



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Lesson 41

Place of Sujud (Prostration)

Philosophy of Prostrating on Earth

عَنْ هِشَامِ بْنِ الْحَكَمِ قَالَ: قُلْتُ لِأَبِي عَبْدِ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ أَخْبِرْنِي عَمَّا يَجُوزُ السُّجُودُ عَلَيْهِ وَ عَمَّا لَا يَجُوزُ قَالَ السُّجُودُ لَا يَجُوزُ إِلَّا عَلَى الْأَرْضِ أَوْ مَا أَنْبَتَتِ الْأَرْضُ إِلَّا مَا أَكَلُ أَوْ لَبَسَ فَقُلْتُ لَهُ جَعَلْتَ فِدَاكَ مَا أَلْعَلُّهُ فِي ذَلِكَ قَالَ لِأَنَّ السُّجُودَ هُوَ الْخُضُوعُ لِلَّهِ عَزَّ وَجَلَّ فَلَا يَنْبَغِي أَنْ يَكُونَ عَلَى مَا يُؤْكَلُ وَ يُلْبَسُ لِأَنَّ أَوْلَادَ الدُّنْيَا عَبِيدُ مَا يَأْكُلُونَ وَ يَلْبَسُونَ

Hisham bin Hakam: I asked Imam Sadiq (as): Inform me about things on which Sujud is permissible and those on which it is not permissible. The Imam (as) said: Sujud is not permissible on anything but the earth or what grows from the earth, except for those things that are eaten or worn.

I said: May my life be sacrificed upon you. What is the reason behind it?

The Imam (as) said: Sujud is an act of humbleness for Allah (swt), so it is not appropriate to be done on things that are eaten or worn; because the worldly people are slaves of what they eat and wear.

(Bihar al-Anwar, v. 82, pg. 147)

Conditions for the Place of Sujud:

1. It must be pure; there should not be a dry Najasah also.
2. Sujud must be done on the earth and that which grows from the earth, except the edibles and wearables.

- In the opinion of the author, Sujud can be done on potter and ceramics.
- If one does Sujud on something which he considered permissible for Sujud, his Salat will be deemed valid.



قَالَ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: لَا تُعَادُ الصَّلَاةُ إِلَّا مِنْ خَمْسَةٍ، الظُّهُورِ وَالْوَقْتِ وَالْقِبْلَةِ وَالرُّكُوعِ وَالسُّجُودِ.
The Salat must not be repeated except for five things: Purity, time, Qibla, Ruku' and Sujud.

(Wasail al-Shia, v. 6, pg. 91)

- While praying, if someone no longer has access to something on which Sujud is permissible, he can perform Sujud on the cotton/linen that he is wearing. If that is not available, then he must look for metals like gold and silver. The last option is to do Sujud on the back of the palm.
- If someone offers Salat in the state of Taqiyya, he does not have to repeat his prayer.