

AL'MUJEEB MAGAZINE

Allah (swt) the One who answers all

Exalted is He who took His Servant by night from al-Masjid al-Haram to al-Masjid al-Aqsa, whose surroundings We have blessed, to show him of Our signs. Indeed, He is the Hearing, the Seeing (17:1)



Islamic Answers To Contemporary Questions

www.daruliftabirmingham.co.uk

Masjid-al-Aqsa

Volume 2 - Issue 1

January - April 2013

Rabi Al'Awwal -

Jumada-Al'Thani 1434

BISMILLAHIR-RAHMANIR-RAHIM

In the Name of Allah, the Most Beneficent, the Most Merciful.

Praise Be To Allah ﷻ, Lord Of The Worlds and Peace And Blessings Be Upon Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, His Family And His Companions.

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Al Mujeeb Magazine contains sacred verses of the Holy Qu'ran and traditions of the noble Prophet (Sallallahu Alayhi Wasalam). So we ask you please ensure its sanctity...

AL'MUJEEB

Allah (swt) the One who answers all

Call upon Him Allâh or call upon Him Ar-Rahmân, call upon Him whichever name you like, for all beautiful Names belong to Him (17:110)

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May Allah (SWT) reward all those who participated in this project.

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Islamic abbreviations:

(SWT): "Subhanu Wa Ta'ala" which means "Glorified and Exalted." It is said after Allah's name is mentioned

(SAW): "Sallal-Lahu 'Alayhi Wa Sallam" which means "May God's blessings and peace be with him." It is said after Muhammed's name is mentioned.

(AS): "Aalay His Salaam" which means "May Allah bless him." It is said after Prophets name is mentioned.

(RA): "Radhiyallahu Anhu", which means "May Allah be pleased with him." It is said after a sahaba's name is mentioned.

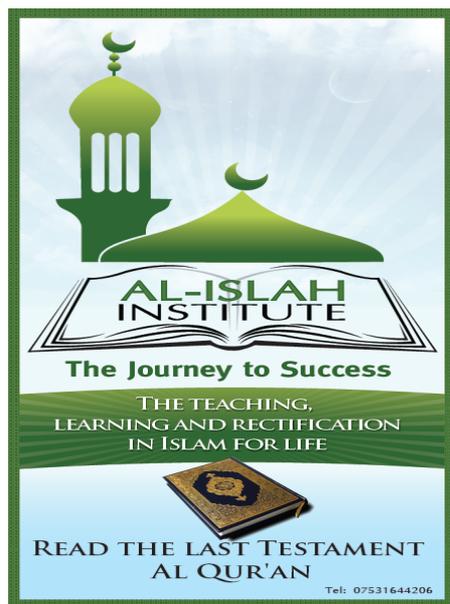
Al Islah Institute

Al-Islah Institute is based in Smethwick, Birmingham. It is an evening madrasah which was opened to offer the young children of our society the opportunity to gain valuable knowledge of our religion and to teach them how to practice their religion. Al Islah Institute are enrolling students from the age of 6 and inshaAllah we shall assist them to become pious young Muslims.

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Apologies!

We apologize for any mistake contained in this magazine, as we are only human and perfection is only reserved for Allah.

Understanding the Qur'an



The importance of understanding the Qur'an

The Holy Qur'an mentions:

"This is a blessed Book which We have revealed to you, [O Muhammad], that they might reflect upon its verses and that those of understanding would be reminded." Surah Şād (38:29)

This is one of several quotes in the Qur'an that talks about pondering about the words of Allah.

If for example we were to read a maths textbook, would we be able to simply read the content once and expect to understand it? Of course not! We would probably not even go past a few pages without the need to practice or at least think about what we have read. How then can we 'ponder' about the words of Allah when we cannot even understand the Qur'an?

Unlike other traditional books, in which after reading it 5 or more times back to back you will most likely get bored, each time you read the Qur'an, you can still enjoy and gain new knowledge from it. This is why the commentary of the Qur'an can be so long and is constantly being updated. Therefore, in order to benefit from the wisdom of the Qur'an, it is vital for any Muslim to try their utmost best to understand it.

Reading a translation

If you do not understand Arabic, reading a translation (preferably with commentary), is highly recommended. The Qur'an is one of the most translated books in the world, but it is also the hardest book in the world to translate. Therefore, keep in mind that there is not a single translation in the world that does not contain mistakes, as a translation is the word of man, and the Qur'an is the word of Allah.

For example, the very first verse in the Qur'an after surah Fatiha is normally translated as: *"This is the Book about which there is no doubt,"* In fact the direct translation is: *"That is the Book about which there is no doubt."* Scholars have said that the reason the Arabic word 'that' is used, rather than 'this', is because the Qur'an is referring to the book up in the heavens. This is because when Muhammad (SAW) was revealing the verses, the entire Qur'an

was not revealed and certain verses were being abrogated.

If translations managed to get one of the first words wrong, imagine the amount of mistakes that exist throughout the whole translation of the Qur'an. So therefore, although reading a translation is highly recommended, it is much better if you learn Arabic so that you can understand the Qur'an directly.



Why learn Arabic?

There are a number of other reasons why a person should learn Arabic, rather than just rely on translations. These include:

- Certain words in Arabic can mean many things, (all of which may apply in a particular verse). In a translation, you often only get only interpretation of the word.
- Certain words in Arabic are not in other languages
- You do not understand what you are saying in Salah, making it very easy to lose concentration and hard to perfect your Salah.
- The Qur'an is such a unique book, such that Allah has said: *"And if you are in doubt about what We have sent down upon Our Servant [Muhammad], then produce a surah the like thereof and call upon your witnesses other than Allah, if you should be truthful."* (2:23). In other words, if anyone in the world (jinn or human) can create a surah which is similar to one contained in the Qur'an, (the shortest surah is only 10 words), it will mean Islam is a lie. 14 centuries later, no-one has been able to fulfil this challenge. It is this beauty of the Qur'an that makes so many people cry when hearing it. When reading a translation, all of this beauty is lost

Therefore it is vital for any Muslim to try their utmost best to learn Arabic.

It's easier than you think!

In the Qur'an there are less than 78,000 words. However there are only about 2,000 distinct words, as many of the words in the Qur'an are repeated several times. Furthermore, 100 of these words appear in the Qur'an about 40,000 times. That's over 50% of the Qur'an by learning only 100 words!

How should I learn Arabic?

Going to an Arabic class is one of the best ways in which to learn Arabic. However there can be cases in where this is not possible, as there may be no Arabic classes near you. No need to fear, because modern technology has come to the rescue! You can now learn Arabic over the internet, many times for free! You can even have 1 on 1 tutoring by Arabic teachers, although this does normally cost (however there are free trials available).

One such website is: www.madinaharabic.com, which includes both free lessons and paid one on one online tutoring (free trial is included).



You can also find many other websites to help you learn Arabic by searching the internet and videos on YouTube.

I can't do it!

It is narrated that Muhammad (SAW) said: *"He who follows a path in quest of knowledge, Allah will make the path of Jannah easy to him. The angels lower their wings over the seeker of knowledge, being pleased with what he does. The inhabitants of the heavens and the earth and even the fish in the depth of the oceans seek forgiveness for him."* (Abu Dawud and At-Tirmidhi). It is also mentioned that for some-one who struggles in the name of Allah earns double reward! So therefore, it does not matter if you succeed in learning Arabic! That is up to Allah.

