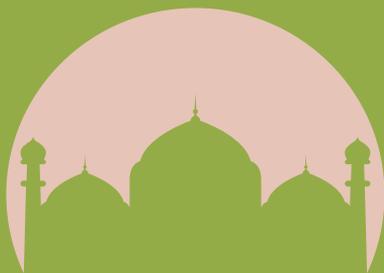


# Redhill Jamia Mosque Al-Mustafa



## THE ADAAB (ETIQUETTES) OF MASJID





The masjid is the house of Allah and has been made for His remembrance; therefore, the Blessed Prophet Peace be upon him forbid (ignorance towards **Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala**) and acts of ghaflah in the masjid. It is similar to being invited to someone's house and then ignoring the host. In the same way, we respect the host and appreciate his inviting us to his home, we must also respect our Creator who invited us to His house to gain from His Rahmah. We should also be grateful that He has made our hearts inclined towards His masjid, as many of our brothers could not avail of this opportunity.

The Blessed Prophet explained that the following acts are unsuitable for the masjid:

1. Making it a pathway.
2. Buying and selling.
3. Bringing uncooked meat into the masjid.
4. Reciting poems in the masjid.

Note: This includes singing the lyrics of music and poetry also. In one hadith the Blessed Prophet Peace be upon him said, "The bazaars (markets) are the worst of places, and the masjid the best of places." This is because the bazaars make one forget Allah and occupy the heart in buying, selling, and acquiring goods of the Dunya.

If one buys and sells in the masjid, he makes the best of places into the worst of places; a place of remembrance becomes a place where one forgets Allah. In another hadith, the Blessed Prophet specifically said, "And do not make it a bazaar (market)."<sup>3</sup>

Nowadays, masjids are commonly used as pathways where they are adjoined to a community centre. Youth will go to play basketball and adults will attend functions. Many do not come for salah unless they are already in the centre playing or attending a function. Thus, like a pathway, the masjid is used to achieve other ends.

In another hadith the Blessed Prophet advised us to keep the following away from the masjid:

1. Your children.
2. The Insane.
3. Your mischief-causing people.
4. Your disputes.
5. Raising your voice.

**Note:** One characteristic common to all the aforementioned things is that they distract us from the remembrance of Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala.

This hadith clarifies that it is reprehensible and even sinful to bring to the masjid a child who disrupts the salah of the musallis and the tranquillity (calmness) of the masjid; the hadith also permits banning a person known to cause trouble and discord in the community from a masjid.

The Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, "Whosoever removes adhaa (anything repulsive or harmful) from the masjid, Allah will make a house for him in Jannah."

The Blessed Prophet once saw phlegm on the wall of the masjid. His face became red with anger. A woman amongst the Ansaar came, removed it, and replaced it with incense.

**Note:** It should be remembered that in another hadith the same reward is mentioned for one who makes a masjid in this Dunya. This shows that keeping the masjid clean is as important as making one.



The Blessed Prophet prohibited announcements of lost items. In another hadith, he admonished a person who made an announcement about a red camel he had lost by saying, "May you never find it." The masjid has been built for the reason for which it has been built [and nothing else].

Note: The above-mentioned a hadith indicates two important points:

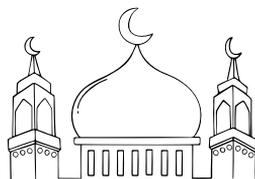
1. The masjid is not for personal use and should not be treated as such; this is the denigration of the masjid.
2. The masjid is solely for remembrance of Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala; to use it for any other purpose is disrespectful to the masjid.

Hazrat Fatimah (as) narrates that the Blessed Prophet would say: When he entered the masjid.

اللَّهُمَّ افْتَحْ لِي أَبْوَابَ رَحْمَتِكَ

And: When leaving the masjid

اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَسْأَلُكَ مِنْ فَضْلِكَ



The Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, "When anyone of you enters a masjid, do not sit until you pray two Rakat."

Note: This salah is called tahiyat ul masjid. It is Sunnah/Mustahab to pray these two Rakah upon entering the masjid except during three times of the day: sunrise, midday, and sunset, as mentioned in the ahadith.11 The tahiyat ul masjid salah is established to observe the sanctitude and greatness of the house of Allah **Subhanahu wa ta'ala** - the masjid.

Hazrat Jabir bin Abdullah (ra) narrates that the Blessed Prophet said, "Whoever eats from the baqala (plants), that is, the onion [on another occasion he said, whoever eats from onion, garlic and leek] should not come to our masjid. Verily, the angels are also disturbed by that which disturbs mankind."

**Note:** This hadith proves the many rights of those who come to the masjid. To eat something that agitates another, especially in the masjid, is haram. Ghusl (bathing) for Jum'ah was made mandatory at the beginning of Islam for the same reason but was later abrogated.

It is important to be appealing in appearance (as mentioned in the Quran: O children of Adam take your adornment at every masjid<sup>13</sup>) and in every matter that may be disrespectful to the masjid or cause discomfort to other brothers. Another pertinent issue is the habit of burping and belching in the masjid during salah and outside of salah. This is also disrespectful and must be recognized.

