

## WUḌU (Ablution)

### Importance, Excellence, and Method

*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.*

[Al-Mai'dah: 6]

### Importance

**Performing ablution is half of faith:** Narrated Abu Malik al-Ash'ari رحمته الله that the Messenger of Allah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said: Performing ablution properly is half of faith...[Sunan ibn Mājah: 280]

**Prayer is invalid without ablution:** The Messenger of Allah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said: The prayer of a person who does not perform ablution is not valid, and the ablution of a person who does not mention the name of Allah (in the beginning) is not valid. [Sunan Abī Dāwūd: 101]

**Protection of ablution is sign of faith:** Narrated Thawban رحمته الله that the Messenger of Allah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said:...none protect their wuḍu except a true believer. [Musnad Aḥmad: 22378]

**Performing ablution is sign of Muslim:** Ibn Umar رحمتهما الله narrates from his father, who narrates from the Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم regarding question of Jibrīl which he asked regarding Islam. The Prophet صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم answered, 'Islam is to testify that there is no deity worthy of worship except Allah and that Muhammad is the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) and to establish Ṣalah, to pay Zakah, to perform the Ḥajj and `Umrah, to take a complete bath from major impurities, to complete the wuḍu, and to fast in the month of Ramaḍan.' Jibrīl then asked, 'If I do these acts, am I then a Muslim?' He replied, 'Yes'. [Ṣaḥīḥ al-Targhīb wa al-Tarhīb: 175]

**Ablution of all Prophets:** Narrated Anas bin Malik رحمته الله that the Messenger of Allah صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم called for water and performed ablution once. He صلی اللہ علیہ وسلم said: 'The ablution of one who, if he does not perform this ablution, Allah will not accept his prayer.' Then he performed ablution washing

each part twice, and he said: 'This is the ablution of one who, if he performs it, Allah will give him two shares of reward.' Then he performed ablution washing each part three times, and said: 'This is my ablution and the ablution of the Messengers who were sent before me.' [*Silsilah al-ṣaḥīḥah*: 261]

**Complete Ablution:** Narrated Rafa'ah bin Rafay رضي الله عنه that he was sitting near Prophet ﷺ and he ﷺ said: No person's prayer is complete until he performs ablution properly as Allah has commanded him, washing his face, his arms up to the elbows, wiping his head and his feet up to the ankles. [*Sunan ibn Mājah*: 40]

**Praying without ablution:** Narrated `Abdullah ibn Mas'ūd رضي الله عنه that the Prophet ﷺ said: 'It was ordered that one of the slaves of Allah be flogged in his grave with one hundred lashes, but he kept asking until it was reduced to a single blow. So he was given a single blow, then his grave was filled with fire. When he came round, he said: 'Why did you flog me?' It was said to him: 'You offered one prayer without being *tāhir*, and you passed by one who was being wronged and did not help him.' [*Silsilah al-Ṣaḥīḥah*: 2774]

**Attribute which takes to Jannah:** Narrated Aisha رضي الله عنها that the Prophet ﷺ said: 'There are six characteristics, if a Muslim adopts one of them till his death then Allah guarantees Jannah for him .....(One of them is that) when a person performs ablution, he perfects it and then goes the masjid to offer prayer. If he dies in this state then Allah is the guarantor for him (for Jannah).' [*Silsilah al-ṣaḥīḥah*: 3384]

## Excellence

- ♦ Ablution purifies from apparent and hidden impurities and a person is cleansed of all minor sins. [*Ref. Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 1930]
- ♦ What was seen of sins by the eyes and committed by the hands and feet are washed away with the water. [*Ref. Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 577]
- ♦ If a person performs ablution in the manner prescribed by Allah, all his previous minor sins will be forgiven. [*Ref. Ṣaḥīḥ Al-Jam' al-Ṣaghīr*: 6172]

- ♦ If anyone performs ablution and offers two units of prayer seeking the pleasure of Allah then all his past sins will be forgiven. [Ref. *Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhari*: 159]
- ♦ The supplication of a person who performs ablution before going to bed and then upon waking up during the night asks for any goodness of this world and hereafter will be accepted. [Ref. *Silsilah al-Ṣaḥīḥah*: 3288]
- ♦ The three knots tied by satan in the human body are untied for the one who gets up early in the morning, performs ablution and then prays Ṣalah; thus making a person be energetic and pleasant. [Ref. *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 1819]
- ♦ Angels pray for the forgiveness of the one who performs ablution. [Ref. *Silsilah al-Ṣaḥīḥah*: 2539]
- ♦ Performing the ablution perfectly despite difficulty and displeasure is equal to guarding the borders. [Ref. *Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 587]
- ♦ The Prophet ﷺ will recognize his *Ummah* (near *al-Hawd al-Kawthar*) from the traces of ablution. [Ref. *Silsilah al-Ṣaḥīḥah*: 3526]
- ♦ Body parts on which ablution is performed will shine on the Day of Judgment. [Ref. *Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhari*: 136]
- ♦ Body parts on which ablution is performed will be adorned with ornaments on the Day of Judgment. [Ref. *Silsilah al-Ṣaḥīḥah*: 252]
- ♦ Allah is the guarantor of the one who dies in a state of ablution. [Ref. *Silsilah al-Ṣaḥīḥah*: 3384]

## Method

1

**Intention:** Intention is in the heart.

The reward of deeds depends upon the intentions and every person will get the reward according to what he has intended. [Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhari: 1]

2

**Tasmiyyah:** Start ablution with Bismillah.

- ♦ There is no wuḍu for one who does not mention Allah's Name over it. [Sunan al-Tirmidhī: 25]

In the name  
of Allah

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ

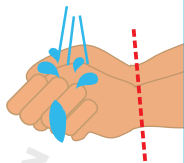


3

**Washing both the Hands** up to the wrists and wash between the fingers.

◆ `Uthman رضي الله عنه asked (for a tumbler of water) to perform ablution. Then he poured water from it over his hands and washed them...then he said: 'I saw the Prophet ﷺ performing ablution like this.' [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukharī*: 164]

◆ When performing wuḍu wash between the fingers of your hands and (toes of) your feet. [*Sunan al-Tirmidhī*: 39]



4

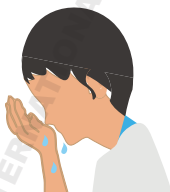
**Rinsing the mouth and cleaning the nose:** Use the right hand to take water to the mouth for rinsing and inhaling water into the nostrils; and use left hand to clean the nostrils.