Our job is to make the intention and try our very best. Regardless of whether we fail or succeed, we will insha'Allah get the reward, as long as we truly put the effort into it.

Qu'ran Tafsir- Surah: Lahab (Surah 111)

By Mufti Mohammed
Tosir Miah

Revelation

It is mentioned in Sahih Bukhari and Sahih Muslim that when the verse “Warn your closest relatives” (26:214) was revealed, the Prophet of Allah (SAW) ascended Mount Safa and cried out to the tribe of Quraish in a manner that was known among them for warning of an attack by the enemy.

The entire tribe of Quraish gathered around him, and he said to them: “If I were to tell you that the enemy is about to attack you in the morning or in the evening, would you believe me?” They all unanimously replied in the affirmative. Then he said: ‘Verily, I am a warner sent to you before the coming of severe torment (as a result of disbelief or paganism)’. Abu Lahab then responded, ‘Destruction to you! Is it for this purpose that you called us together?’, and picked up a stone to hit him. Thus this Surah was revealed. (Maariful Quran p.912 v.8)

Verse 1: Perish the two hands of Abu Lahab, and perish Him!

Abu Lahab [Father of flames] was the nickname given to ‘Abu-ul-Uzza, one of the sons of Abu-Muttalib, as he was ruddy in complexion. The Qur’an did not mention Abu Lahab by his real name, as there is some form of paganism involved. Abu Lahab was an arch enemy and persecutor of the Prophet of Allah (SAW) and he opposed Islam. (Maariful Quran p.912 v.8)

Verse 2: Neither his wealth availed him, nor what he earned.

“Kasab” means his children. It has been mentioned by Saaiduna Abdullah Ibn Masuud (RA) that when the Prophet of Allah (SAW) called his people to faith, Abu Lahab said, “Even if what my nephew says is true, I will ransom myself (i.e. save myself) from the painful torment on the Day of Judgement with my wealth and my children.” (Tafsir Ibn Kathir p.591 v.5)

Verse 3: He will soon enter a fire, full of flames,

This verse says that, Abu Lahab, due to his denial of the Prophet of Allah (SAW) will enter Hell.

Verse 4: And his wife as well, the wicked carrier of firewood.

Abu Lahab’s wife was among the leading women of the Quraish and she was known as Umm Jamil. Her real name was `Arwah bint Harb bin Umayyah and she was the sister of Abu Sufyan. She was supportive of her husband in his disbelief, rejection and obstinacy. Therefore, she will be helping to administer his punishment in the fire of Hell on the Day of Judgement. (Tafsir Ibn Kathir p.592 v.5)

It is narrated by Hazrat Abu Zar (RA) that the Holy Prophet (Peace and Blessings be upon Him) said :

“O Abu Zar! It is better for you to learn a single verse of Holy Quran in the morning rather to pray hundreds of Rakaat (Nafal Prayer)” (Sunan Ibn Majah)

It is narrated by Saaiduna Ibn Abbas (RA) that Umm Jamil used to place thorns in the path of the Prophet of Allah (SAW). Another opinion is that she would tell tales and spread wicked rumours about the about Prophet of Allah (SAW). (Tafsir Ibn Kathir p.592 v.5)

Verse 5: In her neck there is a rope of twisted palm-fibre.

In addition to hellfire, which is enough of a punishment, Abu Lahab’s wife will be given a necklace of fire. The reason for this is because she had a necklace, which she traded in order to raise funds to harm the Prophet of Allah (SAW). (Tafsir Ibn Kathir p.592 v.5)

The miracle of Surah Lahab

Abu Lahab and his wife had the opportunity to destroy Islam right there and then by simply saying “There is no God but Allah and Muhammed (SAW) is the messenger of Allah.” This would have exposed Muhammed (SAW) as a liar, who through this surah essentially said that Abu Lahab and his wife will never accept Islam and will therefore go to hell. They lived many years after this surah was revealed but they did not accept Islam. They could have even pretended to accept Islam, but their stubbornness did not even allow them to do this, fulfilling the prophecy!

Islam BiteSize: Smart Business Transaction!

You want to buy a product? What brand do you wish to invest your earnings?

Brand A: 'Worldly Life'

- Requires little effort
- Quick delivery time
- Very average quality
- Conversion rate (effort to money) is poor: The average person in the UK earns £7 an hour. Money that will be worthless after we die.
- Deteriorates quickly over time
- Failure in both this world and in the hereafter
- Quality will get worse and worse over time

Terms & Conditions

- Being a slave to your desires and shaytan

Also included in the package free of charge: Eternal life in hellfire

Brand B: 'The Hereafter'

- Requires more effort
- Longer delivery time
- The best unimaginable quality
- Conversion rate (effort to good deeds) is extremely generous: Reading just one letter of the Qur'an gives you 10 good deeds. Also reading surah Iklas 3 times (which only takes about 30 seconds) will give you same amount of good deeds as reading the entire Qur'an.
- Lasts forever
- Success and peace in both this world and hereafter
- Provides protection in the grave and the punishment of the hereafter
- Quality gets better and better over time

Terms & Conditions

- Iman (Faith)
- Performing 5 Daily prayers
- Giving Zakat
- Fasting during Ramadan
- Performing Hajj

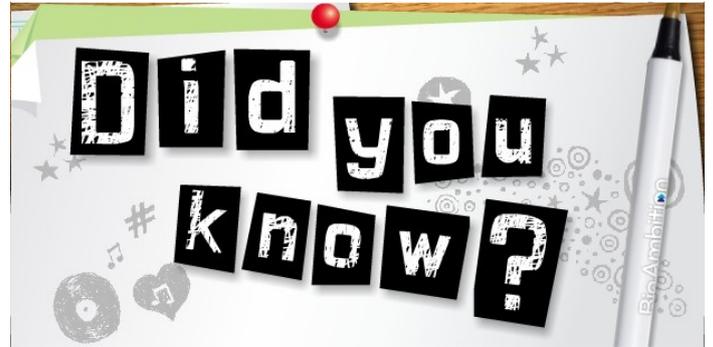
Also included in the package free of charge: Eternal life in Paradise



Believe it or not Brand A is the more popular choice!
Which will you pick?

In the Qur'an it mentions:

"Whoever wishes for the quick-passing (transitory enjoyment of this world), We readily grant him what We will for whom We like. Then, afterwards, We have appointed for him Hell, he will burn therein disgraced and rejected" [Qur'an 17:18]



Did you know?

Imam Bukhari (RA) compiled his collection of 7,275 hadiths from a selection of 600,000, because he wanted to ensure that his book only contained the most authentic hadiths. Before writing each Hadith he would make 2 Rakaat nafal Salaah (voluntary prayer).

Did you know?

If a stone was thrown from the edge of Hell, it would take seventy years to reach the bottom of the pit.

Did you know?

All the trees in Paradise have a trunk made of gold. How can the Believer increase his share of the trees of Paradise? A tree will be planted when the believer recites the following:

SubhaanAllah (Glory to Allah),
Al-Hamdulillaah (Praise to Allah), and
Allahu Akbar (Allah is the Greatest)

Did you know?

