

Bismillahir-Rahmaanir-Rahim

SERVING THE MUSLIM COMMUNITY SINCE 1983

QUESTIONS ASKED TO HIS EMINENCE, THE GRAND AYATOULLAH AS-SAYYID ALI AL-HUSSAINI SEESTANI AT HIS RESIDENCE IN NAJAF DURUING OUR VISIT WITH A GROUP FROM NORTH AMERICA ON 21ST NOVEMBER 1999.

We bring Salaams and duas from Momineen and Mominaat of North America and we present the following questions to your Eminence on their behalf. We humbly request you to kindly give us the answers and guidance.

- Q 01 There was some talk going on the Internet few months back some youngsters in Najaf approached your Eminence and demanded that your Eminence lead Jummah Salaat and when you declined, they set your house on fire. Alhamdulillah, your Eminence and your son escaped unharmed although part of your house was severely damaged. **Is this true?**
- ANS. He smiled. Since your visit last year until to day, Alhamdulillah nothing such has happened.
- Q.02 It was also mentioned on the Internet, that your Eminence is advising the Zuwar coming to Najaf not to bring Huqooq to you in person as that is causing you great difficulties with the authorities and your Eminence strongly recommended that all such funds be given to any of your Wakeel in different parts of the world. **Is this true?**
- ANS. Momineen can bring their Huqooq to me personally, but if they are afraid that they will either lose or get it stolen, then they can pay direct to my account or give it to any one of my Wakeel.
- Q.03 The Kaffan that has written on it with Ayah of Quran, the names of Allah and or Al-Joshin Alkabeer. Is it allowed to use it as a Kaffan?
- ANS. It is not allowed to us it as a Kaffan but there is no problem to keep on top of the shroud on the chest.
- Q.04 For a person who has passed away, what is the IJARA in money for Salaat, fast and recitation of the Holy Quran?
- ANS. For Salaat it is US\$100 for one year. For fasting it is US\$100 for one year and Kafara of one day of fasting is US\$7. For recitation of the Holy Quran it is US\$70 per Quran.
- Q. 05 How many Qatme-Quran has each person to do in his/her lifetime?
- ANS. There is no minimum.
- Q. 06 We take Kafela to Umrah and Hajj and would like to find out whether a person can wear Ihram from Jeddah and proceed straight to Makkah without going to the Meeqat e.g. Masjid-e-Johfa or Masjid-e-Shajarah?
- ANS. Yes only by way of NADR.
- Q. 07 In our Hajj & Umrah Kafela we have both the Muqaleed of Marhum Ayatoullah Syed Al-Khoei and also your Muqaleed. It is our understanding that if man travel in a close bus in Ihram then he has to pay a Kafara of one sheep for the Muqaleed of Marhum Ayatoullah Syed Al-Khoei and your Muqaleed can travel during the night provided it does not rain? **Please advise.**
- ANS. Every Muqaleed have to follow the rulings of his/her Marja whose Taqleed he/she is doing.
- Q. 08 Is it allowed to do Sajdah on the carpet while praying at Masjid-e-Nabawi, Masjid-ul-Haram and Masjid-e-Aqsa?
- ANS. It is possible but your sajdah is not correct. You are allowed to do this only if you are afraid that you will be harmed or it will create a problem if you do not do it.
- Q. 09 Is it OK to pray behind a Sunni Imam in Medina, Makkah, Masjid-e-Aqsa or any other place?

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- ANS. There is no harm to pray behind a Sunni Imam with the Niyyat of Furadah and you have to recite all suras and when the Imam recites long suras and you have completed yours, you may just do Dhikar of Allah and continue the Salaat with them. You must not do Qunuut, as this will cut you off from the cycle of the Jamaat.
- Q.10 Is it permissible to wear Ihram at your place of residence in Medina and then go the Masjid-e-Shajarah and do your Niyyat and proclaim Talbiya?
- ANS. Yes, it is permissible.
- Q.11 Can one continue to do the Taqleed of a Marja who has passed away?
- ANS. Yes, you can continue if in your opinion the passed away Marja is Alaam.
- Q.12. When praying in a Masjid can men and women pray in the same hall side by side without a screen (partition)?
- ANS. Yes, provided the distance between them is 1 DHIRA, which is approximately 3 feet, but it is better for women to pray behind the men.
- Q.13 Is it OK to pay the Khudaam (Mutavallis) for allowing the Zuwar to take pictures, video or visit the actual grave of Hazrat Abbas A.S. and AL Kamaah under the Rauza of Hazrat Abbas A.S.?
- ANS. No problem.