◆ `Abdullah bin Zaid رضي الله عنه narrated about the ablution of the Prophet ﷺ...He ﷺ rinsed his mouth with three handfuls of water, inhaled water into his nostrils and then blew it out. [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukharī*: 192]

i



ii



iii



5

**Washing the Face** from right ear to the left and from the hairline to the chin.

◆ Uthman رضي الله عنه asked (for a tumbler of water) to perform ablution...then he washed his face thrice and said 'I saw the Prophet ﷺ performing ablution like this.' [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhari*: 164]



6

**Wiping between the beard** such that the roots get wet.

◆ Whenever the Messenger of Allah ﷺ performed ablution, he took a handful of water, and putting it under his chin, made it go through his beard, saying: 'Thus did my Lord command me.' [*Sunan Abī Dāwūd*: 145]

7

**Washing hands including arms:** Wash first the right arm up to the elbow and then the left.

♦ Narrated Na'eem bin Abdullah Mujmar رحمته الله: I saw Abu Hurairah رضي الله عنه performing ablution. He washed his face and washed it well. He then washed his right hand including a portion of his arm. He then washed his left hand including a portion of his arm. At the end of the ḥadīth, the narrator says: 'This is how I saw Allah's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم perform his ablution.' [*Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 579]

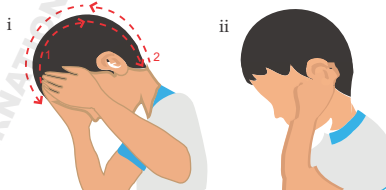


8

**Wiping the head and ears** with both hands.

♦ Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم passed his wet hands over his head from its front to its back and vice versa, beginning from the front and taking them to the back of his head up to the nape of the neck and then brought them to the front again from where he had started. [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī*: 185]

♦ Narrated Ibn 'Abbas رضي الله عنه that: The Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وسلم wiped his ears, put his forefingers in his ears and wiped the back of them with his thumbs, so he wiped them inside and out. [*Sunan ibn Mājah*: 439]



9

**Washing both feet** - first the right and then the left foot; and also wash between the toes.

♦ Narrated 'Abdullah bin 'Amr رضي الله عنه: Once Allah's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم remained behind us in a journey. He joined us while we were performing ablution for the 'Asr prayer, the time for which was soon to end. We were just passing wet hands over our feet (not washing them properly) so the Prophet صلى الله عليه وسلم addressed us in a loud voice and said twice or thrice, 'There is punishment of fire for dry heels.' [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī*: 96]

♦ Ibn 'Abbas رضي الله عنه narrated: Allah's Messenger صلى الله عليه وسلم said: When performing wuḍu, wash between the fingers of your hands and (toes of) your feet. [*Sunan al-Tirmidhī*: 39]



## Masnūn Supplication after Ablution

Narrated `Umar bin Khattab رضي الله عنه: The Messenger of Allah ﷺ said: ‘There is no one among you who does wuḍū; and does it well, then says,

أَشْهَدُ أَنْ لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ،  
وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ مُحَمَّدًا عَبْدُهُ وَرَسُولُهُ

*Ash-hadu a(n)l lā ilāha ill-Allahu waḥdahū lā sharīka lahu, wa ash-hadu anna Muḥammadan `abduhu wa rasūluhu.*

I bear witness that there is no deity except Allah alone, with no partner or associate, and I bear witness that Muhammad is His slave and Messenger,

اللَّهُمَّ اجْعَلْنِي مِنَ التَّوَّابِينَ وَاجْعَلْنِي مِنَ الْمُتَطَهِّرِينَ

*Allahummaj `alnī minat tawwābīna waj `alnī minal mutaṭahhirīna.*

O Allah make me one of those who repent and make me one of those who purify themselves,

but the eight gates of Paradise will be opened for him and he will enter through whichever one he wants.’

[*Sunan al-Tirmidhī*: 39]

## Factors which Nullify Ablution

- ◆ The ablution is nullified if a person discharges anything from the two passages. [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī*: 269, 135, 137], [*Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 804, 805]
- ◆ Deep sleep, numbness/unconsciousness, intoxication. [*Sunan Abī Dāwūd*: 203], [*Sunan ibn Mājah*: 439]
- ◆ Touching the private parts without any screen. [*Sunan Abī Dāwūd*: 181], [*Sunan al-Tirmidhī*: 82], [*Musnad Aḥmad*: 8404]
- ◆ Sexual Intercourse. [*Ref. Al-Nisa*: 43]
- ◆ When ghusl becomes obligatory i.e., the state of *janabah* and menstruation etc. [*Ṣaḥīḥ al-Bukhārī*: 293]
- ◆ Eating camel's meat. [*Ṣaḥīḥ Muslim*: 802]
- ◆ After washing the deceased. [*Mughni Li Ibn Qadāmah*: 141]



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7 A.K. Brohi Road H-11/4 Islamabad

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