In Paradise, there is a market to which the people will come every Friday. Then a wind will come from the north and blow on their faces and clothes, and they will increase in beauty. Then they will return to their wives, who will also have increased in beauty. Their wives will say to them, "By Allah, you increased in beauty after you left us." And they will say, "And you too, by Allah, you have increased in beauty since you left us."

Did you know?

Any important work that does not begin with Bismillah (in the name of Allah) is imperfect.

Did you know?

Adam (A.S) was about 30 Ziraas tall. 1 Ziraa is approximately half a metre, so he was about 15 metres tall.

Did you know?

Am sure you do ...The success which you search for your whole life calls you everyday five times!

What else would you like to know? Have you got any other interesting facts about Islam? Please e-mail your questions/facts to: Almujeeb@hotmail.co.uk

Sisterz Section: Modesty & Hijaab

"O children of Adam, We have provided you with garments to cover your bodies, as well as for luxury. But the best garment is the garment of righteousness. These are some of God's signs, that they may take heed." [Qur'an 7:26]



If you have heard of the saying "You are what you eat," then I'm sure you must have heard of the saying "You are what you wear." Many people will not agree with this statement, thinking it doesn't matter what you wear as long as you have got Imaan. However, there is a hadith in which our Prophet (SAW) has said "Modesty is a branch of faith." From this it is clear that if you have no haya (modesty) then you have no Imaan because haya is a branch of Imaan. Or maybe you have the branch of modesty, but there is a crack in it.

So what is modesty? This term covers a wide number of concepts. It may be translated as shyness, self-respect, bashfulness, shame, honour, humility, etc. The original meaning of Haya, according to a believer's nature, is having a bad and uneasy feeling accompanied by embarrassment, caused by one's fear of being exposed or censured for some unworthy or indecent conduct.

Modesty is not just something regarding women, but also an attribute that believing men should have, for it is an indication of their fear of Allah and an indication of the value of their Deen. The topic itself is very vast as it is an important element in every aspect of life. But in this article I am addressing modesty in women's dress.

One of the most important aspects of haya for women, is that of guarding their chastity and modesty which can be attained through hijaab. Sadly, women have started to dress like men. Today it is nearly impossible to distinguish between a Muslim and non-Muslim woman, because our fellow Muslim sisters have begun to follow and change with the fashion of the western people. Prophet (SAW) has said "The one who imitates people other than us (i.e. in faith) is not from us." Even after such a great warning how can we go around dressed in the dressings of other nations?

Many women say we cover our hair and we cover our bodies. But hijaab is not only about covering the body; it has rules and conditions with it. It's very sad to see the hijaab becoming more of a fashion statement than a way of obeying our creator and pleasing him only. Scarves are worn so short that neither the front nor the back is covered. Allah (SWT) says: "O Prophet! Tell thy wives and thy daughters and the women of the believers to draw their cloaks close round them. That will be better, that so

they may be recognized and not annoyed. Allah is ever Forgiving, Merciful." (Surah Ahzaab, 33:59).

Hijab nowadays is worn for fashion. Women change their hijab according to the fashion trend like the mickey mouse hijab with the ears showing, hijab all tied back with neck showing, wearing the hijab and showing the fringe, the layered hijab etc. It is narrated Umm Salamah The Prophet (SAW) came to visit her when she was veiled, and said: use one fold and not two. (Abu Dawood). This hadith shows that the Prophet (SAW) told his beloved wife to do one fold and not to be excessive with the folds even though she was his wife, and today young girls go out in front of strange men with so many layers and folds. If the intention of the folds is to cover oneself then that's something different, but today it's more of a fashion statement.

And the strange thing is people say "to hold the hijab in place" and "for the volumising look" you need a high bun to get the "maximum hijab look." Prophet (SAW) has said:

"There are two types of the people of hell that I have not seen yet; men with whips like the tails of cattle with which they strike people, and women who are clothed yet naked walking with an enticing gait with something on their heads that looks like the humps of the camels, leaning to one side. They will never enter paradise or even smell its fragrance, although its fragrance can be detected from such and such a distance." [Muslim and Ahmad]. The Hadith is very clear and scarily also true. There are many Muslimahs today that wear Hijab and have really huge

Hijab' is not a 'Cultural Practice' nor a 'Fashion Statement'. It is an 'Obligation' from Allah upon women for their Protection and Piety.

scarves wrapped around their head to make a huge hump above their heads. To them this is a style which attracts people to look at them more. This defeats the whole purpose of the hijab. Even after such a curse how can we even think about going around with high buns? Do we not fear the curse of our creator? The sahabiyats, the modest women, were not in need of all these high buns etc. so why are we? Are we wearing the hijab to get more attention?

Along with the hijab nowadays you see all the extra accessories; all the "BLING BLING". This again is done to attract more attention. Allah (SWT) says not to show off their adornment except that which is apparent (Surah Nur, 24:31). I'm not saying you can't wear all this bling bling- yes you can but wear it in front of your mehrams. Beautify yourself for those who are meant to see your beauty.

Funnily, people say they are covered because they are wearing long clothes. But what is the use of wearing long clothes when your clothing is so tight and your whole figure can be seen? It is a sad reality that the religion of Islam is being played with. Young girls, dangerously, wearing head scarves for 'style', while dressing in tight clothing, revealing their physical structure. Just like how we keep diamonds and pearls hidden and in a safe place, Islam preserves women in the same way. Women are gems to be hidden. What is open everyone sees what is hidden only the one entitled to it see.

Just wearing the hijab doesn't mean that you are modest. Hijab is modesty in your gaze. it is stated in the holy Quran: "And tell the believing women to lower their gaze" (Surah Nur, 24:31)

So many of us wear the hijab but do we abide with the condition of hijab....and the question is do we wear it to follow the trend of hijab or is it worn to please our creator? May Allah (SWT) give me and you all the tawfeeq to act upon this advice.

Ameen

By Sister Aysha

children's corner

I AM A MUSLIM

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

We are Muslims

I say "Alhamdulillah" when I wake up to a new day,
Remembering who I am,
I am a Muslim
And I follow Islam.

Islam is my religion, I love my Deen,
It's all about submission & Peace,
By following Allah's Guidance
The peace in our hearts will never Decrease.

For we are Taught,
To love and respect one Another,
We are all brothers & Sisters,
Its our duty to care and look after each Other.

We are taught to give Charity,
And feed the Poor,
The more we Give
Allah will reward us even More.

We have to fast during Ramadhan,
And pray salaah five times a Day,
Give Zakaat, perform Hajj, recite Quran,
And follow our Prophet's (Pbuh) Sunnah Way.

By fulfilling our Duties,
We shall feel the happiness it will all Bring,
We have been blessed with so Much,
So say "Alhamdulillah" and Always,
Thank Allah for Everything.

Allah has given us a life to live Freely,
But don't forget it is a Test,
So worship Allah, know what's right & Wrong,
And do your Best.

Read the Quran Often,
Let your Islamic knowledge Increase,
For then you shall understand Allah Better,
And appreciate His Bounties.

