

# WUDU', GHUSL AND TAYAMMUM

## الوضوء و الغسل و التيمم

### Objectives >>>

#### Students should:

- Learn how to perform *WUDŪ'* by watching a video demonstration
- Learn when it is necessary or recommended to perform *WUDŪ'*
- Know the invalidators of *WUDŪ'*
- Understand other general rules of *WUDŪ'*
- Know the method of performing Ghusl
- Know the main situations where Ghusl is obligatory
- Learn when it is necessary to perform Tayammum
- Learn what substances can be used for Tayammum
- Learn how to perform Tayammum

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 4

### LESSON 1: A PRACTICAL LESSON ON *WUDŪ'*

#### Practical Activity

Your teacher will take you to the nearest washrooms. There, each of you should demonstrate *Wudū'* to your teacher. Your teacher will assess you on the *Wājib* and *Mustaḥab* aspects of *Wudū'*.

### LESSON 2: THE RULES OF *WUDŪ'*

#### WHEN DO WE NEED TO PERFORM *WUDŪ'*?

It is *Wājib* to perform *Wudū'*:

- Before all obligatory prayers (except for *Ṣalātul Mayyit*)
- Before we touch the script of the *Qur'ān* in Arabic
- Before we touch the names of Allah
- Before performing *Tawāf* in *Ḥajj*

It is recommended to perform *Wudū'*:

- Before we touch the names of the the Prophets and Ahlul Bayt
- Before any act of worship, such as reading the *Qur'ān* or *du'ā'*
- Before sleeping
- All the time

## CONDITIONS OF WUDŪʿ

When we are about to perform *Wuḍūʿ*, we need to remember the following rules:

1. The water we use and the place we are doing *Wuḍūʿ* in need to be *Mubāḥ*- this means that we must have permission to use them.
2. Water (not any other liquid) must be used. The water must also be *ṭāhir*
3. Before we start *Wuḍūʿ*, the parts of our body which we will wash or wipe during *Wuḍūʿ* must be *ṭāhir*.
4. A person has to do *Wuḍūʿ* for themselves without help from anyone, unless they are disabled.
5. We should do the different parts of *Wuḍūʿ* without leaving a significant gap. A good way to understand this is that the previous parts of the body (e.g. face) should not dry before we wash the next part (arm). Of course, there are exceptions to this such as on very hot days.
6. We must make sure to perform the actions of *Wuḍūʿ* in the correct order.
7. It is important to remember that we are allowed to wash our face and arms a maximum of two times during *Wuḍūʿ*. As for wiping the head and feet, this can only be done once.

## THINGS WHICH INVALIDATE WUDŪʿ

There are seven things that make *Wuḍūʿ* void. If any of these occur, a person must renew their *Wuḍūʿ* before they can do something that requires *Wuḍūʿ*.

These seven things are:

- Urinating
- Defecating
- Passing wind from the rear
- Sound sleep (in which one cannot hear anything)
- Situations in which a person loses his senses e.g. insanity, intoxication or unconsciousness. A common example would be fainting or going under an anaesthetic for an operation.
- Menstruation (in women only)
- Discharge of semen (for example after a wet dream or after sexual intercourse)

## GENERAL RULES

- It is important to understand that *Wuḍūʿ* can be performed with very little water – even half a glass of water is sufficient, as it takes only about a handful of water for each act of washing.
- When performing *Wuḍūʿ* with tap water, it is recommended that you close the tap after each act, while you wash/wipe, so as to avoid wasting water.
- You should not delay or miss your prayers because of not having access to water – as there is an alternative to this called *Tayammum* which we will discuss in the next few lessons.
- If a person is about to pray but is not sure whether they have performed *Wuḍūʿ* or not, they must perform *Wuḍūʿ* before praying.
- If a person is certain they have performed *Wuḍūʿ*, but are now not sure if it has become void or not, they should assume that their *Wuḍūʿ* is still valid. Even if a person doubts whether their *Wuḍūʿ* has become void during prayer, they should continue their prayer and complete it.

