The Teachings of Islam

Workbook of Islamic Beliefs and Teachings
For Beginners and Children

PART II

English Version of
Ta’leemul-Islaam
by
Allaamah Mufti Muhammad Kifaayatullah
Who is better in religion than the one who surrenders his purpose to Allah, does good, and follows the tradition of Iбрааheem the Upright (haneef)?

(4:125)
Note on Transliteration

An effort has been made to transliterate Arabic words as intuitively and correctly as possible. However, because of the lack of direct correspondence between the English and Arabic alphabets, the transliterated words are only approximations of the Arabic originals. As far as possible, the Arabic letters have been transliterated as indicated in the table below.

Guide to Transliteration

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PART II

In the name of Allah, the Beneficient, the Merciful

We praise Allah, the Most High, Most Great, and pray for Allah’s blessings upon His noble Prophet.

Teachings of Faith

Q. How many “pillars” of Islam are there?
A. There are five.

Q. Name them.
A. They are:
  ♦ Hearty belief in the meaning of kalimah tayyibah or kalimah shahadah and to express this belief orally.
  ♦ Saying namaaz (salaah).
  ♦ Giving zakaah (alms to the poor).

* Based upon Taleem-ul-Islam by Allaama Mufti Muhammad Kifaayatullah. Translation by Dr. Mahmood Qaderi. (Sh. Muhammad Ashraf, Lahore, Pakistan. 1981.)
Fasting during the month of Ramadan.

Performing the Hajj.

Q. What is the kalimah tayyibah and what does it mean?
A. Kalimah tayyibah is:

\[
\text{La\'a\'l\'laah il-laahu muhammadur rasoolul laah}
\]

There is no god except Allah; Muhammad (peace be upon him) is His Messenger.

Q. What is kalimah shahaadah and what is its meaning?
A. Kalimah shahaadah is:

\[
\text{Ash-hadu an\'laa ilaaha il-laahu wa ash-hadu an-naa Muhammadan \text{\`a}b-duhoo wa rasooluh}
\]

I bear witness that there is no god except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is Allah’s worshipper and His Messenger.

Q. Does a man or woman become Muslim if they recite the kalimah without understanding its meaning and intent?
A. No. It is necessary to understand its meanings and believe in it and express this belief in words.

Q. What do you call this belief and its oral expression?
A. It is called “testification” or expression of imaan.

Q. How does one receive the testification of a dumb man who cannot talk?
A. Since it his natural inability to talk, his gestures would do. That is, he must express himself by pointing out that Allah is one and that Muhammad (\text{\`a}b-duhoo) is His prophet.

Q. How big a bucket should be used?
A. The bucket should be the same as is generally used on that well.

Q. Should the water be taken out all at once or can it be done intermittently?
A. Doing it at intervals is also allowed, e.g. if 60 buckets full of water are to be taken out, 20 buckets in the morning, 20 at noon and 20 in the afternoon can be taken out.

Q. Should the rope by which the bucket has been pulled out be treated as nijs?
A. When the required quantity of water has been pulled out, the well, the bucket and the rope all become taahir.
♦ When dirt falls into a well, taking out all water will make it taahir.
♦ When a man, pig, dog, goat, two cats or any other animal as big or bigger than these dies after falling down into the well, all water must be taken out.
♦ If an animal, having flowing blood in its veins, dies and bloats or has burst, the whole water should be taken out, whether the animal is big or small.
♦ 40 buckets full of water are to be taken out if a pigeon, hen, cat or any other animal as big as that dies after falling down but has not bloated.
♦ If a mouse or a bird or any other animal of similar size falls down and dies, 20 buckets full of water are to be taken out.
Note: It is mustahab (better) to pull out 30 instead of 20 and 60 instead of 40 buckets.

Q. If a dead animal falls into the well, what is the rule for that?
A. The same rule is applicable in the case of a dead animal falling as when dying after falling down. If a dead goat falls into the well, all water should be taken out; if a dead cat, 40 or 60 buckets should be taken out; if a dead mouse, then 20 or 30 buckets.

Q. What if a bloated or burst animal falls down the well?
A. All the water should be taken out as in the case of an animal which died after falling down and became bloated and burst.

Q. What if a dead animal is found in the well and it is not known when exactly it fell in?
A. The well should be treated as ghair taahir (unclean) from the time such an animal was found.

Belief of Muslims Regarding Allah

Q. What are the articles of faith according to Islam?
A. There are seven of them as mentioned in imaan mufassal:

اَمْنِتُ بِاللَّهِ وَ مَلَائِكَتِهِ وَ كَنْبِهِ وَ رُسُلِهِ وَ الْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ وَ الْقَدْرِ

وَ خَيْرَهُ وَ شَرَّهُ مِنَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَ الْمَعْتَضُدُّ بِعَدَدِ المُوْت

I believe in Allah, in His angels, in His books, in His messengers, in the Day of Judgement, and (I believe) that all good and evil is decreed by Allah, and in the life after death.

Note: It is mustahab (better) to pull out 30 instead of 20 and 60 instead of 40 buckets.

Q. What is the Muslim’s belief about Allah?
A. His belief is that:
♦ Allah is One.
♦ None is worthy of worship except Allah.
♦ He has no partner.
♦ He knows everything and nothing is hidden from Him.
♦ He is the Fountainhead of all strength and power.
♦ He has created the earth, the sky, the sun, the moon, the stars, angels, human beings, jinn, and in fact created the whole universe out of nothing. He is the Master of all.
♦ He creates and destroys. Everything in creation is born or brought to an end by His order.
♦ He feeds all His creation.
♦ He neither eats, nor drinks nor sleeps.
♦ He Himself exists from eternity and will exist to eternity.
♦ Nobody gave birth to Him.
♦ He has no father, no son, no daughter, nor has He any relations. He is free from all these relations.
♦ Everybody and everything depends on Him. He does not depend on anyone. Nor is He in need of anything.
He is peerless. Nothing is like Him, nothing resembles Him.

He is above all weaknesses and free from all defects and shortcomings.

He has no hands, feet, nose, ears or face like human beings.

