

# Etiquette of Mosques

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In the name of Allah Most Gracious Most merciful.

This place is one of the houses of Allah which is established, and its doors are opened to faithful worshippers. It is an oasis of faith which opens its arms for the true faithful. It is a safe and secure refuge for the wondering lost in order to return to the Lord of the worlds to be successful.

Mosques are places were elevated and given great status by Allah. Allah says: {In houses which Allah Has allowed to be exalted and that His name shall be spoken therein. Therein do offer praise to Him at mornings and evenings. (36) Men whom neither business nor selling entice from speaking of Allah and performing prayers and paying charity; who fear a day when hearts and eyeballs will overturn (37) That Allah may reward them with the best of what they did, and gives them more reward of His bounty. Allah gives unreservedly to whom He wishes} 24:36-38.

Allah increased the status of mosques by associating them to Himself when He says: {And therefore mosques are only for Allah, so pray not unto anyone along with Allah} 72:18. The messenger ppbu said: {The best places are mosques, and the worst places are markets}. It is only logical and it's a form of obeying Allah that if Allah and His messenger ppbu have glorified mosques that we ought to glorify and respect them. What are our duties towards mosques?

The successful one is the one who Allah made him or her to serve, respect and build or support mosques. That is the true faithful. Allah says: {He shall tend and support Allah's sanctuaries or mosques that believes in Allah and the day after and observed prayers and gave charity and feared none except Allah. For those may be amongst the rightly guided} 9:18. The successful one is who attends mosques and supports them through praying and remembering Allah and doing the good deed. The loser is the one who keeps away from mosques. Let us know that attending and supporting mosques is not something we donate and decide to do, rather it is a selection and guidance by Allah we ought to be

thankful for. Allah has selected us from all people and that is a great honor. We ought to behave correctly towards mosques in order to truly win this great and elevated status.

Some of the important conducts and etiquettes towards the houses of Allah are through enlivening them and worshiping Allah. That is the first of many functions for which Mosques are built. Other etiquettes involve not speak allowed or shout inside mosques. Avoiding playing and fooling and up roaring inside of mosques. Mosques are places of peace, tranquility of the souls and submissiveness of the senses. The messenger ppbu said: {if you someone selling or buys in a mosque say: may Allah not may not make his business profit. And if you see some one seeking something they lost then say: may Allah not return what you lost back to you}.

Part of the mosques' etiquette also is not to exaggerate in its decoration and painting and make it so large for the purpose of boasting about it. This is disliked act and it is one of the signs of the end of life. The messenger ppbu said: {one of the conditions of the end of life is when people boast about mosques}

Part of the mosques' etiquette also is to dress up and fix one's looks, and put on the perfume or the good fragrance when going to the mosque. Do not ignore the way you dress or look when coming to meet the creator of the heavens and the earth at His house. Allah say: {Man kind, look your best at each mosque and eat and drink and do not be wasteful, for Allah does not love those who are wasteful} 7:31. In fact, the messenger ppbu was report saying that if we eat garlic or onions is that we are to stay away from mosques or stay at home. This is so we would not hurt angels and Muslims.

Part of the mosques' etiquette also is to protect from dirt, leftovers of food and rubbish, and human produced material like spit, nail trims, hair cut and others. The messenger ppbu said: {spitting inside the mosque is sin, and clearing this sin is covering the spit (or cleaning it)}.

Remember that by glorifying, respecting and honoring mosques by refraining from doing those disliked acts within the mosque is actually getting closer to Allah, and that is rewarded highly.