## Review Questions

**Q1. Which of the following voids *WUDŪʿ*?**

- a) Light sleep
- b) Complete sleep in which one cannot hear anything
- c) Sleep does not void *Wuḍūʿ*

**Q2. When performing *WUDŪʿ*:**

- a) We should use lots and lots of water
- b) We should use as little water as possible
- c) Using lots of water for *Wuḍūʿ* is not considered waste

**Q3. The water used for *WUDŪʿ* must be:**

- a) Plain (mutlaq)
- b) *Ṭāhir*
- c) Both a & b

## Lesson 3: Ghusl

In this lesson, we will learn about the rules of Ghusl. Ghusl is another way of cleaning ourselves and is *wājib* in certain situations.

### HOW DO WE PERFORM GHUSL?

There are two ways of performing Ghusl. The most common way of performing Ghusl is the following:

- Make sure the body has been washed from any impurity or barrier that would block water
- Make the intention of performing Ghusl to become pure for the sake of Allah, the Exalted
- Wash the head and neck, making sure water reaches every part.
- Wash the right side of the body completely; making sure the water reaches every part.
- Wash the left side of the body completely; making sure the water reaches every part. Note: According to some scholars (including Sayed Sistani) there is no need to wash the right side before the left. One can wash the head and neck first, then the rest of the body.
- Remember that water must reach every single part of the body.

Remember that just 'having a shower' is not enough. We must have the intention of Ghusl and we must perform Ghusl according to the steps above.

### WHEN DO WE PERFORM GHUSL?



One of the common types of Ghusl is Ghusl Janābah. This is a Ghusl we must perform if we enter the state of Janābah. A person enters the state of Janābah in one of two ways:

1. **Sexual intercourse**
2. **Discharge of semen**, with lust or not, voluntarily or involuntarily, and awake or asleep. This includes a wet dream and ejaculation through masturbation (haraam act).

Once a person enters a state of Janābah by any of these means, they must perform Ghusl in order to offer prayers and other acts of worship.

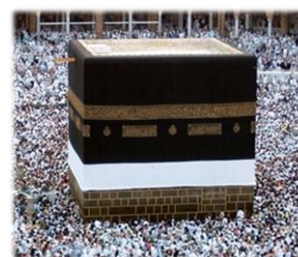
There are also situations where Ghusl is recommended (*mustaḥab*). The most common reasons for this are:

- Friday Ghusl: it is recommended to perform Ghusl on Friday morning- this has the effect of washing many of our sins away
- Ghusl on special days or nights of the year: such as the two 'Īds and Laylatul Qadr

### ACTS THAT ARE FORBIDDEN FOR A PERSON IN THE STATE OF JANĀBAH

Once someone enters the state of Janābah, certain acts become forbidden to them because of the state of impurity. This impurity can only be removed by Ghusl (or Tayammum depending on circumstances). The forbidden acts are four

1. Touching the script of the Qurān, and touching the names of Allah, no matter what language they are written in. It is better not to touch the names of the prophets and Ahlul Bayt as well.
2. Entering Masjidul Ḥarām (in Mecca) or Masjidul Nabi (in Medina) including passing through one gate and exiting another



3. Staying in a mosque or entering it to put something in it or take something out of it
4. Reciting the verses of the Quran in which Sajdah is obligatory.



## Review Questions

### Q1. How does one enter into a state of Janābah?

- a) Sexual intercourse only
- b) Wet dream only
- c) Sexual intercourse or any discharge of semen

### Q2. Can I touch the script of the Holy Qurʾān if I am in a state of Janābah?

- a) No
- b) Yes
- c) Yes, but it is much better not to

### Q3. Which ayāt of the Qurʾān am I not allowed to recite if I am in the state of Janābah?

- a) All of them
- b) The ones with obligatory sajdah
- c) None of them

## Lesson 4: Tayammum

In previous years, we have learnt that Tayammum is another way of purifying ourselves for acts of worship. Tayammum is basically purification with soil rather than water and is a substitute for *Wuḍūʿ* or Ghusl when one cannot perform *them* for some reason. In this lesson, we will discuss in more detail the situations in which Tayammum becomes obligatory. We will also quickly review the method of performing Tayammum as well as the things that we can perform Tayammum with.