QUESTIONS ASKED TO HIS EMINENCE, THE GRAND AYATOULLAH AS-SAYYID ALI AL-HUSSAINI SEESTANI AT HIS RESIDENCE IN NAJAF DURUING OUR VISIT WITH A GROUP FROM NORTH AMERCIA IN JULY 2000.

We bring Salaams and duas from Momineen and Mominaat of North America and we present the following questions to your Eminence on their behalf. We humbly request you to kindly give us the answers and guidance.

- Q 14 Is it permissible for women to wear trousers with Hijab or without Hijab in the presence of ladies only?
- ANS. If women in their country of residence wear trousers, then there is no harm.
- Q 15 Is it necessary to wear an ABA or just long dress is acceptable?
- ANS. Not necessary to wear an Abaya. The long dress is acceptable provided three conditions are met.
- The dress should not be transparent.
 - The dress should not be attractive to invite attention.
 - The dress should not be tight as to clearly show your figure.
- Q 16 Is it permitted for ladies to apply Henna on their feet or hands.
- ANS. There is no harm provided the feet and the hands are not displayed in front of NaMahram.
- Q 17 In Masjid-e-Khomeni in Iran, or Masjid-e-Shahide-Sadar in Iraq, or Masjid-e-Umar in Alquds. Is it permitted to pray in them and ask Allah (SWT) to grant them Shafaat?
- ANS. It is permitted to pray in any Masjid as they are house of Allah and there is no harm to ask Allah (SWT) to Grant them Shafaat provided you just consider them as A'alem or a leader.
- Q 18 Is it permitted if one touches unintentionally a NaMahram during Tawaaf of Khan-e-Ka'aba or during performance of Ziyarat at any Rauza of our Fourteen Masoomeen A.S.?
- ANS. It is permitted provided no lust is involved.
- Q 19 Is it permitted to consider money you have already paid to poor or relatives as sadaqa who are needy and deduct the amount to be paid from your Khums?

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ANS. It is not permitted unless you obtain permission from your Marja and it is normally 33 and 1/3% of Sahm-e-Imam.

Q 20 Is it permitted to do Sajda on the back of your palm if you do not have the Sajdagha?

ANS. It is not permitted.

Q 21 Is it permitted to name Hajj as your Maher at the time of your wedding?

ANS. Yes you can.

Q 22 Is it permitted to perform any good A'amaal and give it as Hadiya to the Prophet of Allah (SAW) or our Masoomeen A.S. or relatives and passed away friends?

ANS. It is permitted on the contrary you will get more Thawab in doing so.

Q 23. Is it permitted to accept if somebody declares that he/she has seen our 12th Imam (atf) or our Prophet in his/her dreams?

ANS. May be it is true but you should reserve your beliefs.

Q 24. A lady is saving money to buy a home, but it has taken her about four years to do so. Is Khums liable on the savings?

ANS. Yes.

Q 25 Is it permitted to use upgraded transportation, to stay in expensive hotels, and eat expensive meals when one goes to perform Umra, Hajj or Ziyarat?

ANS. There is no harm if one does it according to his means and affordability but one should not make Asraaf (waistage) of food.

Q 26 Is it necessary to put on Hijab when reciting the Holy Quran if the lady is by herself in the room?

ANS. No it is not necessary.

Q 27. When one is a traveler and is required to pray Kasr Salaat what Niyat one should do at Fajr and Maghrib Salaat?

ANS. The Niyat should not be made for Kasr during these two Salaat.

Q 28. Is it permitted for men to wear a watch that has some gold on it but does not touch the skin?

ANS. It is not permitted.

Q 29. Is it permitted for men to wear white gold?

ANS. If white gold is a metal other than yellow gold then it is not a problem to wear it. If white gold is a mixture of yellow gold with some other metal like nickel etc., or if the colour of the yellow gold has been changed to white through a chemical process then IT IS NOT PERMITTED to wear.

Q 30. Is there any limitation for wearing clothes by men?

ANS. There is no limitation as long as the private parts are covered.

Q 31 Is it Haram for a lady to wear Nikah?

ANS. It is not Haram provided it does not become a hindrance in her daily life.

Q 32 a) Where is Nabi Musa buried, in Alquds or Jordan?

b) There is the cave of Ahsab-e-Khaaf in Syria and the Seven Sleepers in Jordan? Which is correct?

d) What is the birthplace of Nabi Issa? Alquds or Masjid-e-Boratha in Iraq?

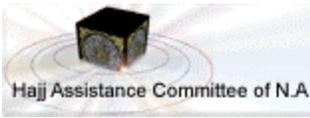
ANS. There is no proof about any of these and to speculate is Haraam.