He has made angels to look after certain affairs of the world.

He sent prophets for the guidance of His creatures. They taught them the true religion, instructed them in what is good and tried to keep them away from what is evil.

Angels

Q. What are the angels?
A. They are Allah’s creatures, made of light (noor). They are not physical beings and therefore are (mostly) invisible to the human eye. They do not disobey Allah nor commit any sin. They keep on readily doing the work assigned to them by Allah.

Q. How many angels are there?
A. Nobody except Allah knows their exact number. This much is known that there are many angels and four of them stand out prominently in respect of their nearness to Allah.

Q. Who are those four prominent angels?
A. The first one is Hadrat Jibraa’eel who brought Allah’s books, commands and messages to His prophets. The second is Hadrat Israafeel who will blow the trumpet on the Day of Judgment. The third is Hadrat Mikaa’eel whose work is to bring the rain and give sustenance to Allah’s creatures. The fourth is Hadrat ‘Izraa’eel (peace be upon them all) who is deputed to take the life out of a living creature.¹

¹ Often known as the “angel of death.”

Q. What else makes water nijs?
A. If a living thing, other than those born in water such as fish, frogs, etc. and lizards and insects, falls and dies in the water, it makes the water nijs. For example, a bird, pigeon, cat or a mouse is drowned in a tank or pond – it will make the water nijs.

Q. Which animals do not make the water nijs if they die in the water?
A. Animals which live and are born in water like fish and frogs and animals which do not have flowing blood in their veins, e.g. flies, mosquitoes, wasps, lizards, ants – if they die in the water, do not make it nijs.

Well Water

Q. What things make a well nijs?
A. A well becomes nijs if najaasat, ghaleeza or khafeefa falls down into it or an animal having flowing blood falls into it and dies there.

Q. If an animal comes out alive after falling into the well, does the water remain taahir or does it become nijs?
A. The well becomes nijs if an animal whose drunk water is also nijs or an animal with dirt upon its body falls down in it. The water would not become nijs if such an animal, haraam or halaal falls down in the well whose drunk water is regarded as taahir, and at the time of falling down, it had no dirt upon its body and comes out alive. The water of the well will be taken to be taahir in case it becomes certain that it did not discharge urine or excreta while in the well.

Q. What is the way of making a well taahir when it becomes nijs?
A. There are five ways of making a well taahir:
Q. The water left after drinking by what animals becomes *nijs* (polluted)?
A. Water from which dogs, pigs or any other hunting quadruped have drunk is not *taahir*. In the same way, the water which a cat drinks immediately after eating a mouse or any other such thing is also *nijs*. Water left by a person who has just taken wine is *nijs* too.

Q. Water left by which animals is *makrooh*?
A. Water left by a cat (if it had not just eaten a mouse), lizard, wild hen, filth-eating cow or buffalo, crow, kite, hawk and all other *haraam* animals.

Q. Water drunk by which animals is *taahir*?
A. Water left by human beings and that of *halaal* animals, cow, goat, pigeon, dove and horse is *taahir*.

Q. Which water becomes *nijs* when *najaasat* falls into it?
A. All waters, except two, become *nijs* if *najaasat* falls into them. The other two that remain *taahir* are:
- River water and
- Stored water of large quantity, like water in a big tank or big reservoir.

Q. What will be called a “large quantity of stored water”?
A. Stored or standing water, which covers an area of 17 x 17 feet and is deep enough that a man can take out water with his hands without scraping the bottom is considered a “large quantity of water.” Any tank or reservoir, as big as this, will be called a big tank or big reservoir.

Q. Does the water of a big tank or reservoir also become *nijs*?
A. Yes, when the taste, color or smell of the *najaasat* becomes apparent.

Allah’s Books

Q. How many Books of Allah are there?
A. There are many Books of Allah, small and large, which were revealed to the prophets of Allah. The comprehensive books are known as *kutub* (its singular is *kitaab*) and the smaller ones are known as *suhuf* (singular: *gaheefah*). Four books are well-known.

Q. What are those four heavenly books and who are the prophets upon whom those were revealed?
A. They are:
- *Tauraaah* (Old Testament) which came to Hadrat Moosa (ﷺ).
- *Zaboor* (Psalms), revealed upon Hadrat Dawood (ﷺ).
- *Qur’aan al-Kareem*, revealed to our Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ).

Q. How many *suhuf* are there and to whom were they revealed?
A. The exact number of *suhuf* is not known. Some were given to Hadrat Adam (ﷺ), some to Hadrat Sheeth (ﷺ) and some to Hadrat Ibrahim (ﷺ). There are many more *suhuf* which were revealed to other prophets.

Messengers of Allah

(peace be upon them all)

Q. Who are *rusul* (prophets)?
A. *Rusul* are Allah’s servants and human beings. Allah commissioned them to convey His commands to other human beings.

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2 After the names of the prophets of Allah, Muslims say: ‘alaihis-salaam – “peace be upon him.”
beings. They were truthful. They never told lies. They 
performed miracles by the order of Allah. They did not 
commit sins. They were infallible. They delivered Allah’s 
commands in all completeness. They neither added anything 
to His commands nor dropped any part of them, nor did they 
hide any part of them.

Q. What is meant by Nabiy?
A. Nabiy is synonymous with “prophet.” They are Allah’s 
    servants and human beings. They delivered Allah’s commands 
to other human beings. They were truthful. They never told 
lies. They did not commit sins. They were infallible. They 
delivered Allah’s commands in all completeness. They neither 
added nor dropped nor hid any portion of Allah’s commands.

Q. Is there any difference between nabiy and rasool or do 
both have the same meaning?
A. There is a small difference between the two. Every prophet is 
a nabiy. But a rasool is the prophet who was given a new shari’ah (Divine Law) and a Book. A nabiy followed the shari’ah that was given to the prophet before him. A nabiy is 
not given a new shari’ah and new Book.

Q. Can anyone become a nabiy by his own efforts and 
devotions?
A. No. A nabiy is appointed and chosen only by Allah. This rank 
is entirely bestowed by Allah. Man’s personal efforts or his 
    own desire do not count in the least in this respect.