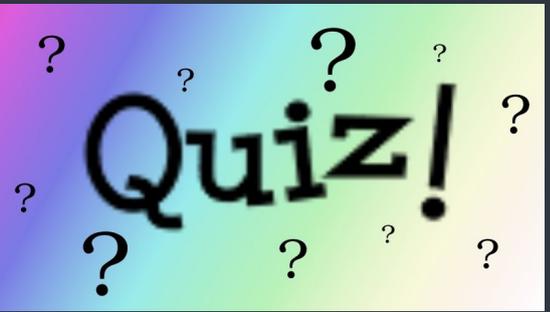
No matter how people are Like,
Or what the non-believers Say,
Have faith, follow the truth, be proud to be a Muslim,
Don't ever lose the Way.

This world & life is Temporary
We have to strive hard for the Hereafter,
No matter how much hardship you face Here,
Be patient, have Taqwa...Only in Paradise you can live happily ever After.

Remember we are Muslims,
Our duty is to obey and please Allah
The Almighty The Most High,
Only then we will be on our way to Jannah,
And reach above the Sky!!!

SubhanAllah...Allah is the best of Planners,
May He guide us all on the right Path. Ameen

By Ismatara Begum



1. When should you give your Zakat money?

- a) Once every Hijri year
- b) Once a year
- c) Any time of the year
- d) Every December

2. What does Qur'an mean?

- a) Holy Book
- b) Recitation
- c) Allah's Book
- d) The Book

3. Who is the only Sahaba whose name is mentioned in the Holy Quran?

- a) Zaid (RA)
- b) Abu Bakr (RA)
- c) Omar (RA)
- d) Ali (RA)

4. Which is the best Nafal Salaah a person can pray?

- a) Tawbah
- b) Aduha
- c) Tahajudd
- d) Ishraq

5. Can a person pray Tahajudd Nafal Straight after Esha salaah?

- a) Yes
- b) No

6. What do you say when you hear someone sneeze?

- a) Allahu akbar
- b) Ya Allah
- c) Yarhumukallah
- d) Alhamdulillah
- e) Nothing

7. The sayings of the Blessed Prophet Muhammad is called?

- a) Qur'an
- b) Ayah
- c) Surah
- d) Hadith

8. Is it Sunnah to say Assalaamu alaikum when entering the house?

- a) Yes
- b) No

9. What is the name of the Angel who is entrusted with Rainfall?

- a) Azrael (AS)
- b) Jibreel (AS)
- c) Mikaa'eel (AS)
- d) Israafeel (AS)

Quiz Answers:

- | | | | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. A | 2. B | 3. A | 4. C | 5. A | 6. C | 7. D | 8. A | 9. C |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|



Major sins : Missing prayer



What are major sins?

Major sins, as indicated by the Qur'an and Hadith, and as explained by our pious elders, are sins for which a punishment has been prescribed in the Quran or Sunnah to be enforced in this life, or on which words of curse have appeared, or on which stern warning of Hell has been mentioned. (Based on *Maariful Qur'an* p.406- p.408 v.2)

With that said, a sin which is technically known as minor does not mean that people should go about indulging in it neglectfully. To disobey Allah (SWT) and to oppose his will is a grave sin in itself. Hence, many scholars are of the view that every disobedience of Allah is nothing but a major sin. The distinction between minor and major sins is made only when they are compared to each other. Furthermore, if a minor sin is done with nerve or heedlessness, or even continuously, it will become a major sin.

Avoiding major sins bring great rewards, as in the Qur'an it mentions: "If you avoid the major (part) of what you have been forbidden (to do), we will cancel out for you your (other) evil deeds and will admit you (to Paradise) with a noble entry." (Surah al-Nisa 4:31) On the other hand, committing these sins result in extremely harsh punishments in the hereafter and increases our chances of entering hellfire.

As Muslims we often fall under the misconception that all of our sins are constantly being forgiven from some of the good deeds we do, such as praying Jummah on Friday or fasting during Ramadan. In fact, it is the opinion of scholars, that when it is mentioned that all your sins are forgiven, it is talking about only the minor sins. Scholars have also said that in order for a major sin to be forgiven, 3 conditions must be met. The person must:

- Refrain from committing the same sin again;
- Feel ashamed at what he has done; and
- Make a firm intention of not committing that sin again.

Needless to say, it is of utmost importance that Muslims understand what the major sins are, as many Muslims underestimate how harsh the punishment is for committing these sins or worse still, don't even know it is a sin in the first place. In each edition we will focus on sins that are common amongst Muslims in the Western world.

What is meant by missing prayer?

This is where a Muslim misses a prayer from their 5 obligatory supplications, or performs it after the set time, without a legitimate excuse. A legitimate excuse for missing a prayer includes:

- If a woman is on her period or is suffering from post natal bleeding.
- If someone is unconscious or genuinely oversleeps after making efforts to wake up for Salah. The Prophet (SAW) said, "Whoever oversleeps and misses his prayer or forgets to do it, let him pray as soon as he remembers it."
- If the person is insane.

A legitimate excuse does NOT include: working, travelling, being busy, laziness etc.

Example of a reward for performing Salah:

In a hadith it is mentioned: "Five prayers and from one Friday prayer to (the next) Friday prayer is an expiation (of the sins committed in between their intervals) if major sins are not committed."

Example of a punishment for missing Salah:

It is considered to be the 4th major sin in Islam (only being beaten by sorcery, murder and shirk). It is even considered worse than adultery! In a hadith it is mentioned: "Between man and polytheism and unbelief is the abandonment of salah." [Muslim]. So in other words, not praying is the same as not being a Muslim, meaning hellfire is almost inevitable.



Performing salah on a dangerous platform whilst at sea

Common Excuses:

1. Allah is all forgiving. I'll pray when I'm older, and Inshallah, Allah will forgive me

As mentioned before, not doing your prayer is a major sin and therefore it is harder to attain forgiveness for it. Furthermore, if you have this intention, you have already failed the 2nd condition of having a major sin forgiven, which is to feel ashamed of committing the sin. Also, it can become very difficult to make up all the missed prayers and to get into the habit of praying.

2. I can't wake up for Fajr Salah!

Tips to wake up for Fajr Salah:

- ◆ Make Dua: Pray to Allah and ask him to wake you up for Fajr Salah (never underestimate the power of dua).

◆ Set your alarm: Most mobile phones have an alarm feature. Don't set your alarm 15 minutes before fajr ends (sun rise) as it takes time to get up and get out of that sleepy state.

◆ Get a louder alarm: If your mobile phone or alarm clock is not waking you up, get a louder one. If you type ' Loud alarm' in: www.amazon.co.uk, you get a whole list of brilliant alarms. There are even alarms that will shake your bed.

◆ Go to sleep earlier.

◆ Ask a member of your family to wake you up: Do not however rely on this. If they don't wake up, or forget to wake you, YOU will be the one to get the sin! Not them!

Also, make sure that when Allah wakes you up, you stay up. Don't fall for Satan's trick, where you say to yourself: "I'll get up in 5 minutes." In that time, you can fall asleep again and consequently miss the fajr prayer. It's easier to just get up!



