



PRAYER CLOTHES

لباس المصلي

Objectives >>>

Students should:

- Be able to briefly understand the importance of appropriate clothing in prayer
- Revise and understand the basic conditions for the clothes of prayers
- Be reminded of the rules of silk, gold and leather during prayer

JURISPRUDENCE

LEVEL 4

LESSON 1: DRESS OF PRAYER

Objectives

In this lesson, we will discuss the rules about what we can and can't wear during prayer. This is another important aspect of the rules of prayer.

COVERING THE BODY DURING PRAYER

The rule for covering the body during prayer is different for males and females. If one intentionally or carelessly does not cover the parts of the body that are required to be covered, the prayer is void. However, if one realises that any part which should be covered is uncovered during prayer, they can cover that part and continue their prayers and even if one finds out after the prayer that certain parts were visible, their prayer is valid.

- **Males:** The minimum that needs to be covered is the private parts, even if no one is looking. However, it is preferred to cover the body from the navel to the knee as a minimum.
- **Females:** Are required to cover their entire body except the face, the hands up to the wrist, and the upper aspect of the feet up to the ankles (if there are no non-ma~~r~~am men around).

CONDITIONS OF CLOTHES OF PRAYER

As we have discussed in previous years, there are certain conditions one must meet with regards to their prayer clothes in order for the prayers to be correct. We shall discuss a few details in this regard below.

TAHĀRAH

The condition of *Tahārah* means that the clothes and body of the person offering prayer must be free from any *najāsah*. The prayer is invalid if one intentionally ignored a *najāsah* or was wilfully ignorant.

There are certain exceptions which make prayer valid even if the body or dress are *najis* with blood:

- If the body is stained with blood discharged from a wound or sore on the person's own body
- If the body or dress is stained with blood spaced over a space smaller than the tip of the thumb
- Blood is on a piece of clothing that would not be big enough to cover the private parts (like socks or cap)

CLOTHING MUST BE MUBĀH

Praying in usurped clothing intentionally or on account of negligence makes the prayer void. This means, for example, that one cannot pray in a stolen shirt or a shirt bought with stolen money.

RULES OF LEATHER AND FUR

Wearing clothing made from the skin or hide of an animal that has not been slaughtered islamically or an animal whose meat is *haram* to eat in the first place, is not allowed. We will go into the details of these rules further in future lessons.



RULES OF GOLD AND SILK

It is *ḥarām* for men to wear gold or silk whether it touches the skin or not, although for women this is allowed. Any prayer said by a man wearing these two items is void. These things are *ḥarām* for men even outside of prayer.



Review Questions

Q1. If a person has blood on their shirt that is not their own blood:

- a) Their prayer is void in all cases
- b) Their prayer is void if the area covered by blood is bigger than a 5 c coin
- c) Their prayer is not void in all cases

Q2. Praying in a stolen shirt:

- a) Voids the prayer
- b) Is a sin but the prayer is still accepted
- c) Is not a sin and the prayer is accepted

Q3. During prayer, it is *wājib* for men to cover:

- a) Their private parts
- b) Their shoulders
- c) Their knees