

Topic: *Wodu'*

Categories of Personal *Taharah*

A. *wodu'*

B. *Ghusl*

C. *Tayammum*

A) *Wodu'*

Wodu' is *mandatory in five cases* including:

1. For the *obligatory salah*
2. If one wants to *touch the script of the holy Qur'an* with his hand or a part of his body.

Procedure of *Wodu'*

1. Washing of face

It is mandatory after *niyyah* (intending *wodu'*) to wash the face, lengthwise *from the uppermost of the forehead*, where hair grow, downward *to the end of the chin*, and in breadth, the extent reached by the span of the hand between the thumb and the middle finger.

2. Washing the forearms

After washing the face, it is mandatory to wash the *right forearm and then the left forearm*, *from the elbow to the tips of the fingers*.

3. Wiping the head

After washing the hands, it is mandatory to *wipe the front part of the head* with the wetness of the *wodu'* remaining on the palm of the hand. One should wipe with the right hand from the upper part downwards.

4. Wiping the feet

After wiping the head, it is mandatory to **wipe the feet** with the remaining moisture of the *wodu'* on the hand palms. The wiping of the feet should be **from the tiptoes to the joint**.

✚ Note: The head and the feet should remain stable when wiping.

✚ Note: **There should be no obstacle which prevents the water** to reach the skin. (but if the hair is not long enough to cover the forehead, one can wipe the hair)

Criteria of Wodu'

1. That the water used for wodu' is *tahir* (pure).
2. That the water used for wodu' is *motlaq* (not mixed and not extracted)
3. That the water used for wodu' is *mobah* or permissible for him to use.
4. That the **container** of the water used for *wodu'* is *mobah* or permissible for him to use.
5. That the **container** of the water used for *wodu'* is **not made from gold or silver**.
6. That there should be **enough time** to perform the *wodu'* and the prayers. If the time is so short that by doing *Wodu'*, the entire prayer or a part of it will have to be offered out of its time, the person should perform *Tayammum*.
7. That one performs the *wodu'* with the intention of *qurbah* i.e. seeking nearness to and abiding by the orders of Almighty Allah.
8. That one observes the **sequence** of the *wodu'* procedure mentioned. (*Tarteeb*)
9. That the acts of the wodu' procedure are done one after the other [without a gap in between]. (*Muwalat*)
10. That one performs the *wodu'* himself, i.e. one should wash one's face and hands, and wipe the head and feet **without the help of others**.
11. That **the parts of the body** on which *wodu'* is performed are *tahir* (pure).

12. There should be no obstacle which prevents the water to reach the skin.

13. That there is **no constraint** for one to use water. If there were a fear of catching a disease if one performed *wodu*’, or feared thirst if he did not drink the water but used it to perform *wodu*’, it is mandatory for him not to perform *wodu*’.

Things that invalidate *wodu*’

1. The discharge of urine.

2. The discharge of feces.

3. The emission of wind from the anus.

4. **Falling asleep**, if sight and hearing are overcome, such that the ear does not hear and the eye does not see.

5. **The state in which the mind is undermined**, such as intoxication, insanity, or unconsciousness.

6. **Any condition that necessitates *ghusl***, such as *Janabah*.

7. ***Istihadah* (undue menses).**