Football players performing salah

3. I'm at my school, workplace or travelling

In a multi-cultural society like the UK, businesses and institutes will almost never say to you that you cannot pray (especially in schools). However, most people do not even bother asking if there is a small room to pray in. Many times, there is already a prayer facility, but we are not aware of it as we never bother asking. What's the worst that could happen if we ask? If a prayer facility is not readily available to you, then you can make use of free apps available for smartphones, such as 'Nearest Masjid' or 'Mosque Finder' (see left), which show mosques near you. In the worst case scenario, where there is no space to pray (e.g. if you are on a train), you can pray sitting down, (however some scholars believe you need to repeat your Salah afterwards, unless it was for a



medical reason).

4. I'm embarrassed to do wudu at a public restroom

A Muslim should not be embarrassed when performing ablution in public. If a person asks you, "What are you doing?" say to them "I am performing ablution, as I need to clean myself before performing prayer." Also remember that if you find it uncomfortable to wash your feet in a public restroom, you can pass wet water over your socks as an alternative (an action that our prophet did when wearing leather socks).

5. I don't know the direction to Makkah

If you forgot to bring your compass, you will find there are a number of free apps that you can download on your mobile phone, so you can find the Qibla. You will also find that satellites used for watching TV, which can be found outside almost every person's house, all point towards Makkah. If you still don't know, make a reasonable judgement (you do not need to repeat your salah if you are wrong). If you cannot do that, guess (In this case you will have to repeat the Salah). Remember if you find out that the direction is wrong by less than 45 degrees, this is still okay.



6. I haven't got a prayer mat.

Use your coat, a newspaper or even a tissue. You only need a clean area to put your head on when performing sajjdah.

7. I'll make up for it after

A lot of people are under the misconception that performing the prayer after the set time is permissible. In fact, this will only make up for your prayer if there was a legitimate excuse (see previous section). Otherwise, this MAY help reduce the punishment in the hereafter and gain forgiveness.

8. I'm busy & other excuses

These excuses are simply an illusion presented by Satan. If for example you were paid £10 for every salah we do and fined £10 for every salah we miss, we'll probably spend half the day doing prayers. But when Allah is promising an unimaginably great reward in Jannah and threatening us with the hellfire of Jahanam, we suddenly don't have time!

It's up to you!

I'm sure we can carry on naming endless amount of excuses, but unless you have the courage to say that excuse in front of Allah on the day of judgement or can endure the harsh punishment, then it is clearly not good enough! Prayer is a pillar of Islam, and without it you arguably not even a Muslim!

Beautiful Sunan Dua

Before going to sleep recite:

اللَّهُمَّ بِاسْمِكَ أَمُوتُ وَأَحْيِي

ALLAHUMMA BISMIKA 'AMUTU WA 'AHYA
O Allah, with Your name do I die and live (Al-Bukhari)

After waking up from sleep recite:

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي أَحْيَانَا بَعْدَ مَا أَمَاتَنَا وَإِلَيْهِ النُّشُورُ

AL-HAMDU LILLAHIL-LADHI 'AHYANA BA'DA MA 'AMATANA WA 'ILAYHIN-NUSHUR
Praise be to Allah who gave us life after giving us death and to Him is the return (of all) (Al-Bukhari)

Earn 80 Years of Reward & Forgiveness:

اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ النَّبِيِّ الْأُمِّيِّ
وَعَلَى آلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ تَسْلِيمًا

ALLAHUMA SALLE ALA MUHAMMADI-NIN NA-BEY-YILL UMMIY-YE WA ALAA AALE-HE WASSALIM TASSLEEMA
O Allah shower your mercy upon Muhammad, the unlettered Prophet, and upon his family and grant them best of peace.

RECITE 80 TIMES EVERY FRIDAY AFTER SALAATUL ASAR

Abu Hurairah (RA) reports that the Holy Prophet (SAW), said:

“He who recites this Durood eighty times immediately after Asar Salaat on Friday before standing up from his place, Allah will forgive his sins for eighty years and grant him the reward equivalent to eighty years of worship” Tabrani, Virtues of Durood Sharif p.70

Virtues of Invocating Blessings on the Prophet (SAW)

The noble Prophet (SAW) said: *On the Day of Resurrection, the people nearest to me will be those who invoke blessings upon me most frequently. (Tirmizi:Narrated by Ibn Mas'ood)*
This can be any Durood Sharifs eg: “Sallallahu alyahi wa-salaam”

My Journey to ISLAM

As a teenager I thought all religion was pathetic. I used to spend every weekend getting drunk outside the leisure centre, in high-heeled sandals and miniskirts.

My view was: what's the point in putting restrictions on yourself? You only live once.

"At university, I lived the typical student existence, drinking and going clubbing, but I'd always wake up the next morning with a hangover and think, what's the point?"

I sat up all night reading two books on Islam that my friend had given me. I remember bursting into tears because I was so overwhelmed. I thought, 'This could be the whole meaning of life.'

But I had a lot of questions: why should I cover my head? Why can't I eat what I like?

"I started talking to Muslim women at university and they completely changed my view.

They were educated, successful – and actually found the headscarf liberating.

I was convinced, and three weeks later officially converted to Islam.

"When I told my mum a few weeks later, I don't think she took it seriously. She made a few comments like, 'Why would you wear that scarf? You've got lovely hair,' but she didn't seem to understand what it meant.

"My best friend at university completely turned on me: she couldn't understand how one week I was out clubbing, and the next I'd given everything up and converted to Islam.

She was too close to my old life, so I don't regret losing her as a friend.

"I chose the name Aqeela because it means 'sensible and intelligent' – and that's what I was aspiring to become when I converted to Islam. I became a whole new person: everything to do with Lindsay, I've erased from my memory.

"The most difficult thing was changing the way I dressed, because I was always so fashion-conscious. The first time I tried on the hijab, I remember sitting in front of the mirror, thinking, 'What am I doing putting a piece of cloth over my head? I look crazy!' Now I'd feel naked without it and only occasionally daydream about feeling the wind blow through my hair.

Once or twice, I've come home and burst into tears because of how frumpy I feel – but that's just vanity.

"It's a relief not to feel that pressure any more. Wearing the hijab reminds me that all I need to do is serve God and be humble. I've even gone through phases of wearing the niqab [face veil]

because I felt it was more appropriate – but it can cause problems, too.

"When people see a white girl wearing a niqab they assume I've changed. I've even had teenage boys shout at me in the street. I was scared to walk about in the streets for fear of retaliation.

"For the most part, I have a very happy life. I used to dream of having a successful career as a psychologist, but now it's not something I desire. "Becoming a Muslim certainly wasn't an easy way out. This life can sometimes feel like a prison, with so many rules and restrictions, but we believe that we will be rewarded in the afterlife."

By Sister Lindsay/Aqeela

Can you find all the prophets name in the word search (peace be upon them all) ?



ADAM
 AYYUB
 DAWUD
 HARUN
 HUD
 IBRAHIM
 IDRIS
 ILIAS
 ISA
 ISHAQ
 ISMAIL
 LUT

MUHAMMAD
 MUSA
 NUH
 SALIH
 SHUAIB
 SULAIMAM
 YAHYA
 YAQUB
 YUNUS
 YUSUF
 ZAKARIYYA

Common questions about Islam & religion:

If God exists, and is all powerful and has control over all things, why do good people suffer?