And also remember that as long as you are at the mosque then you are a guest of Allah and a visitor to Allah. And any visitor to Allah deserves to be honored by

Allah. Let you be aware of this situation so you would receive the blessing and grace and the reward in it. The messenger ppbu said: {whoever does *wado* wash at his home, and does it well, then comes to the mosque then he is a visitor to Allah. And it is only right of each host to honor his guest}. In fact the messenger ppbu went on to say: {There are three who are in Allah's care and assurance: one man who went out to one of Allah's mosques, and a man who went out in a battle in Allah's cause, and a man went out for Hajj}. And here we take lots of steps in this life, we frequently go to places of fun, amusement, chat, back-biting, scandal rumors, and they are all recorded for us. And we are all accountable for them on the day when we meet our creator. And yet we easily forget about steps that can clear our sins and increase our status. Such steps are those we take when we make our way to mosques. The messenger ppbu said: {Shall I guided to what would clear sins and elevates you many grades? donate a wado wash despite the troubles involved, and the plentiful of steps towards mosques, and the waiting for a prayer after another prayer, that is the bonding cord, that is the bonding cord, that is the bonding cord}.

Remember that mosques are places of worship and remember Allah and becoming closer to Him. Places for Muslims to become acquainted, and become loved and contacts established between them. They meet on the love and satisfaction of Allah and the love and satisfaction of His messenger. Mosques are for Muslims to check up on one another fulfilling its social and educational roll as well as the spiritual and other rolls. Mosques roll must not be under estimated in building the better society that is free from pests and diseases. It roll in building a strong society and a strong nation with honor derived from Allah's honor. It is for those reasons Islam encouraged the building of mosques on piety and humbleness and goodness, seeking Allah's satisfaction. This who builds or partly contributes a the building of a mosque will have so much grace and reward that only Allah knows its true value. Allah is that who when He gives a reward He does gives the full of reward and more. The messenger ppbu said: {whoever builds a mosque seeking Allah's satisfaction, the Allah will build a house like it in paradise}. Imagine you, as the weak slave of Allah, building a house for Allah on this terminating earth which one day will come to past, and your reward that the owner of all worlds and the creator of all creations will build for you a house in paradise. What you slave of Allah, think of a house built by Allah? Remember you don't just get rewarded for building the mosque, your reward is an on going matter even after you die. The messenger ppbu said: {there are seven whose reward will continue flowing for a slave when he/she is in the grave: this who teaches some science, or this who makes a river flow, or who digs a well, or

plants a tree (date tree), or builds a mosque, or leave inheritance a Koran book, or leaves a child who will ask for forgiveness for him after he dies} .

Places of worship are a measure of a nation's culture and civilization despite the right or wrong of the faith of those nations. Because worship is the most sacred thing in a human's life. Places of such worship are sacred places. There is no life or greatness of a nation which does not have respect for its places of worship. And if those with the wrong faiths and religions have respect for their temples and churches then how could we come short on respecting our places of worship and yet we follow the faith of truth which Allah has accepted for His slaves? He, Allah is the one who says: {Faith with Allah is the surrender to His will or Islam} 3:19. He also says: {And who seeks a religion other than the Surrender (to Allah) it will not be accepted from him} 3:85. We, individuals and groups, young and old, we ought to give mosques their deserved share of care. That is financial care and maintenance, up keep of their facilities and fur nature. Also providing the moral care by glorifying and respecting mosques, and keeping voices low and supporting them and flourishing them by remembering and speaking of Allah.

The Imam from this platform calls for the support of this mosque he says: you have won a model complete mosque where you do your daily prayers, and Fridays and your Eids, your men and women, where your children learn the book of Allah, and a place for your meetings and socializing. Respect this mercy and appreciate it. And give thanks to Allah for it. The way you can give thanks is by first taking care of the facility and use it and treat it as if you treat your own homes, or even better than your homes. Because when you serve the house of Allah you are serving the house intended by the guests of Allah.

Allah, the most merciful, and the Lord of the worlds, grant us the grace of serving your houses on earth, and make us love supporting and flourishing them. Allah, make this mosque a beacon of light for knowledge and for what would bring mercy and blessings on to us. Allah, reward those who established this mosque, and build for them houses in paradise as this place was established for your worship alone and no one besides you. Allah reward well all those who contribute towards this place in any form or value, and make their contribution weighs into their scale.