- Q 33 Why music is Haraam and which kind of music is Halaal? Is there a verse in the Holy Quran to support this?
ANS. Any music that excites you is Haraam. You do not require the support of the Holy Quran. Just follow your Marja.
- Q 34 If you are working as a designer and you are asked by the management to create a design of any Alcohol drink for one of their clients and if you refuse you will lose your job. In this circumstance is it permitted to listen to the management and create the design?
ANS. It is not permitted because the design created by you will promote the sale of Alcohol .
- Q 35. A Momin has been buried some months ago and the person who performed the rituals of Mayat comes back to the family and tells them that he made some mistakes in the burial rituals. Should the body be exhumed and the correct rituals performed?
ANS It is not permitted.

QUESTIONS ASKED HIS EMINENCE, THE GRAND AYATOULLAH AS-SAYYID ALI AL-HUSSAINI SEESTANI AT HIS RESIDENCE IN NAJAF DURUING OUR VISIT WITH A GROUP FROM NORTH AMERCIA IN JULY 2001.

- Q. 36 Is it permissible for a woman to recite Marthiyas and/or Navhas in the presence of NaMahram?
ANS. There is no difference in the recitation of Marthiyas, Navhas, Quran and/or Duas. It is permissible?
- Q. 37 If an A'alem is not available nor any other person to take his place to lead the "JUMMA" prayers then what steps should be taken?
ANS. If there is no such a person available who can lead the "Jumma" prayers, then one should recite Salaat-e-Dhohar instead. The requirement for the person who can lead the Salaat-e-Jumma is the one who should be an A'ADIL and also be qualified to recite the two Khutbaas.
- Q 38 In North America many a times we do have severe snow storms and the roads are not passable to reach the Masjid then what steps should one take for 'Jumma' prayers?
ANS. One should then recite Salaat-e-Dhohar at home or office, wherever he is.
- Q 39 Should Khums be paid calculated according to the English or Islamic calendar?
ANS It does not matter, either way is accepted.
- Q 38 Are Ayatoullah Shirazi or Ayatoullah Fahdlullah be followed as Marja and can also books written by them accepted?
ANS. No comments. Never ask about other A'alems. The normal rule to decide on a Marja is that he should be an A'adil and does Ijthihad and also there is an agreement among other living A'alems that he is the greatest (A'alam) than other A'alems, otherwise doing Taqleed of an A'alem without the above requirements is doubtful.
- Q 39 What is the rule of Khums on inheritance?
ANS. No Khums is applicable on Inheritance.
- Q 40. If in a family, the parents are the Muqaleed of Marhum Shed Al Khoei and the children who have become Balig after the death of Syed Al Khoei and are your Muqaleed then what rule should be followed to maintain the Unity in the family as many rulings between you and Marhum Syed Al Khoei differs, especially in the sighting of the moon?
ANS. The Taqleed should not be changed and each person should respect the other persons Marja.



- Q 41 Is it necessary for a woman to cover her face as part of her Hijab?
ANS. NOT necessary. It is Ihtiyate Mustahab, depending in the country of her residence. For example, in Saudi Arabia or in Kuwait it is recommended that the woman cover her face and in other countries for example America or Canada it is not recommended as it will create 'Fitna' and the woman will be out of place. The veil called Khimar should fall from the top of the head to the chin.
- Q 42 Is it Wajib for a woman to wear socks in Salaat?
ANS. No, as it is not the requirement.
- Q 43 If a sick person makes a will in America that he should not be 'Hooked-up' to a machine for prolonging his life, then what law should the doctor follow the Islamic or the American Law?
ANS. The person making such a will cannot be a Muslim as it is forbidden for Muslims to make such a will. There is no harm for the doctor to follow the will.
- Q 44 If we receive money for the poor, is it allowed to use part of the money to feed the poor either Sadaat and/or Non-Sadaat?
ANS. It is permissible provided no conditions are set.
- Q 45 Are men allowed to wear just waist and shorts?
ANS. Yes, it is allowed.
- Q 46 Can we keep birds in the cage for our own pleasure?
ANS. There is no harm provided you are looking after them in the best possible way and you do not hit them. This also applies to other caged animals.
- Q 47. Can man put a pin to hold the upper part of his Ihram, which is on his shoulders?
ANS. No problem but it is recommended NOT to put any pin.
- Q 48 Can Nadr money for Imam Hussein A.S. if Hazrat Abbas A.S. be used to prepare food etc for poor people in Iraq?
ANS. It is acceptable.

Mahmud & Zehra Habib
Organizers
Hajj Assistance Committee of North America.

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