise that this loud reading of theirs is disturbing others, despite this they consider their worship as being a work of merit (Thawab).

Similarly some people come and throw their belongings on the floor of the masjid with a bang, whereby the attention of the people indulged in prayer is diverted towards the noise, such an act is forbidden.

Once Hazrat Umar (R.A) was offering prayer when a man came with some belongings and with a loud bang placed them in front of the row and engaged himself in prayer. After finishing his prayer Hazrat Umar (R.A) punished that person and said, "You caused disturbance to other people's prayer."

We Muslims should ask ourselves as to how much we are abiding today to the rules concerning masjid and how lax we are with regard to this

May Allah guide us towards the straight path. Ameen.

When a person leaves his house to go to the masjid he should recite:

اللهم انى اسئلك بحق السائلين عليك وبحق ممشاى هذا لاني لم اخرج اشرا ولا بطرا ولا رياء ولا ستمه و خرجت اتقاء سخطك وابتغاء مرضاتك فاسئلك ان تعينى من النار وان تغفرلى ذنوبى انى لا يغفر الذنوب الا انت

'O Allah! I ask thee on behalf of the rights of the supplicators upon thee and on behalf of this walk of mine, for I have not come out in pride, nor boastfully, nor to be seen of men, nor for fame, but I have come out To save myself from thy anger and to seek thy good pleasure. I ask thee that thee save me from hell and pardon my sins, for non grants pardon from sins save thee.

While going to the masjid, one should walk with patience. He Should not run to engage himself in useless things.

THE SUNNAH METHOD OF ENTERING AND COMING OUT OF THE MASJID

Hazart ibn Umar (R.A) used to first put his right foot in the masjid when entering and while coming out he would first take the left foot out.

When entering the masjid one should send blessings upon the Prophet (P.B.U.H) and then recite:

اللهم اتحلى ابواب رحمتك

"O Allah open for me the doors of thy mercy

It has been narrated regarding some of the past saints that when they used to enter the masjid their faces used to turn yellow because of fear. Someone asked the reason for this The saint replied, "When you go the the royal courts, some kind of fear overcomes you and you make sure you do not do anything which is against the law or respect of the judge or the kings. So should we not have respect and fear of the creator of the courts and kings more than the creation."

It is stated in a Hadith of Mishkat that when one enters the masjid it is praiseworthy to perform two rakats of prayer before sitting down. They are known as Tahiyyatul Masjid.

When coming out of the masjid one should first take the left foot out and recite:

اللهم انى اسئلك من فضلك

'O Allah I beg Thee of Thy grace.'

MASJIDS IN THE HOUSES

Hazart Aisha (R.A) says, "The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) gave order to specify a place for prayer in the house and ordered that the place be cleaned and perfumed."

perform I'tikaf in the masjid, Islam is spread from a masjid. This person will receive the reward for all these good deeds that are performed in a masjid. Some scholars have said that if a man cannot afford to build a whole masjid, he can share the recompense by donating a sum of money.

THE MASJID IS A GARDEN OF PARADISE.

It has been reported from Hazrat Abu Huraira (R.A) that the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) said,

"When you pass through the gardens of paradise graze to your hearts content."

The companions asked,

"O Prophet of Allah! What are the gardens of paradise?"

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) replied,

"The masjids."

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) was asked,

"What is the meaning of grazing?"

The Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) answered

"Subhanallahi Wal Hamdu Lillahi .Wwala Ilaha ..Illallahu Wallahu Akbar.' (Mishkat page 70)

It is understood from this hadith that masajid are gardens of paradise from which one can obtain fruits without any obligation. Also it is understood that the fruits of the gardens if 'Subhannallahi Wal Hamdulillahi Wala Ilaha Illallahu Wallahu Akbar'. It is not necessary that only the zikr mentioned above be recited.

One can recite any zikr or perform superegatory (nafl) prayer. However, the Zikr should be recited in a very low voice so that a person who is performing prayer is not disturbed.

THE ETIQUETTE AND VIRTUE OF GOING TO THE MASJID

The royal courts and courts of law in this world have their own particular etiquettes which have to be adhered to when attended, Similarly the masjid which is the court of Allah, who created the kings and rulers, has its own etiquettes which have been taught by the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H).

Whenever you think of going to the masjids, first make your body and clothes clean, perform ablution and then go.

Once the Holy Prophet (P.B.U.H) asked, "Should I not inform you of an act by which Allah will pardon the sins and enhance the status?" Those present replied, "Certainly, O Prophet of Allah."