Q. How many rasul were there?
A. Many rasul came to the world but only Allah knows their 
extact number. We should express our imaan in all prophets 
sent by Allah and testify to all of them and believe that they 
are prophets.

Q. By what things should istinjaa be done?
A. By clean mud pieces or stones.

Q. Use of what things in istinjaa is makrooh?
A. The use of bone or eatables, or coal or cloth or paper for 
istinjaa is makrooh.

Q. By which hand should istinjaa be done?
A. By left hand – istinjaa by right hand is makrooh.

Water

Q. What sorts of water are good for wudu’?
A. Wudu’ and ghusul are allowed with rain water, well water, 
    spring, sea or river water or the water of melting snow or hail 
    and the water of a big tank or pond.

Q. What sorts of water are not good for wudu’?
A. The water extracted from fruits and trees; water that has 
    changed its color and taste and has become thick and dense 
    because something, even taahir, was soaked in it; a small 
    quantity of water in which some dirty things have fallen or 
    some animal had died after falling into it; used water of 
    wudu’ or ghusul; polluted and dirty water; water left by 
    haraam animals after drinking; and distilled water of rose or 
    aniseed or of any other drug.

Q. What is the water called by which wudu’ or ghusul has 
been done?
A. Such water is called musta’mal (used) water. This, in itself, is 
    taahir but wudu’ or ghusul by it is not allowed.

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5 It is not appropriate to use paper for istinjaa when you also use it for writing and printing and reading. But with toilet paper, it is different. It can be used for istinjaa since it was made only for that purpose, not for writing or printing.
Q. How much of \textit{khafeefa najaasat} can be excused?  
A. If it covers less than a quarter of a garment or any particular part of the body, it can be excused.

Q. How to clean one’s body or clothes from \textit{haggeqi najaasat}?  
A. \textit{Haggeqi najaasat}, whether it is \textit{ghaleeza} or \textit{khafeefa}, on the body or clothing, can be cleaned by washing three times, and after every washing the garment must be squeezed.

Q. Can it be cleaned by water only or by something else as well?  
A. Yes, by all \textit{taahir} (clean) liquids and fluids. Vinegar or watermelon’s juice, for example, can also wash and clean the \textit{haggeqi najaasat}.

\textbf{Istinjaa}

Q. What is meant by \textit{istinjaa}?  
A. Getting rid of uncleanness, which one gets when one goes to the toilet, is called \textit{istinjaa}.

Q. How to do \textit{istinjaa} after urinating?  
A. After urinating, dry the urine with a clean piece of mud or toilet paper and then wash with water.

Q. How to do \textit{istinjaa} after excreting feces?  
A. Clean the private part with three or five clean mud pieces or toilet paper and then wash.

Q. When to do \textit{istinjaa}?  
A. If urine or the excreta does not soil parts other than the private parts, \textit{istinjaa} is \textit{mustahab}. If uncleanness has spread to other parts but covers a space of about a \textit{dirham}, area of the circle of an inch diameter or less than that, it is \textit{sunnah}. And if it is more than that, then \textit{istinjaa} is \textit{fard}.

\textbf{The Day of Judgment}

Q. What is the Day of Judgment?  
A. The Day of Judgment, or \textit{Qiyaamah}, is the day when all creatures will die and the whole universe will be destroyed. Mountains will fly like flakes of cotton, stars will break down. Everything will be shattered and destroyed.

Q. How will all the creatures die on the Day of Judgment?  
A. Ha\textit{drat Israafeel} will blow the \textit{soor} (trumpet). Its sound will be so dreadful and so strong that its shock will kill every living being and everything will be shattered and destroyed.
Q. **When will Qiyaamah come?**
A. *Qiyaamah is to come.* But none except Allah knows its exact time. Only this much is known, that it will be Friday and the date will be the 10th of Muharram. Our Prophet (ﷺ) has given some of the signs of *Qiyaamah.* Observing these signs, the nearness of *Qiyaamah* may be known.

Q. **What are those signs?**
A. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) has said that: When sins begin to increase in the world; people begin to disobey their parents and treat them harshly; begin to break trusts and abuse confidences; music and dance prevail in excess; new generations begin to abuse their ancestors; illiterate and people with little education become leaders; mean and ordinary people begin to construct high buildings; and the unworthy people begin to get high posts – it may be taken that the *Qiyaamah* is approaching near.

**Fate**

Q. **What is *taqdeer* (fate)?**
A. In Allah’s knowledge, there is an estimate and appraisal for everything good and bad. Allah knew this about every creature before anything was created. This knowledge and the estimate of Allah is called *taqdeer.* Nothing, good or bad, is beyond Allah’s knowledge and estimate.

**Life After Death**

Q. **What is meant by life after death?**
A. Everything will be destroyed in *Qiyaamah* but when Hadrat Israafeel (ﷺ) will blow the *soor* for the second time, everything will come to life once again. Human beings will also come to life. All will assemble before Allah in *Maidaan-e-Hashr* (Field of Resurrection). There, an account of deeds...
Q. For how many days is masah allowed on socks once they are put on?
A. Masah on socks is allowed for a day and a night- 24 hour- if one is at home, and three days and nights when travelling.

Q. Is masah on socks allowed in wudu’ and ghusul both?
A. No. The masah of socks is allowed only for wudu’ and not for ghusul.

Q. Is masah allowed on torn socks?
A. Masah will not be allowed if the sock is so much torn that it has an opening the size of the three little toes together, or, when walking, it opens to that extent. It is allowed if the sock is torn less than that.

Masah On Jabeerah

Q. What is jabeerah?
A. Jabeerah is the piece of wood (splint) which is used to set right fractured bones. But here jabeerah does not mean only a splint but also any bandage or plaster over any part of the body.

Q. What are the orders for masah on the bandage, splint or other sort of coverings on wounds?
A. Masah is allowed over the bandage or covering if the removal of the piece of wood, bandage or the covering is harmful and causes much pain.