There are some questions that almost everyone asks themselves (Muslims & non-Muslims), but may not necessarily ask out loud. Islam encourages asking questions and thinking logically as this can often lead to stronger Iman.

The question above is easily one of the most common questions about religion and it is in fact very easy to answer.

For example, there is a scholarship of a huge cash prize for the single best mathematician in a particular school. In their GCSE Maths exam 10 people get a grade A*. Who would you give this scholarship to? Well clearly you would choose someone who got an A*, but there are 10 students who got this grade. If you choose one of the 10 students at random, it will be unfair to the other students who got A*, as they may be the better mathematician. So, the only way to determine who to give the scholarship to, is to give the students a harder exam. There is no point giving the harder exam to people who got a lower grade, such as F, as they will of course will do worse in the harder exam.

So now the 10 students who got a grade A* at GCSE are given an A Level exam. In that exam, only 3 people get grade A*. We are again presented with the same dilemma and will resort to the same solution, a harder exam. Now these 3 students are given a degree level exam and only 1 student gets an A*. Finally we know who the best mathematician is and the school will therefore give the scholarship to him/her.

The same principle applies to Islam. This world is simply a test, and the hereafter is the reward or punishment depending on the outcome of this test. If we pass, we get to reside in Jannah, and if we fail we are forced to go to Jahanam. But there's more! Both Jannah and Jahanam is split up into many levels. The highest level of Jannah is Maqam Mahmood, which only Muhammad (SAW) will enter. The second highest is Firdaus, and this is where the most righteous people will enter.

If the test in this world is very easy, then how can you distinguish which Muslims deserve which level? Also how would someone distinguish between a true believer and a hypocrite? Wouldn't it be unfair if Muhammad (SAW) got the highest level of Jannah if there was someone more righteous than him (which of course there isn't)?

This is why Allah has put hardship on good people; so that we can be ranked in order of righteousness. Therefore, the most righteous people (i.e. the prophets), went through the hardest tests; so that it is clear and no-one can argue with the fact that they are more deserving of this position than everyone below them and do not deserve the position of anyone higher than them.

In the Qur'an it mentions: *'Truly with hardship comes ease' (94: 6)*

It is also mentioned in a hadith: *"One amongst the denizens of Hell who had led a life of ease and plenty amongst the people of the world would be made to dip in Fire only once on the Day of Resurrection and then it would be said to him: O, son of Adam, did you find any comfort, did you happen to get any material blessing? He would say: By Allah, no, my Lord. And then that person from amongst the persons of the world be brought who had led the most miserable life (in the world) from amongst the inmates of Paradise and he would be made to dip once in Paradise and it would be said to him: O, son of Adam, did you face, any hardship? Or had any distress fallen to your lot? And he would say: By Allah, no, O my Lord, never did I face any hardship or experience any distress."* **Sahih Muslim Book 39**

As you can clearly see, the 'hardship' we face in this world is completely insignificant compared to the reward that a Muslim will get out of it, as they are well over-compensated for their suffering.

Wouldn't Allah know who is best anyway as he is all knowing? So what is the point of this test?



Although Allah already knows who will go to Jannah and who will go to Jahanam, the reason Allah does not skip straight to the reward/ punishment is so that we prove to ourselves that we deserve the reward/ punishment more than anybody below us and do not deserve the rank of anybody above us.

For example, would it be fair for the police to lock you up when you have not done anything wrong, and when you ask the police why you have been locked up, they respond: "I have arrested you now, because I have seen the future and you have killed many innocent people. So in order to save the lives of those people I have arrested you now!" How would you feel? Of course any normal person would feel that they are being lied to and the only person that should be locked up is the person that arrested you.

This is why Allah has put us through this test and has given us the opportunity to commit good and bad deeds, so it can be used as a case for or against us.

Lessons in Hadith - Sunan Abu Dawuud

Hadith Number 1: It is narrated from Saaiduna Abu Malih from his father, that the Prophet of Allah (SAW) said: "Allah SWT does not accept sadqah (charity) from haraam wealth nor salah without purification."

Hadith Number 2: It is narrated from Saaiduna Abu Hurairah (RA) that the Prophet of Allah (SAW) said: "Allah SWT does not accept the salah of anyone of you when he is in hadath (impurity) until he does wudhu."

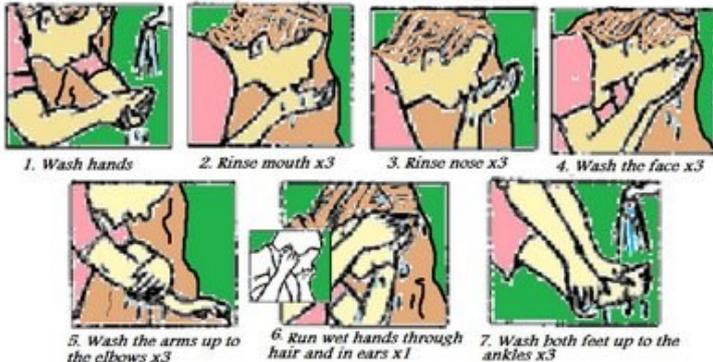
Hadith Number 3: It is narrated from Saaiduna Ali (RA) that the Prophet of Allah (SAW) said: "The key to salah is purification."

A fundamental and an important part of our religion is Wudhu (ablution). The term wudhu literally means cleanliness and beautification and technically it means taharat (purification) using water. Wudhu includes washing the face, the arms, the feet and wiping the head (masah). (Fiqh ul Muyyassar pg. 27)

It is stated in the Qur'an:

"O you who believe when you stand (intend) for Salat, then wash your faces and your hands to the elbows and wipe your heads and (wash) your feet to the ankles." (5:6)

HOW TO MAKE WUDU PICTORIAL GUIDE



The principles of Wudhu are 4 and they are the fardh (compulsory) or wajib (obligatory) provisions of wudhu. They are:

- Washing the face once. The limit of the face lengthwise begins from the roof of the forehead to the lowest part of the chin and the limit width wise is the area between the earlobes.
 - Washing the arm including the elbows once
 - Doing masah (see below) of one quarter of the head
 - Washing the feet including the ankles once.
- Washing hands and rinsing nose are sunnah (recommended) but not fardh.*

In the books of fiqh (Islamic rulings) the difference between washing and masah has clearly been highlighted. Washing the parts means to make sure that water is dripping. Whereas 'masah' is to make the water reach by spreading the wet fingers but making sure water is not dripping. (Hidayah)

There are a few conditions which need to be found for wudhu to be saheeh:

- The water should reach all the parts
- The woman has to be free from haidh (periods) and nifaas (post-natal bleeding) and the man should be free from janaabat (being in the state of major impurity).
- There can't be any substances on the body which prevents water from reaching the skin. For example:
- **Nail Polish:** Applying nail polish made from haraam ingredients is not allowed. However if the nail polish is made from halaal ingredients, then women are allowed to wear it for their husbands, but they will have to remove it before doing wudhu.
- **Lipstick:** Lipstick itself is permissible if it is worn for the husband. As for in wudhu if the lipstick is thick then she will have to remove it before doing wudhu.
- **Makeup:** If the woman has too much foundation on then she will have to remove it so that the water reaches the skin.
- **Fake nails:** Women have to remove fake nails before doing wudhu
- **Mendhi:** This usually doesn't stop the water reaching the skin so it is permissible to apply mendhi. However if the mehndi is waterproof then your wudhu will be called into question.
- **Dye:** If the dye is waterproof then the wudhu and ghusl will not be done.
- **Tipp-ex, paint and car oil:** Tipp-ex, paint and car oil are very thick substances so one has to remove it before doing wudhu.
- **Rings:** If the ring is tight then it is waajib (obligatory) to loosen and remove it before washing the hands. If the ring is loose, then it is mustahab (recommended) to remove it so that the water reaches all areas.
- **Contact lenses:** One does not have to remove contact lenses when doing wudhu.
- **Artificial limb:** People who have artificial limbs do not have to remove their limbs during wudu or ghusl neither do they have to do masah over it.
- **Beard:** If it is thick then the water does not have to reach the skin. That hair which is outside the perimeter of the face is not required to be washed. However if the beard is not thick then the water has to reach the skin. The same verdict applies with eyebrows.

