



MUSIC AND DANCING

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 2



Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Know the brief reasons why music is Ḥarām
- Understand the things that make music Ḥarām
- Know the rules of dancing for men and women in brief

Music and Dancing

Some music is allowed and it is okay for us to listen to it. Some children's songs (like the Wiggles or nursery rhymes) are okay to listen to. Doing 'dances' like the 'hokey pokey' is also okay, because this is not really dancing.

However, there is some music and dancing which is ḥarām.

WHY IS SOME MUSIC ḤARĀM?

When something is ḥarām, it means that we are not allowed to do it. For example, we are Muslims that are not allowed to listen to music & Allah (SWT) will not be pleased with us if we do things that are ḥarām.

Allah (SWT) will only make something ḥarām for us because it is not good for us. Listening to some types of music has a bad effect on us. Just like old rotten food is bad for our bodies, listening to ḥarām music is bad for our hearts and souls. It distracts us, does not let us think straight and can cause us to do certain bad things.

Our fifth Imam, Imam Muḥammad al-Bāqir (as) has said:

“Music is among the things for which Allah (SWT) has promised the fire (of Hell)”

This means that if we listen to music, which is not allowed (ḥarām) then we will displease Allah (SWT) and will be punished by going to the hellfire.

Sometimes when you are at school you may see your friends listening to music, singing songs and dancing; however you should not copy them if these are ḥarām songs and dancing. Always remember that if we do copy them then Allah (SWT) will not be happy with us. At other times, we may be watching TV when some music comes on. What should we do when this happens? We should immediately mute the TV as it is ḥarām to listen to it. We wouldn't want to displease Allah (SWT) by listening to it!

DANCING

Remember that doing some movements like the 'hokey pokey' is not really dancing and is okay. But other types of dancing that is sometimes shown on TV being done by adults is ḥarām. This is because it is not respectful to our bodies. It may also lead us to commit sin.