The Prophet (P.B.U.H) said,

"To perform ablution properly even though one finds it loath some, to go frequently to the masjid and to sit waiting for the next prayer after (performing) a prayer. This holds the same rank and status as safeguarding the border." (Muslim)

of Allah Muhammad S.A.W said to us the same thing what they were doing at the Earth Summit. He said "THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE TRAVELLING IN A SHIP THAT HAS TWO LEVELS. ONE GROUP WAS TRAVELLING ON THE UPPER LEVEL AND ONE GROUP WAS TRAVELLING ON THE LOWER LEVEL, EVERY TIME THE PEOPLE FROM THE LOWER LEVEL WANTS WATER THEY HAVE TO GO UPSTAIRS TO THE UPPER LEVEL, THESE PEOPLE SAID TO THEMSELVES WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER TO GO TO THE UPPER LEVEL AFTER ALL THE WATER IS IN OUR LEVEL ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS TO CUT A HOLE SOMEWHERE IN THE LOWERE LEVEL AND WE WILL GET ENOUGH WATER, BUT JUST THINK WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE PEOPLE IN THE UPPER LEVEL SHOULD IGNORE THEM AND LEAVE THEM TO THEMSELVES, •THEY WILL NOT ONLY DESTROY THEMSELVES, BUT THE SHIP WILL SINK AND BOTH THE PEOPLE FROM THE LOWER AND UPPER LEVELS WILL SINK ALONG WITH IT." So this is what we have today, we have to share the knowledge of Islam to the entire mankind, if we do this and the people will go back to the original manufacturers users and maintenance guide THE HOLY QUARAAN AND ACCEPT THE ILLUSTRATION OF THE TRAINED MANNUFACTURERS TECHNICIAN THE HADEETH OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD BLESSED BY ALLAH, ONLY THEN CAN MANKIND GET OUT FROM THE MESS WE ARE IN.

ADAAB OF MASAAJID

VIRTUES OF BUILDING A MASJID

Hazrat Usman (R.A) narrates that he heard the Prophet (P.B.U.H) saying "Whosoever builds a masjid for the sake of Allah , Allah will build a house for him in paradise." (Bukhari)

Just as the masjid excels all the houses in the world this house will excel all the houses in Jannah. (Paradise)

If a person builds a masjid with a pure intention i.e.

Solely to attain the pleasure of Allah, then he will continue receiving the reward as long as the masjid is used in this world. He will continue getting the merit for it because a masjid is built for the remembrance of Allah. So Prayer will be performed in the masjid, The Holy Quran will be recited in the Masjid, people will

engineer or the product? Surely we cannot justify blaming any of them, in fact, we will only have ourselves to blame, because we did not follow the makers guide, similarly if we have learnt to drive a car and someone was to give us a jumbo jet and say to us drive it, we will fail even if we have all the volumes of instruction books to follow. We will need an engineer to interpret the instructions. Similarly Allah S.W.T. has made us human beings in particular manner and we too have got our Manufactures Guide and maintenance book to follow our Maker and owner has even sent His trained technicians and engineers to us from time to time e.g., (to name but a few, ADAM, NOAH, IBRAHEEM, ISMAEEL, MOSES, JESUS AND MUHAMMAD may Allah bless them) when the condition of things changed around us. All the engineers or Technicians followed the same Makers guide until finally the Maker sent the latest and last edition, THE HOLY QURAAN with the last of His Technicians, THE HOLY PROPHET MUHAMMAD S.A.W. AND SINCE IT IS THE LAST USERS GUIDE HE HAS VOWED TO PROTECT IT FROM BEING CHANGED BY ANYONE, HE HAS MADE IT EASY TO MEMORISE EVEN BY CHILDREN FROM THE AGE OF SEVEN TO OLD PEOPLE AT THE AGE OF SEVENTY. This is why mankind has the Holy books of instructions and the prophets that comes along with is so that we can understand how to work this HUMAN MACHINERY which is the most complicated and complexed equipment that has ever been made. My brothers and sisters we need THE HOLY QURAAN, THE LAST AND ONLY ORIGINAL MANUFACTURERS GUIDE LEFT TODAY, AND THE EXPLANATION AND INTERPRETATION TO THE LAST TRAINED MANUFACTURER'S ENGINEER, THE HADEETH OF THE PROPHET MUHAMMAD S.A.W.