Q. On how much of the bandage should masah be done?
A. On the whole of the bandage.

will take place. The day on which this will be done is called Yau-mul-Hashr or the Day of Resurrection, Yau-mul-Jazaa and Yau-mid-Deen (Day of Recompense) or Yau-mul-Hisaab (Day of Reckoning).

Q. Is a person entitled to be called a Muslim if he does not accept one or two things out of the seven things mentioned in the imaan mufassal?
A. Not at all. Unless one believes fully in the Oneness of Allah, in the prophethood of all the prophets, in Allah’s Books and angels, in taqdeer (divine predestination) decreed by Allah, and Qiyaamah (Day of Judgment) and the Life after Death, he cannot be called a Muslim.

Q. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) has named five things as the basis of Islam. But there is no mention of angels, Allah’s Books, Qiyaamah, taqdeer, etc. Why not?
A. Among the five things there is mention of expressing imaan on Hadrat Muhammad (ﷺ) and when one believes in the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), he has to accept everything that the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) has said. It will also be necessary to believe in Allah’s Book that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) and express one’s imaan in it. All these things are mentioned in imaan mufassal and are supported to be true by the Holy Quran and by the traditions (ahaadeeth) of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ).

Q. Will one remain a Muslim if one does believe in all these seven things heartily, and testifies to them orally but does not say salaah or give zakaah or keep fasts or perform the Hajj?
A. Yes, he is a Muslim but he is sinful and disobedient to Allah. Such a person is called faasiq (sinner or impious person). These people will be punished for their sins but will be pardoned in the end.
Islamic Practices

Q. What is meant by Islamic A’maal (practices) ?
A. Of the five things which form the basis of Islam, the first one is imaan. You have read its details above. The rest of the four things: salaah, zakaah, fasting in Ramadaan and Hajj, are called Islamic a’maal or the practices of Islam. This part of the book will deal with salaah.

Salaah

Q. What is salaah or namaaz?
A. Salaah is a special type of prayer that has been taught by Allah through His Prophet ( ﷺ) to Allah’s servants.

Q. What conditions are necessary for salaah ?
A. The prerequisites for salaah are seven. Without them salaah cannot be performed. These conditions are called fard or sharaa-it of salaah.

Conditions for Salaah

Q. What are those seven conditions that must be observed before saying salaah ?
A. They are:
♦ Taahir (clean) body;
♦ Taahir dress;
♦ Taahir place of prayer;
♦ Covering the satar (the private parts of one’s body);
♦ The correct time of the salaah;
♦ Facing towards the qiblah; and
♦ Niyyah or intention of saying salaah.

Masah Over Socks

Q. How many sunnats are there in ghusul ?
A. There are five sunnats in ghusul:
♦ Washing the hands up to the wrists;
♦ Washing the private parts and the parts over which uncleanness is found;
♦ Niyyah of washing off hukmi najaasat;
♦ Doing wuduu’ first; and
♦ Passing water over the whole body three times.

Q. Is it necessary to wash the feet every time when you do wuduu’ ?
A. No. It is not necessary all the time. When you are wearing thick socks you can do masah over them.

Q. How to do this masah ?
A. Wet your fingers with water and then, putting three fingers on the toes, pull your hands upwards. Apply the fingers fully and not only the tips. Masah is done on the upper portion of the socks. Masah done on the soles or one the toes only is not complete.

Q. On what types of socks can you do masah?
A. There are three kinds of socks over which masah can be done:
1. Leather socks that cover the feet up to the ankles;
2 and 3. Those cotton and woolen socks which alone, without any other cover over them, are thick enough to carry a man for three or four miles without giving way or becoming torn.4

Q. When is masah admissible on these socks?
A. When worn after wuduu’ or after washing the feet only and the socks were worn continuously, even after the wuduu’ breaks.

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4 Another criterion is that the socks must be so thick that if you drip some drops of water on them, the water does not seep inside of the socks.
♦ Discharging of urine or stool, or the coming out of anything from the mentioned parts;
♦ Discharging gases;
♦ Flowing of blood or pus out of any part of the body;
♦ Vomiting in mouthful;
♦ To sleep lying down or while resting the body against something;
♦ To faint due to some illness or by any other reason;
♦ Become insane or going mad; and
♦ Laughing during the salaah also breaks wudu’.

Bath (Ghusul)

Q. How to clean one’s body from the hukmi najaasat, i.e. hadath akbar and janaabat?
A. The body can be cleaned of hukmi najaasat by taking ghusul.

Q. What is ghusul?
A. Ghusul means taking bath; but there is a particular way of taking bath described by share’at (Islamic law).

Q. What is the way of taking a ghusul?
A. The way of taking ghusul is this: First wash the hands up to the wrists. Then wash the private parts and the uncleanness or haqeeqi najaasat from the body. Then do wudu’. Then pour water over the body three times, gargle and put water into the nostrils.

Q. How many things are fard in ghusul?
A. Three things are fard in ghusul:
♦ Passing water into and out of the mouth. i.e. gargling;
♦ Putting water into the nostrils; and
♦ Passing water over the entire body.

The First Condition of Salaah

Q. What is meant by taahir (clean) body?
A. That one’s body should be clean of all najaasat (uncleanliness).

Q. How many kinds of najaasat are there?
A. Najaasat is of two kinds: one haqeeqi and the other hukmi.

Q. What is haqeeqi najaasat?
A. The najaasat which can be seen is called haqeeqi najaasat, for example urine, stool, blood, wines.

Q. What is hukmi najaasat?
A. When a man is without wudu’ or bath (when he needs it), he has hukmi najaasat.

Q. From what type of najaasat should one free his body before saying salaah?
A. It is necessary to be free from both types of najaasat for saying salaah.

Q. How many types of hukmi najaasat are there?
A. Two types: One is the lesser type known as Hadath-e-asghar, the other is the greater type which is called hadath-e-akbar or janaabat.

Q. How to clean oneself from the lesser type of hukmi najaasat?
A. By wudu’ one can clean oneself from the lesser type of hukmi najaasat.