After ghusl one does not have to repeat wudhu.

If one was to finish wudhu then remembers that a certain part of wudhu was forgotten, but they still remained in the wudhu area they should just wash the part that was missed. However if one remembers later like when they go to the Masjid then it is just a waswasa or temperamental doubt. But if one is sure that he has not washed that part, then he should wash it.

by Mufti Mohammed Tosir Miah

Seerah of our Beloved Prophet Muhammad Mustafa (SAW)

Muhammad's (SAW) Grandfather

Continuing on from our last edition, the Prophet of Allah (SAW)'s grandfather's name was Abdul Muttalib. However, his real name was Shaibah and it was only after the following incident that he became known as Abdul Muttalib (this means the slave of Muttalib).

When Abdul Muttalib's father Hashim passed away and his mother was observing her waiting period in the blessed City of Madinah, his uncle Muttalib came to take him home to Makkah.

Abdul Muttalib was wearing scruffy clothing, his hair was dishevelled and he had not had a proper scrub or bath for months. His uncle put him on the back of his camel and they were riding towards Makkah. When they were approaching Makkah, some people saw Muttalib with a young boy riding behind him and they asked him who this child was?

Muttalib, fearing that people may criticize him for not looking after his nephew at the death of his brother more properly, replied he is my slave. From that moment the little boy, Shaibah, who was destined to be honoured of being the grandfather of the greatest person to ever step foot in this world, was given the name Abdul Muttalib.

The great biographer, Ibn Saad Al-Baghdadi has written that Abdul Muttalib was very beautiful and handsome. He was well known for his hospitality. He made liquor unlawful upon himself and like his future grandson would do many, many years later, he would meditate in the Cave of Hira in Makkah during the month of Ramadhan. (Seerat Mustafa by Shaikh Molana Idrees Khandelhwi, p.47 v.1)

The miracle of the Zamzam well

In the last edition, we mentioned the incident of the elephant. Another incident that made Abdul Muttalib a well respected individual amongst the tribes was the rediscovery of the Zamzam well.

Before we go into this miracle, we need to go back a further 1,500 years. Haajra (the wife of Ibraheem) was with her son Ismaa'eel in the desert. Her son started to cry out of thirst and Haajra could not find any water. Out of desperation she climbed Mount al-Saffa praying to Allah to help her and give her water for Ismaa'eel. Then she climbed to the top of Mount al-Marwah and did the same. She did this 7 times until Allah sent angel Jibreel (AS). The angel struck the earth, and water appeared and thus the Zamzam well was created.

This well was later lost by Bani Jurhum, a tribe in Makkah, in whom Ismael was married into. They filled it up with

soil before leaving Makkah and it remained obliterated and untraced for 15 centuries.

The re-discovery of the Zamzam well

For three consecutive nights, Abdul-Muttalib had a very clear vision about digging a well. During each vision, the name of the well was different and no location was mentioned. On the fourth night however, both Zamzam and its location were communicated to Abdul-Muttalib. So on the morning of the following night, with his only son at the time 'Harris' started the tiring task of moving the huge boulders.

The Makkans ridiculed Abdul Muttalib when they found out what he was doing and hence provided no help. After several days the tribes heard Abdul Mutallib shout 'Allahu akbar' (Allah is the greatest) and to their utter disbelief knew that he found the well of zamzam.

The zamzam water has been rediscovered and the tradition of providing Zamzam water to pilgrims was established.

Abdullah (the father of the prophet (SAW))

Abdul Muttalib had ten sons and Abdullah (who would later become the father of Muhammed (SAW)) was the youngest of them. When Abdullah reached the age of marriage, Abdul Muttalib conducted his marriage with Aminah (the mother of Muhammed (SAW)), who was from the tribe Banu Zahrah.

Like many Makkans of that time, Abdul Muttalib and his son's main profession was trading and in particular going to various cities and countries for trading. Abdullah, like his unborn child would one day do in the future, travelled to Syria for business. One day when returning back from Syria, Abdullah fell ill. He told his travelling companions to proceed with their journey back to Makkah whilst he stopped over in Madinah.

The travel companions returned back to Makkah where they told Abdul Muttalib that Abdullah has fallen ill and he has stopped over in Madinah. Abdul Muttalib got a bad feeling that something was wrong and he instantly sent his eldest son Harith to find out. As soon as Harith arrived in Madinah he was met with the tragic news that his youngest brother, Abdul Muttalib's youngest and beloved son and the father of the Prophet of Allah (SAW) had passed away.

There are three opinions about his age of when Abdullah died. Some scholars say he was 30, whereas others say he was 25. However, the most accepted opinion is that Abdullah was 18 when he passed away. (Seerat Mustafa by Shaikh Molana Idrees Khandelhwi, p.47 v.1).

by Mufti Mohammed Tosir Miah



Islam & Science: Qur'an on the Universe

Light from the moon and sun

*“Blessed is He who made constellations in the skies, and placed therein a **Lamp** and a **Moon giving light**” Surah Al-Furqān (The Criterion) 25:61*

*“Do you not consider how Allah has created seven heavens in layers And made the moon therein a **light** and made the sun a **burning lamp**?” Surat Nūḥ (Noah) 71:15-16*

As you can see from the above verse, Allah has described the sun as a ‘Lamp’ and the moon as ‘Giving light’. If the casual reader were to read this verse he may be confused as to why Allah has said the same thing twice.

What is the point of describing the sun as a lamp and the moon as a light? Surely it would be better to say: ‘Blessed is he who made constellations in the skies, and placed therein two lamps’. This would result in fewer words and yet say the same thing.

However, with the help of science we have come to know that the moon’s light is not its own, but it is in fact *reflected* light from the sun. This is why Allah has made a distinction between calling the sun a lamp and the moon as ‘giving light.’

If the Qur’an described both the sun and the moon as a lamp, this would be scientifically incorrect, as the word ‘lamp’ suggest that it is a source of light, whereas we know the moon is reflected light. Furthermore if the Qur’an described both the moon and sun as giving light, although this would be correct, it will not be as accurate as calling the sun a lamp and the moon a light.

