Lesson 13

Topic: Taharah /wodu'

Things that invalidate wodu'

- 1. The discharge of urine.
- 2. The discharge of faeces.
- 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. However, if the ear can hear and eye can see, the wodu' is not rendered void.
- 5. The state in which the mind is undermined, such as intoxication, insanity, or unconsciousness.
- 6. Istihadah (undue menses).
- 7. Any condition that necessitates ghusl, such as Janabah.

Procedure of Wodu'

The wodu' procedure consists of two sets of washes, and two sets of wipes; the washes of the face and of the forearms, and the wipes of part of the head and of the feet.

1. Washing of face

Case: It is mandatory to wash the face, lengthwise from the uppermost of the forehead, where hair grow, 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

Case: 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.

Case: In wodu', the first wash of the face – and the hands – is mandatory, and the second is mostahab, and any more than that is haram.

3. Wiping the head

Case: 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, and as per obligatory precaution, one should wipe with the right hand palm from the upper part downwards.

4. Wiping the feet

Case: 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 talus or ankle-bone, and as mostahab precaution, the wipe should be up to the joint.

Case: It is mandatory that the location of the wipe is dry.