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3 In this part of Teachings of Islam we will only discuss the first condition of prayer.
The Wuduu’

Q. What is wuduu’?
A. Wuduu’ is a special way of washing the exposed parts of the person. When one intends to perform wuduu’ for namaaz or otherwise, he should, with clean water, first wash his hands up to the wrists. Then gargle three times and clean the teeth with a miswaak or brush or with the fingers. Then put water in the nose and clean it with the left hand. Then wash the face three times. Then wash both hands up to the elbows and perform masah of the head, ears and neck. Then wash both the feet up to the ankles. You have already read the complete method of wuduu’ in the first part of this book.

Q. Are all these things necessary to perform the wuduu’?
A. There are certain things that are necessary and without them wuduu’ will not be complete. These are called fard (compulsory). There are other things which may be left out and the wuduu’ will be complete, though it will be naaquis (improper)- they are called sunnah. There are certain other things which bring more blessings of Allah or thawaab but if left out, they do not make much difference- these things are called mustahab (recommended and desirable).

Q. How many things are fard in wuduu’?
A. There are four things fard in wuduu’: ♦ Washing the face from the forehead to the lower portion of the chin and from one ear to the other; ♦ Washing both the arms, up to the elbows; ♦ Doing masah, covering at least a quarter of the head; and ♦ Washing of both feet up to the ankles.

Q. How many things are sunnah in wuduu’?
A. Wuduu’ has 13 things that are sunnah: ♦ Niyyah (intention); ♦ Saying the bismillaah before starting;

Q. What is mustahab in wuduu’?
A. Five things are mustahab in wuduu’: ♦ To begin with the right (i.e. the right hand, right arm, etc.- Many ‘ulamaa (scholars) consider this as sunnah with very strong opinion); ♦ Masah of the back of the neck; ♦ Doing everything by oneself without taking someone else’s help; ♦ Facing the qiblah; and ♦ Doing the wuduu’ at a clean and elevated or high place.

Q. How many things are makrooh (undesirable and obnoxious) in wuduu’?
A. Four things are makrooh in wuduu’: ♦ Doing wuduu’ at a dirty place; ♦ Cleaning the nose with the right hand; ♦ Talking unnecessarily while doing wuduu’; and ♦ Doing wuduu’ in a way that is against the sunnah.

Q. How many things break the wuduu’?
A. Eight things break the wuduu’. They are called nawaaqid (breakers) of wuduu’:
♦ Washing the hands three times up to the wrists; ♦ Brushing the teeth by miswaak or fingers; ♦ Gargling three times; ♦ Passing water into the nostrils three times; ♦ Khilaal – i.e. to pass wet fingers into the beard; ♦ Khilaal of fingers and toes; ♦ Washing of each part three times; ♦ Masah of both ears; ♦ Masah of both feet; ♦ Wuduu’ done systematically, in order; and ♦ Washing of each part one after the other without pause, so that no part dries up before you finish the whole wuduu’.

Q. How many things are nawaaqid in wuduu’?
A. They are:
♦ To begin with the right (i.e. the right hand, right arm, etc.- Many ‘ulamaa (scholars) consider this as sunnah with very strong opinion); ♦ Masah of the back of the neck; ♦ Doing everything by oneself without taking someone else’s help; ♦ Facing the qiblah; and ♦ Doing the wuduu’ at a clean and elevated or high place.
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♦ Passing water into the nostrils three times;
♦ Khilaal – i.e. to pass wet fingers into the beard;
♦ Khilaal of fingers and toes;
♦ Washing of each part three times;
♦ Masah of both ears;
♦ Masah of the whole head;
♦ Wudu’ done systematically, in order; and
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♦ Doing wudu’ in a way that is against the sunnah.

Q. How many things break the wudu’?
A. Eight things break the wudu’. They are called nawaaqid (breakers) of wudu’:
The Teachings of Islam – Part II

 ♦ Discharging of urine or stool, or the coming out of anything from the mentioned parts;
 ♦ Discharging gases;
 ♦ Flowing of blood or pus out of any part of the body;
 ♦ Vomiting in mouthful;
 ♦ To sleep lying down or while resting the body against something;
 ♦ To faint due to some illness or by any other reason;
 ♦ Become insane or going mad; and
 ♦ Laughing during the salaah also breaks wudhu’.

Bath (Ghusul)

Q. How to clean one’s body from the hukmi najaasat, i.e. hadath akbar and janaabat?
A. The body can be cleaned of hukmi najaasat by taking ghusul.

Q. What is ghusul?
A. Ghusul means taking bath; but there is a particular way of taking bath described by shari‘at (Islamic law).

Q. What is the way of taking a ghusul?
A. The way of taking ghusul is this: First wash the hands up to the wrists. Then wash the private parts and the uncleanness or haqeeqi najaasat from the body. Then do wudhu’. Then pour water over the body three times, gargle and put water into the nostrils.

Q. How many things are fard in ghusul?
A. Three things are fard in ghusul:
- Passing water into and out of the mouth. i.e. gargling;
- Putting water into the nostrils; and
- Passing water over the entire body.

Q. What is meant by taahir (clean) body?
A. That one’s body should be clean of all najaasat (uncleanliness).

Q. How many kinds of najaasat are there?
A. Najaasat is of two kinds: one haqeeqi and the other hukmi.

Q. What is haqeeqi najaasat?
A. The najaasat which can be seen is called haqeeqi najaasat, for example urine, stool, blood, wines.

Q. What is hukmi najaasat?
A. When a man is without wudhu’ or bath (when he needs it), he has hukmi najaasat.

Q. From what type of najaasat should one free his body before saying salaah?
A. It is necessary to be free from both types of najaasat for saying salaah.

Q. How many types of hukmi najaasat are there?
A. Two types: One is the lesser type known as Hadath-e-asghar, the other is the greater type which is called hadath-e-akbar or janaabat.

Q. How to clean oneself from the lesser type of hukmi najaasat?
A. By wudhu’ one can clean oneself from the lesser type of hukmi najaasat.