During the time of Muhammad (SAW) many people were confused as to the light given by the moon, and thus created many myths to explain the moon phases (some of these theories are quite humorous so do look it up on the internet). Thus Allah dispelled these myths and described that fact that the sun is the source of light and the moon is only giving light (i.e. reflected light).

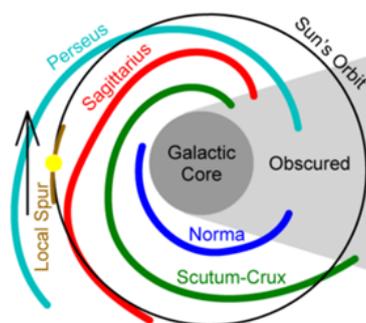


Figure 2 Diagram showing the sun orbit around the galactic core.

The sun and earth’s orbit

“It is not allowable for the sun to reach the moon, nor does the night overtake the day, but each, in an orbit, is swimming.” Surah Yā-Sīn 36:40

“And it is He who created the night and the day and the sun and the moon; all [heavenly bodies] in an orbit are swimming.” Surah Al-'Anbyā' (The Prophets) 21:33



When an intelligent person in the 21st century reads these verses, they may find an obvious ‘mistake’. In the Qur’an it says *both* the sun and moon is in orbit. However it is a well-known *fact* that the moon orbits earth, the earth orbits the sun and the sun is stationary. How can Allah have made this so-called mistake? A mistake that many non-Muslims have explicitly pointed out, proving that the Qur’an is from man and not Allah.

The so called ‘fact’ that the sun is stationary, as was until recently taught in schools, is actually incorrect. Not only does the sun rotate on its own axis, but it also orbits around the centre of the galaxy, a discovery that was made fairly recently.

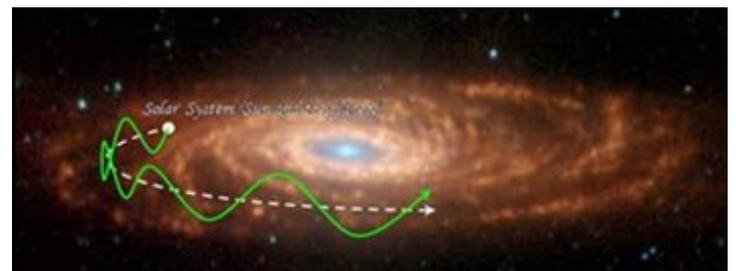


Figure 1 Diagram showing the solar system orbiting the galaxy

During the time of Muhammad (SAW) people thought that the earth was the centre of the universe and everything else orbited around it; a myth that the Church of England also believed, to the extent that they killed and imprisoned other astronomers for suggesting otherwise. Meanwhile the Greeks proposed that the earth orbits around the sun and the rotates on its own axis and the sun remained stationary (similar to what many astronomers thought until fairly recently).

Why is it that Muhammad (SAW) decided to go against the beliefs of everyone at his time and even the views of respected scientists in our time, unless of course these verses were not from himself but in fact from Allah!



Q Are Quranic Ring tones on mobile phones allowed?

A Darul Uloom Deoband have issued a fatwa advising people to refrain from using verses from the Holy Qur'an as ring tones for their mobile phones

A person who truncates the Surah when answering the call is clearly going against the order of the Qur'anic verse. Therefore, it is severely disliked, against the respect and sanctity of the Qur'an to have Qur'anic ring tones on the mobile phone.

Q Eating food brought with haram money?

A Saaiduna Abu Bakr (RA) narrated that the Prophet of Allah (SAW) said "That body will not enter Paradise which has been nourished with Haram" (Sunan Baihaqi)

If the majority of a person's income is lawful and less than half is unlawful, it would be permissible to eat from the food purchased with such income. However, if a person's majority income is unlawful, even though the food itself is halal, because it was purchased with haram money, that food will also be considered haram.

Q Should we answer the second adhan (i.e. repeat its words) of the Friday prayers, even though the imam has entered and this is a time to be quiet? Also, should we say the dua of adhan after the second adhan.

A One can reply to the second Azan of the Jummah prayer in his heart, but not verbally on the tongue. The same ruling will also apply to the dua after the second Azan of Jummah.

Q Can a woman tie her hair with a hair tie (made of cloth, elastic etc)?

A It is strictly prohibited to wear the hair of another human or to join human hair to one's own hair.

Saaiduna Abu Hurairah (RA) narrates that the Prophet of Allah (SAW) said: "Allah has cursed women who joins (her hair or someone else's) hair (with the hair of another man or a woman) and the woman who asks for her hair to be joined (with the hair of another person). However, if the hair is of plastic or is made out of synthetic fibres then it is permissible. It will be permissible for women to tie their hair with ribbons, elastic etc... It is also a form of beautification.

Q How do you make the intention for Salah?

A If you are praying by yourself it is necessary that you are specific with your intentions, in terms of the name of the salah and if you are praying behind an Imam, it is sufficient just to make the intention of following behind the Imam

Q In the Friday prayer if someone is reading the four rakat sunnah and the khutba starts should he continue the salah?

A Firstly, if anyone arrives in the Masjid on the Day of Jummah and the Imam is delivering the khutbah then one should sit down and listen to the khutbah and pray the four rakaat sunnahs afterwards.

Q Is it permissible to advertise a Gambling or Lottery company?

A It is not permissible to advertise something which is unlawful and haram in Islam. Allah (SWT) says, "Help one another in righteousness and piety, but help you not one another in sin and transgression." (Surah Maaidah v.2)

Q Is it permissible to make payments through instalments?

A It is permissible to purchase items on instalments even though it may be expensive than the cost price as long as the price is fixed in a way that it does not change.

Q Is shower or boiler breakdown cover permissible?

A It is permissible to have a breakdown cover for showers and boilers. A breakdown cover is different from insurance in that one pays for the service, which the company offers him, which is to assist him at any time. The company does not pay any damages towards it. If one does not use their service during the course of the year, then payment still remains as one is paying for the service of them being there for you at anytime.

Q Are "Non Verbal" Oath made in the heart formulated? e.g. You say in your (heart/mind) that you will not do something but then you do it.

A As you did not say the oath in such a way where you could hear it yourself or where you moved your tongue and lips then the oath would not be formed, hence, there is no need to give expiation for this.

Q Is Yoga meditation permissible?

A If the yoga consists of thinking about a particular God or something, which is not allowed in Islam, then it will not be permissible. However, if the yoga consists in the form of 'muraqabah' (meditation) practiced in the science of tasawuff (spiritual purification), then it will be allowed.

Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (RA) has said 'to concentrate strongly on a given subject for someone so that a person starts feeling the results inside him, to visualise the matter is called meditation'. At another point, Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi (RA) has said 'to turn the thoughts with deep concentration towards Allah and His divine attributes or any such subject and to visualise it from the inner depth of your heart is called meditation'.

Q Is it permissible to have your feet towards the Kabaah?

A It is Makruh Tanzih (not recommend) to face the feet towards the Kabaah intentionally whether a person is sleeping or awake.

by Mufti Mohammed Tosir Miah

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We request you to make Du'a for the Ummah as
much as possible as we are all in need of guidance

**O ALLAH! FORGIVE THE UMMAH OF MUHAMMAD
MAY ALLAH'S PEACE & BLESSINGS BE UPON HIM**

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