The learned professor went on to comment on the EARTH SUMMIT recently held in Brazil. He said this show that the world is truly in huge crisis, and the leaders and people in authority can see the writing on the wall and are desperated to find a solution before it comes too late, so they have decided to call the world together and see how they can tackle the problems TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM DESTRUCTION. But what about the most important thing, THE HUMAN RACE, man always seems to be putting the cart before the horse, why can't we sit down and discuss ways to save mankind from fighting, killing, stealing, drugs, violence racism, injustice, adultery, aids etc, These are the real issues we need to tackle more than anything, if we become good fathers, good husbands, good wives, good children and follow the laws of the Maker then whatever role we find ourselves in, we will do it with the torch light of our conscience and not hypocrisy, injustice, lies and deceit, whether we are President, Prime Minister, Judge, lawyer, Ploiceman, Doctor, Teacher etc. We will be compiled from within our consciences, we are not discussing who should be blamed or not to be blamed, we are just proving the reality of things. Do you know that over fourteen hundred years ago the last Messenger

and deceives him and makes him believe otherwise, he tries to make every excuse to go against his Nature but he cannot, if only man had the ability to change his nature then this world would have been destroyed a long time ago, This is why the Holy Prophet of Islam S.A.W. said "IF SOME ONE

WILL KNOW HIMSELF, HE WILL KNOW HIS CREATOR."

This now brings us to the question the world is asking today, "WHY ISLAM" Because Islam is the only way in existence today that deals with every aspect of life from birth to death, it even deals with life after death. How do we know this? Because it is there in the only preserved original manufacturers guide "THE HOLY QUR'AN" pick it up and you will see for yourself. Man is the only creation of its maker that has been given the ability to understand, Hence the reason the maker of Man gave him Al-Islam. (The Way).

The mistake we make is to interpret Islam to mean religion, but certainly it is not, it is the way of life, it is Nature.

How can one understand all of himself? The answer is in the Holy Qu'ran. Why the Holy Qu'ran? Because it is the only revealed book of its kind till today that has not changed, not even a single dot. No other book has got that quality although many of their text are still true, let me explain to you why mankind needs an original manufacturers guide that has not changed, some people will argue and say that we are living in a modern world so we have to change as the world changes, but who are the people telling us this? They are the same people who have been changing "the manufacturers users guide" to say they can improve on the creation of man, but we can see the result of their changes, the human Machinery is in total chaos, this is not that the world has changed, but it is a direct result of the changing of the manufacturers guide. Let me explain in some more details what I mean. If we look around us today we will see so many new items in the home, there is a T.V. Video machine, Dishwasher, Washing machine, Car, etc, All these things have its own Manufacturers and are designed to work in a special way, all these items come with a warranty and a "MANUFACTURERS HAND BOOK, OR USERS AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE" In order to get the benefit of what ever piece of equipment we are using we must first learn everything the manufacturer or maker says about the usage, e.g. the power supplies, The capacity etc, We like and leave out what we dislike. If we will do this and anything goes wrong, which is certain to happen, what will we have to say about the equipment we are using we must first learn everything the manufacturer or maker says about the usage, e.g. the power supplies, the capacity etc. we like and leave out what we dislike. If we will do this and anything goes wrong, which is certain to happen, what will we have to say about the equipment. Are we going to blame the maker, the engineer or the product? Surely we cannot justify blaming any of them, in fact, we will only have ourselves to blame the maker, the

Commentary

Man's Circumstances do not always remain the same. They vary from time to time. It is, therefore, proper that we make the aptest use of the conditions of ease and well being that were available to us and did what ever we could for the attainment of the good pleasure of the Lord. Who knows what tomorrow will bring and whether we will be able to perform good deeds or not.

In fine, every moment of life should be regarded as a respite we will bring and whether we will bring and whether granted by Allah and no pains should be spared to make the best use of it.

WHY ISLAM

Canadian Professor, Scientist, World renown scholar of Islam Author of several books international champion of comparative religion and canadian TV host Dr. Jammal Badaawi had the packed audience of his lectures during his short visit to London in the month of Moharram attentive and speechless when he asked them the question "Why Islam?"

The professor from the Halifax University in Toronto chose his words so beautifully and eloquently as he explained the answer to his question, Why does the world needs Islam?

Most politicians, leaders and people in authority today realised that in order to rescue the world and mankind from the situation we are in now, needs some kind of True and Just system, and they are looking for it, They are so obsessed and possessed with this idea that they have given up on finding it on earth and with mankind, They now believe that they can find it in some other world and with some other creation. Hence the reason they are spending Billions and billions of Dollars every year to send man to the Moon, Mars, Venus and any where but earth.

He is so blind with himself that he cannot realise the system he is looking for is so close to him and does not cost him anything It is free.