1 In this part of Teachings of Islam we will only discuss the first condition of prayer.
Islamic Practices

Q. What is meant by Islamic A’maal (practices)?
A. Of the five things which form the basis of Islam, the first one is imaan. You have read its details above. The rest of the four things: salaah, zakaah, fasting in Ramadaan and Hajj, are called Islamic a’maal or the practices of Islam. This part of the book will deal with salaah.

Salaah

Q. What is salaah or namaaz?
A. Salaah is a special type of prayer that has been taught by Allah through His Prophet (ﷺ) to Allah’s servants.

Q. What conditions are necessary for salaah?
A. The prerequisites for salaah are seven. Without them salaah cannot be performed. These conditions are called fard or sharaa-it of salaah.

Conditions for Salaah

Q. What are those seven conditions that must be observed before saying salaah?
A. They are:
- Taahir (clean) body;
- Taahir dress;
- Taahir place of prayer;
- Covering the satar (the private parts of one’s body);
- The correct time of the salaah;
- Facing towards the qiblah; and
- Niyyah or intention of saying salaah.

Masah Over Socks

Q. Is it necessary to wash the feet every time when you do wuduu’?
A. No. It is not necessary all the time. When you are wearing thick socks you can do masah over them.

Q. How to do this masah?
A. Wet your fingers with water and then, putting three fingers on the toes, pull your hands upwards. Apply the fingers fully and not only the tips. Masah is done on the upper portion of the socks. Masah done on the soles or one the toes only is not complete.

Q. On what types of socks can you do masah?
A. There are three kinds of socks over which masah can be done:
1. Leather socks that cover the feet up to the ankles;
2 and 3. Those cotton and woolen socks which alone, without any other cover over them, are thick enough to carry a man for three or four miles without giving way or becoming torn.4

Q. When is masah admissible on these socks?
A. When worn after wuduu’ or after washing the feet only and the socks were worn continuously, even after the wuduu’ breaks.

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4 Another criterion is that the socks must be so thick that if you drip some drops of water on them, the water does not seep inside of the socks.
Q. For how many days is masah allowed on socks once they are put on?
A. Masah on socks is allowed for a day and a night-24 hour- if one is at home, and three days and nights when travelling.

Q. Is masah on socks allowed in wudu’ and ghusul both?
A. No. The masah of socks is allowed only for wudu’ and not for ghusul.

Q. Is masah allowed on torn socks?
A. Masah will not be allowed if the sock is so much torn that it has an opening the size of the three little toes together, or, when walking, it opens to that extent. It is allowed if the sock is torn less than that.

\textbf{Masah On Jabeerah}

Q. What is jabeerah?
A. Jabeerah is the piece of wood (splint) which is used to set right fractured bones. But here jabeerah does not mean only a splint but also any bandage or plaster over any part of the body.

Q. What are the orders for masah on the bandage, splint or other sort of coverings on wounds?
A. Masah is allowed over the bandage or covering if the removal of the piece of wood, bandage or the covering is harmful and causes much pain.

Q. On how much of the bandage should masah be done?
A. On the whole of the bandage.

will take place. The day on which this will be done is called Yau-mul-Hashr or the Day of Resurrection, Yau-mul-Jazaa and Yau-mid-Deen (Day of Recompense) or Yau-mul-Hisaab (Day of Reckoning).

Q. Is a person entitled to be called a Muslim if he does not accept one or two things out of the seven things mentioned in the imaan mufassal?
A. Not at all. Unless one believes fully in the Oneness of Allah, in the prophethood of all the prophets, in Allah’s Books and angels, in taqdeer (divine predestination) decreed by Allah, and Qiyaamah (Day of Judgment) and the Life after Death, he cannot be called a Muslim.

Q. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) has named five things as the basis of Islam. But there is no mention of angels, Allah’s Books, Qiyaamah, taqdeer, etc. Why not?
A. Among the five things there is mention of expressing imaan on Hadrat Muhammad (ﷺ) and when one believes in the Holy Prophet (ﷺ), he has to accept everything that the Holy Prophet (ﷺ) has said. It will also be necessary to believe in Allah’s Book that was revealed to the Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) and express one’s imaan in it. All these things are mentioned in imaan mufassal and are supported to be true by the Holy Quran and by the traditions (ahaadeeth) of the Holy Prophet (ﷺ).

Q. Will one remain a Muslim if one does believe in all these seven things heartily, and testifies to them orally but does not say salaah or give zakaah or keep fasts or perform the Hajj?
A. Yes, he is a Muslim but he is sinful and disobedient to Allah. Such a person is called faasiq (sinner or impious person). These people will be punished for their sins but will be pardoned in the end.
Q. When will Qiyaamah come?
A. Qiyaamah is to come. But none except Allah knows its exact time. Only this much is known, that it will be Friday and the date will be the 10th of Muharram. Our Prophet (ﷺ) has given some of the signs of Qiyaamah. Observing these signs, the nearness of Qiyaamah may be known.

Q. What are those signs?
A. Prophet Muhammad (ﷺ) has said that: When sins begin to increase in the world; people begin to disobey their parents and treat them harshly; begin to break trusts and abuse confidences; music and dance prevail in excess; new generations begin to abuse their ancestors; illiterate and people with little education become leaders; mean and ordinary people begin to construct high buildings; and the unworthy people begin to get high posts – it may be taken that the Qiyaamah is approaching near.

Fate

Q. What is taqdeer (fate) ?
A. In Allah's knowledge, there is an estimate and appraisal for everything good and bad. Allah knew this about every creature before anything was created. This knowledge and the estimate of Allah is called taqdeer. Nothing, good or bad, is beyond Allah’s knowledge and estimate.

Life After Death

Q. What is meant by life after death?
A. Everything will be destroyed in Qiyaamah but when Hazrat Israafeel (ﷺ) will blow the soor for the second time, everything will come to life once again. Human beings will also come to life. All will assemble before Allah in Maidaan-e-Hashr (Field of Resurrection). There, an account of deeds...
Q. How much of khafeefa najaasat can be excused?
A. If it covers less than a quarter of a garment or any particular part of the body, it can be excused.

Q. How to clean one’s body or clothes from hageeqi najaasat?
A. Hageeqi najaasat, whether it is ghaleeza or khafeefa, on the body or clothing, can be cleaned by washing three times, and after every washing the garment must be squeezed.

