

Mukarram Advice

Baitul Mukarram

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The Muslim Attire

The position that Islam has, and will have in the world has a great deal to do with how the Muslims look at it.

And to what extent they practice its teachings.

There was a time when Islam was running through every vein in a Muslim's body, and his actions were a living portrait of the glory and beauty of Islam.

The non-believers could not question Islam, because living examples of Islamic perfection were before them.

When the spirit of Islam began to fade away from the hearts of Muslims, their bodies were no longer strong enough to take all the measures and hardships necessary to practice their flawless religion.

Where did people go wrong?

The answer is easy and simple to find.

We left the pattern of life of our beloved Nabi Muhammad Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam, who sacrificed his day and night, sweat and blood, conveying Allah's message.

Our respect and dignity lie in following the pattern of our beloved Nabi Muhammad Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam, this is why the noble practices of Nabi Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam (sunnah) hold great weight.



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The Beard

One of the very significant sunnah of the Nabi Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam, is the beard.

To grow a beard is a practice of all the Prophets and necessary for all Muslim males.

We find in a Number of Ahadith of Nabi Sallallahu alayhi wa sallam regarding the keeping and lengthening the beard.

Ibn Umar Radhiyallahu anhu quotes Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam as saying, "Cut short the moustache and lengthen the beard." (Bukhari and Muslim)

Abu Huraira Radhiyallahu anhu quotes Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam as saying, "Shorten the moustache and lengthen the beard." (Muslim)

Ibn Umar Radhiyallahu anhu quotes that Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam as saying, "Grow (lengthen) the beard." (Muslim)

Yahya ibn Kathir says that, once a person from Ajam (external province) who had grown a moustache and shaved off the beard entered the Masjid. Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam asked him, "What motivated you to do this act? He replied that his Lord had ordered him to do so. Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam said, "Allah has ordered me to shorten my moustache and lengthen my beard."

Aa'ishah Radhiyallah anha quotes that Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam said, "Ten things are of the fitrah (of nature):

1. Cutting the Moustache,
2. Letting the Beard grow,
3. Using Siwaak (tooth-stick),
4. Snuffing up water into the nose,
5. Cutting the Nails,
6. Washing the finger-joints,
7. Plucking the Armpit Hairs,
8. Shaving the pubic hair and
9. Washing the private parts after relieving oneself."

The Raweh says, I have forgotten the tenth, but I think it was rinsing the mouth.

In a narration by Ibn Haban under the title "The ruling of the beard in Islam": Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam said "From among the Natural practices of Islam is the trimming of the moustache and the growing (fully) of the beard. The fire worshippers lengthen their moustaches and shaved their beards."

People often make excuses to get their way around to not keeping a beard. Some excuses are:

- Some people say that the Qur'aan does not order us to keep a beard.

But we ask these people that where is it mentioned in the Qur'aan that we can neglect the teachings of Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam.

The Qur'aan states very clearly that we are to obey Allah and His Messenger Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam.

There are many acts, commandments that are not mentioned in the Qur'aan. Take the number of rakats in salaah as a basic example; the number of rakats for every salaah has not been mentioned in the Qur'ann, rather we have been taught the exact number of rakats for each salaah by our beloved Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam through his sunnah.

- Some people argue that to trim the beard (to an unlawful extent) or to shave is only a minor sin.

We must always keep in mind that no sin can be dismissed, nor can one say that minor sins do not affect a person's outcome in the hereafter. A sin, no matter what it is, is still a sin and only Allah can forgive sins.

Furthermore, to keep a beard is an obligation for the Muslim male, and to purposely omit an obligatory act cannot be regarded as just a small, minor sin, which is harmless.

- Some people may say that Rasulullaah Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam used to keep the beard because it was an Arab fashion in those days.

However, the concept of the Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam following a fashion/custom can only be comprehensible if that custom was lawful and better for the Ummah.

Indeed, these are mere excuses used to justify one's actions which are contradictory to the Blessed teachings of Nabi (Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam).

The keeping of the beard was an action not only observed, but also commanded by Nabi Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam.

It is also interesting to note that no reports have been made in regard to a Companion of Rasulullaah Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam or a Tabiee in regard to the shaving of the beard.

Also, in the description of all earlier Ambiyah Alayhimu-salaam portrays them as one who kept a beard. So, we can justly say that the keeping of the beard is also a practice of previous Ambiyah Alayhimu-salaam.

Haircuts

Imaam Bukhaari and Imaam Muslim narrated from Hadhrat Ibn Umar Radhiyallahu anhu that the Messenger of Allaah Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam “FORBADE QAZA”.

Naafi’ (one of the narrators of the hadeeth) said, explaining qaza’:

“Shaving part of a boy’s head and leaving part.

The one who cuts his hair should make it all the same length.

The one who cuts his hair on the sides of his head more than the middle comes under the heading of qaza’, which is forbidden.

Imaam Nasaa’i and Imaam Abu Dawood narrated from Ibn ‘Umar Radhiyallahu anhu that the Messenger of Allaah Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam saw a boy, part of whose head had been shaved and part of it left.

He Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam told them not to do that and said:

“Shave all of it or leave all of it.” Al-Albaani classed it as saheeh in Saheeh al-Nasaa’i.

That includes cutting some of the hair short and leaving some.

Imaam Abu Dawood narrated from ‘Abdullaah ibn ‘Umar Umar Radhiyallahu anhu that the Messenger of Allaah Sallallahu alayhi Wasallam forbade qaza’ and said:

“Shave all of it or leave all of it.”

Qaza’ includes shaving some places on the sides of the head, or shaving the middle and leaving the sides, or shaving the sides and leaving the middle, or shaving the front and leaving the back.

It is known that it is not permissible to leave some parts of the hair longer than others.

Our Ulama are very strict with regards to cutting some parts of the hair and not others, and they regarded that as coming under the heading of qaza’ and they said: Either cut all of it or shave all of it. This is the basic principle we should follow, according to the scholars.

The Sunnah with regards to hair is to shave all of it or cut all of it, not to cut some of it and leave some of it.

We ask Allah Ta’ala to give us the understanding of the importance of keeping the beard and having a correct haircut. Ameen.