Man's ability to exercise TRUTH and JUSTICE is one of the special NE'MAH (Favours) taht his Creator and Maker has given to him, It is in his nature, His Nature Commands him to be Honest, Sincere, Forgiving, and to do Justice even is it be against himself, but because all this is called "ISLAM" , "THE WAY" TRUTH AND JUSTICE", SUBMISSION" He rejects it and discards it, he treats it with scorn and contempt. Man is so scared that once he understands his Nature he will be understanding ISLAM. He will not be permitted to Deceive, Lie, Cheat, Murder , Steal, Backbite, Slander, Rape, commit adultery, abuse his authority, abuse his wife and children, neighbours and friends etc. Every human being follows Islam knowingly and unknowingly, but his Mind misleads

It is related by Abu Dharr Ghifaari (R.A) that the Apostle of Allah (P.B.U.H) said: "He became fortunate and successful whose heart Allah set aside for faith and made it safe and sound [i.e., whom He blessed with faith so pure and untainted that not an iota of doubt or hypocrisy could enter his heart and protected it against the spiritual maladies like envy and ill will, and whose tongue He endowed with truthfulness, and in most self with serenity [i.e, Whose soul was such that it derived solace from the remembrance of Allah and the things that were pleasing to him], and whose natural disposition He put right and free from weaknesses [so that it did not tend towards sin], and whose ear He made fit to hear and eyes He made fit to see [i.e., who could hear the truthful word of Allah and see His signs and take warning and draw lessons from them] Thus, the ear is like the funnel [Through which things go into the heart as the liquid is poured into a bottle], and the eye is the conveyor and stabilizer of things which it entrusts to the heart. And blessed, indeed, is the man whose heart the Lord made capable of remembering."

Musnad-i-Ahmed and Bayhaqi

Commentary

What has been said about the ears and eyes in the concluding part of the above Tradition is to underline the importance of the part the two organs play in the life of a man. Whatever reaches the heart which, so to speak, is the monarch in the human body, and affects it, is generally, through the ears and the eyes. Consequently, the success and salvation of the bondsman is dependant on the ability and fitness of his eyes and ears to see and hear.

The last sentence denotes that even though the things of success and good fortune reach a man's heart through the eyes and ear, salvation and felicity in the Hereafter cannot be attained unless the heart is capable of preserving and making proper use of them.

In the Qur'aan the three faculties of seeing, hearing and understanding have been mentioned, from place, in a way as if man's guidance and deliverance was contingent on their soundness.

Amr Ibne Maymoon Awdi reports that the Apostle of Allah (P.B.U.H) said to a man while he was admonishing him:

"Realise the value of five states before the other five states come to pass and make full use of them:

- (a) Realise the value of youth before old age;
- (b) Realise the value of health before you fall ill;
- (c) Realise the value of wealth before poverty sets in;
- (d) Realise the value of leisure before occupation; and
- (e) Realise the value of life before death.

7. He taught man the use of pen and imparted him the knowledge which he could never attain to without the benevolence of God.

As a matter of fact man cannot gain the true knowledge without God's grace. Although man has been granted a very scanty knowledge, even then it is the gracious conferment of Allknowing and All-Wise Allah who brought man out of the darkness of sheer ignorance into the luminosity of knowledge.

LESSONS FROM HADEETH

**Some Important Exhortation of the Prophet sallallahu
alayhi wasallam**

**By
Maulana Manzoor Nu'maanni**

It is related by Abdullah Ibne Amr (R.A) that the Apostle of Allah (P.B.U.H) said: "Four things and habits are such that if you possess them then there is no harm if the world [and its blessings] are lost or do not come to [your] hand. [These are]:

- (1) safe-keeping of trust; (2) truthfulness in speech;
- (3) good manners; and (4) caution and abstinence in food"

Musnad-i-Ahmad and Bayhaqi

Commentary

The word 'trust' is used in a very wide sense in the terminology of Islam. It includes the fulfilment of the rights of Allah and of men as well as the carrying out of covenants and promises. Thus, a person who is trust worthy, i.e., who fulfils the rights of Allah as well as of men honestly and is truthful when he speaks and possess good manners and noble qualities of mind and character and exercises self-restraint in food and drink and does not over eat or partake of things that are forbidden or of a doubtful nature is, positively a very fine specimen of humanity . He is not only a perfect man in this world but in the neverending life of the hereafter, too. Such exceptional favours will be conferred upon him that each one of them will be more valuable than all the blessings of the world put together. If a man like him remains poor in the earthly existence, he should not grieve for what he has is far superior to all that the world has to offer.