Q. Can it be cleaned by water only or by something else as well?
A. Yes, by all taahir (clean) liquids and fluids. Vinegar or watermelon’s juice, for example, can also wash and clean the hageeqi najaasat.

Istinjaa

Q. What is meant by istinjaa?
A. Getting rid of uncleanliness, which one gets when one goes to the toilet, is called istinjaa.

Q. How to do istinjaa after urinating?
A. After urinating, dry the urine with a clean piece of mud or toilet paper and then wash with water.

Q. How to do istinjaa after excreting feces?
A. Clean the private part with three or five clean mud pieces or toilet paper and then wash.

Q. When to do istinjaa?
A. If urine or the excreta does not soil parts other than the private parts, istinjaa is mustaḥab. If uncleanliness has spread to other parts but covers a space of about a dirham, area of the circle of an inch diameter or less than that, it is sunnah. And if it is more than that, then istinjaa is fard.

Istinjaa

Q. Who was the first prophet?
A. Hadrat Adam (אダמ) was the first of all the prophets.

Q. Who is the last of all the prophets?
A. Hadrat Muhammad Mus-tafa (محمد) is the last of all the prophets.

Q. Will more prophets come after Hadrat Muhammad?
A. No. Because the appointment of prophets and messengers was finalized with Hadrat Muhammad Mus-tafa (محمد). After him no new nabiyy will come until the Day of Judgment. Someone who says that he is Allah’s messenger after the Prophet Muhammad (محمد) is a liar.

Q. Who is the greatest among the prophets?
A. Our Prophet, Hadrat Muhammad Mus-tafa (محمد) stands above all as regards respect and rank amongst the prophets, but he is still only a servant of Allah and a human being.

The Day of Judgment

Q. What is the Day of Judgment?
A. The Day of Judgment, or Qiyaamah, is the day when all creatures will die and the whole universe will be destroyed. Mountains will fly like flakes of cotton, stars will break down. Everything will be shattered and destroyed.

Q. How will all the creatures die on the Day of Judgment?
A. Hadrat Israafeel (ایسرافیل) will blow the soor (trumpet). Its sound will be so dreadful and so strong that its shock will kill every living being and everything will be shattered and destroyed.
beings. They were truthful. They never told lies. They performed miracles by the order of Allah. They did not commit sins. They were infallible. They delivered Allah’s commands in all completeness. They neither added anything to His commands nor dropped any part of them, nor did they hide any part of them.

Q. **What is meant by Nabiy?**
A. *Nabiy* is synonymous with “prophet.” They are Allah’s servants and human beings. They delivered Allah’s commands to other human beings. They were truthful. They never told lies. They did not commit sins. They were infallible. They delivered Allah’s commands in all completeness. They neither added nor dropped nor hid any portion of Allah’s commands.

Q. **Is there any difference between nabiy and rasool or do both have the same meaning?**
A. There is a small difference between the two. Every prophet is a *nabiy*. But a *rasool* is the prophet who was given a new *sharee’ah* (Divine Law) and a Book. A *nabiy* followed the *sharee’ah* that was given to the prophet before him. A *nabiy* is not given a new *sharee’ah* and new Book.

Q. **Can anyone become a nabiy by his own efforts and devotions?**
A. No. A *nabiy* is appointed and chosen only by Allah. This rank is entirely bestowed by Allah. Man’s personal efforts or his own desire do not count in the least in this respect.

Q. **How many rasul were there?**
A. Many *rasul* came to the world but only Allah knows their exact number. We should express our *imaan* in all prophets sent by Allah and testify to all of them and believe that they are prophets.

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**Water**

Q. **What sorts of water are good for wudu’?**
A. *Wudu’* and *ghusul* are allowed with rain water, well water, spring, sea or river water or the water of melting snow or hail and the water of a big tank or pond.

Q. **What sorts of water are not good for wudu’?**
A. The water extracted from fruits and trees; water that has changed its color and taste and has become thick and dense because something, even *taahir*, was soaked in it; a small quantity of water in which some dirty things have fallen or some animal had died after falling into it; used water of *wudu’* or *ghusul*; polluted and dirty water; water left by *haraam* animals after drinking; and distilled water of rose or aniseed or of any other drug.

Q. **What is the water called by which wudu’ or ghusul has been done?**
A. Such water is called *musta’mal* (used) water. This, in itself, is *taahir* but *wudu’* or *ghusul* by it is not allowed.

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5 It is not appropriate to use paper for *istinjaa* when you also use it for writing and printing and reading. But with toilet paper, it is different. It can be used for *istinjaa* since it was made only for that purpose, not for writing or printing.
Q. The water left after drinking by what animals becomes nijs (polluted)?
A. Water from which dogs, pigs or any other hunting quadruped have drunk is not taahir. In the same way, the water which a cat drinks immediately after eating a mouse or any other such thing is also nijs. Water left by a person who has just taken wine is nijs too.

Q. Water left by which animals is makrooh?
A. Water left by a cat (if it had not just eaten a mouse), lizard, wild hen, filth-eating cow or buffalo, crow, kite, hawk and all other haraam animals.

Q. Water drunk by which animals is taahir?
A. Water left by human beings and that of ḥalaal animals, cow, goat, pigeon, dove and horse is taahir.

Q. Which water becomes nijs when najaasat falls into it?
A. All waters, except two, become nijs if najaasat falls into them. The other two that remain taahir are:
♦ River water and
♦ Stored water of large quantity, like water in a big tank or big reservoir.

Q. What will be called a “large quantity of stored water?”
A. Stored or standing water, which covers an area of 17 x 17 feet and is deep enough that a man can take out water with his hands without scraping the bottom is considered a “large quantity of water.” Any tank or reservoir, as big as this, will be called a big tank or big reservoir.

Q. Does the water of a big tank or reservoir also become nijs?
A. Yes, when the taste, color or smell of the najaasat becomes apparent.