Anything else that emits a bad odour like cigarettes and body odour also falls under the umbrella of this hadith.

Abdullah bin Busr (ra) narrates that a man once jumped over people's shoulders while the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him was delivering a khutbah. The Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said to him, "Sit down. You have hurt [people] and come late."

**Note:** Sometimes, it happens that we come to the masjid to please our Creator but leave the masjid gaining his displeasure. We want to gain the reward of sitting in the front sufuf, but if it involves hurting others by jumping over and squeezing between them, then one is sinful and does not gain any reward.



Hazrat Ibn Masood (ra) saw some people, their backs towards the qiblah, in the masjid between the time of Azaan and the Iqamah of Fajr. He said [to them], "Do not come between the angels and their salah."

### What is included in remembrance of Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala in the masjid?

1. Recitation of the Quran.
2. Dhikr of Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala and His tasbeeh.
3. Anas bin Malik (ra) narrates: "Once we [the Sahaba (RA)] were discussing our state in the times of Jahiliyyah and how Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala blessed us with iman and the darkness we were in. The Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, 'You are doing well; what a great thing you are talking about. Be like this and continue to do this [have these discussions in which you remember the blessings of Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala ].'"

Hazrat Ibn Abbas (ra) said, "Talk a lot about Hazrat Omar (ra) because talking about Hazrat Omar (ra) is talking about Adal (justice), and when there is talk about Adal, one remembers Allah ." Hazrat Aisha (ra) said, "Beautify your gatherings by sending durood upon the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him and remembering Hazrat Omar bin Khattab (ra).

Once Hazrat Abu Huraira (ra) told the people that the inheritance of the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him is being distributed in the masjid. By inheritance, they thought inheritance of wealth. They ran to the masjid and saw something else. When they returned disappointed, he asked them what they saw. They said, "We saw some people praying, some were reciting Quran, and some were discussing halal and haram." Hazrat Abu Huraira (ra) replied, "Woe to you! This is the inheritance of the Blessed Prophet peace be upon ."

**Note:** The masjid holds the inheritance of the Blessed Prophet which is the recitation of the Quran, praying salah, and gaining the ilm of Deen. The former hadith explains that remembrance of Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala includes reading and discussing the lives of the Auliyah Allah (friends of Allah ) such as the Sahaba (RA) and the Salaf.

The maula (freed slave) of Abu Saeed Khudri narrates: "Once we were with Hazrat Abu Saeed Khudri (ra) who was with the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him. We entered a masjid and saw a man sitting in the habwa position in the middle of the masjid, his fingers interlocked in tashbeek."

The Blessed Prophet peace be upon him gestured towards him but he did not understand the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him . The Blessed Prophet please be upon him then turned towards Hazrat Abu Saeed Khudri (ra) and said, "When one of you is in the masjid, he should not do tashbeek because it is from shaitan, and verily one of you is in salah for as long as he is in the masjid until he leaves."

**Note:** acts that characterize ghaflah like the tashbeek defeat the purpose of being in the masjid, which is to remember Allah . Other acts of ghaflah narrated in the hadith are:

1. Cracking knuckles.
2. Yawning with noise.
3. Unnecessary movement in salah.

There are many other acts of ghaflah that may not be in the a hadith but are commonly recognized as signs of ignorance. We should avoid all such acts, especially in the masjid.



# Prophecies about the masjid

The Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, "There will come a nation before the times, their talk in their masjid will be of the Dunya; Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala has nothing to do with such people." In a similar narration, the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, "Do not sit with them for Allah Subhanahu wa ta'ala has nothing to do with them."

- "When my ummah does fifteen things, they will face hardship. One of the things mentioned in the narration is when people become loud in the masjid".

- "When you embellish your masjid and adorn your masaahif (Quran), then destruction is upon you." In a similar narration, the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, "One of the signs of the Day of Judgment is when the masjid is embellished."

**Note:** The aforementioned narration is indicating how the focus of the ummah will turn away from the objective of building the masjid to the masjid itself. Therefore, the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him said, "On the Day of Judgment, the masjid will say: 'Oh my Creator, they ruined me, did not benefit from me, and wasted me.'"

It is like a person who spends all his time, effort, and money building a beautiful big mansion for himself but lives his whole life in the backyard. - "The masjid before the Day of Judgment will be populated but empty of any guidance.

"Secondly, these hadith (about the signs before the Day of Judgment) indicate those conditions which the Blessed Prophet peace be upon him did not approve of for his Ummah.

Thirdly, these hadith are pointing out the line of action that a Muslim should take to protect his faith and his Hereafter during these times of fitna."

**Note:** Musical tones, phones ringing, noise, quarrels, children disturbing Salah etc. are everyday scenes in contemporary masjid.

**Alhamdulillah, this is a humble reminder for all attending the masjid, a gift for Imams and teachers - compiled by Shaykh Sajid Latif Qadri of Redhill Jamia Mosque Al-Mustafa. Insha Allah, it will be beneficial to everyone.**

جَزَاكُمُ اللَّهُ خَيْرًا