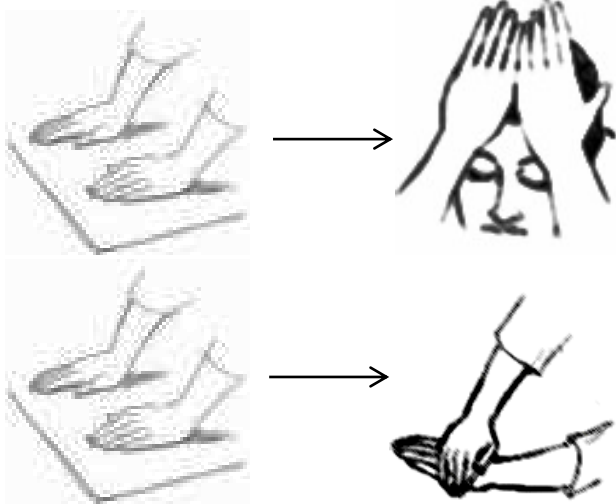
## PERFORMING TAYAMMUM



The method of performing Tayammum is very easy. It is outlined in the following steps:

1. Remove any barriers that may stop the dust of Tayammum reaching the hand or forehead (e.g. rings). Also, if there is any impurity on these areas, it should be purified.
2. One must make the intention (*niyyah*) of performing Tayammum for the sake of Allah. As you know by now, this need not be said out loud, you simply need to know in your mind what you are doing and why.
3. One must strike both palms together on the object which they are using to perform Tayammum.
4. The entire forehead should be stroked or wiped with the palms of both hands, from where the hair begins to grow down to the eyebrows (passing the palms over the eyebrows is recommended) and just above the nose. Start from the top and wipe downwards towards the eyebrows.
5. (Recommended step): Strike the hands on the object of Tayammum again
6. Stroke the left palm over the whole back of the right hand and then stroke the right palm over the whole back of the left hand. Start from just above the wrist and make sure the whole back of the hand is wiped. However, you do not need to wipe between the fingers. Start from the wrist and wipe towards the tips of the fingers.

When striking the hands on the object of Tayammum, particles of the object should stick to the hands (where possible) and after striking, one should not shake off all those particles from the hand.



## OBJECTS OF TAYAMMUM

The following objects can be used for Tayammum, in descending order of preference:

1. Earth (the soil from the earth)



2. Sand



3. Lumps of clay or stone



## SITUATIONS WHERE TAYAMMUM IS INDICATED

The following are some of the situations where Tayammum becomes obligatory:

1. When it is not possible to procure enough water for *Wuḍūʻ* or *Ghusl*.
  - A person should first do their best to search for water in the place where they are. If they cannot find water, they need to then perform Tayammum.
2. Lack of access to water due to Special Circumstances
  - If a person is unable to get water on account of old age or weakness, or fear of a thief or a beast, or because he does not possess means to draw water from a well, he should perform Tayammum.
3. When water is harmful
  - If a person is certain or has a reasonable fear that if he uses water his life will be endangered, or he will suffer from some ailment or physical defect or make his illness worse, he should perform Tayammum.
4. When the time for prayer is running out
  - If there is very little time left for prayer and it takes less time to perform Tayammum than it would to perform *Ghusl* or *Wuḍūʻ*, one should perform Tayammum

## Review Questions

**Q1. The best object to use for Tayammum is:**

- a) Soil from the earth
- b) Clay
- c) Sand

**Q2. If I have an illness and my doctor tells me that doing *Wuḍūʻ* will make it worse, I should:**

- a) Perform Tayammum
- b) Perform *Wuḍūʻ*
- c) Not pray

**Q3. When performing Tayammum:**

- a) We do not wipe the hands
- b) We wipe the palm of the hands
- c) We wipe the back of the hands