Allah’s Books

Q. How many Books of Allah are there?
A. There are many Books of Allah, small and large, which were revealed to the prophets of Allah. The comprehensive books are known as kutub (its singular is kitaab) and the smaller ones are known as suhuf (singular: gaheefah). Four books are well-known.

Q. What are those four heavenly books and who are the prophets upon whom those were revealed?
A. They are:
♦ Tauraah (Old Testament) which came to Hadrat Moosa ( pbuh).
♦ Zaboor (Psalms), revealed upon Hadrat Dawood ( pbuh).
♦ Injeel (New Testament) upon Hadrat ‘Eesaa ( pbuh).
♦ Qur’aan al-Kareem, revealed to our Prophet Muhammad (pbuh).

Q. How many suhuf are there and to whom were they revealed?
A. The exact number of suhuf is not known. Some were given to Hadrat Adam ( pbuh), some to Hadrat Sheeth ( pbuh) and some to Hadrat Ibrahim ( pbuh). There are many more suhuf which were revealed to other prophets.

Messengers of Allah
(peace be upon them all)

Q. Who are rusul (prophets)?
A. Rusul are Allah’s servants and human beings. Allah commissioned them to convey His commands to other human...
♦ He is peerless. Nothing is like Him, nothing resembles Him.
♦ He is above all weaknesses and free from all defects and shortcomings.
♦ He has no hands, feet, nose, ears or face like human beings.
♦ He has made angels to look after certain affairs of the world.
♦ He sent prophets for the guidance of His creatures. They taught them the true religion, instructed them in what is good and tried to keep them away from what is evil.

Angels

Q. What are the angels?  
A. They are Allah’s creatures, made of light (noor). They are not physical beings and therefore are (mostly) invisible to the human eye. They do not disobey Allah nor commit any sin. They keep on readily doing the work assigned to them by Allah.

Q. How many angels are there?  
A. Nobody except Allah knows their exact number. This much is known that there are many angels and four of them stand out prominently in respect of their nearness to Allah.

Q. Who are those four prominent angels?  
A. The first one is Hadrat Jibraa’eel who brought Allah’s books, commands and messages to His prophets. The second is Hadrat Israafeel who will blow the trumpet on the Day of Judgment. The third is Hadrat Mikaa’eel whose work is to bring the rain and give sustenance to Allah’s creatures. The fourth is Hadrat ‘Izraa’eel (peace be upon them all) who is deputed to take the life out of a living creature.

Q. What else makes water nijs?  
A. If a living thing, other than those born in water such as fish, frogs, etc. and lizards and insects, falls and dies in the water, it makes the water nijs. For example, a bird, pigeon, cat or a mouse is drowned in a tank or pond – it will make the water nijs.

Q. Which animals do not make the water nijs if they die in the water?  
A. Animals which live and are born in water like fish and frogs and animals which do not have flowing blood in their veins, e.g. flies, mosquitoes, wasps, lizards, ants – if they die in the water, do not make it nijs.

Well Water

Q. What things make a well nijs?  
A. A well becomes nijs if najaasat, ghaleeza or khafeefa falls down into it or an animal having flowing blood falls into it and dies there.

Q. If an animal comes out alive after falling into the well, does the water remain taahir or does it become nijs?  
A. The well becomes nijs if an animal whose drunk water is also nijs or an animal with dirt upon its body falls down in it. The water would not become nijs if such an animal, haraam or halaal falls down in the well whose drunk water is regarded as taahir, and at the time of falling down, it had no dirt upon its body and comes out alive. The water of the well will be taken to be taahir in case it becomes certain that it did not discharge urine or excreta while in the well.

Q. What is the way of making a well taahir when it becomes nijs?  
A. There are five ways of making a well taahir:
When dirt falls into a well, taking out all water will make it taaahir.
When a man, pig, dog, goat, two cats or any other animal as big or bigger than these dies after falling down into the well, all water must be taken out.
If an animal, having flowing blood in its veins, dies and bloats or has burst, the whole water should be taken out, whether the animal is big or small.
40 buckets full of water are to be taken out if a pigeon, hen, cat or any other animal as big as that dies after falling down but has not bloated.
If a mouse or a bird or any other animal of similar size falls down and dies, 20 buckets full of water are to be taken out.

Note: It is mustahab (better) to pull out 30 instead of 20 and 60 instead of 40 buckets.

Q. If a dead animal falls into the well, what is the rule for that?
A. The same rule is applicable in the case of a dead animal falling as when dying after falling down. If a dead goat falls into the well, all water should be taken out; if a dead cat, 40 or 60 buckets should be taken out; if a dead mouse, then 20 or 30 buckets.

Q. What if a bloated or burst animal falls down the well?
A. All the water should be taken out as in the case of an animal which died after falling down and became bloated and burst.

Q. What if a dead animal is found in the well and it is not known when exactly it fell in?
A. The well should be treated as ghair taaahir (unclean) from the time such an animal was found.

Belief of Muslims Regarding Allah

Q. What is the Muslim’s belief about Allah?
A. His belief is that:
♦ Allah is One.
♦ None is worthy of worship except Allah.
♦ He has no partner.
♦ He knows everything and nothing is hidden from Him.
♦ He is the Fountainhead of all strength and power.
♦ He has created the earth, the sky, the sun, the moon, the stars, angels, human beings, jinn, and in fact created the whole universe out of nothing. He is the Master of all.
♦ He creates and destroys. Everything in creation is born or brought to an end by His order.
♦ He feeds all His creation.
♦ He neither eats, nor drinks nor sleeps.
♦ He Himself exists from eternity and will exist to eternity.
♦ Nobody gave birth to Him.
♦ He has no father, no son, no daughter, nor has He any relations. He is free from all these relations.
♦ Everybody and everything depends on Him. He does not depend on anyone. Nor is He in need of anything.

Q. What are the articles of faith according to Islam?
A. There are seven of them as mentioned in imaan mufassal:

أَمْنُتُ بِاللَّهِ وَ مَلَائِكَتِهِ وَ كُتبِهِ وَ رُسُلِهِ وَ يَوْمِ الْيَمِينِ وَ الْقِدْرِ وَ خَلْقِهِ وَ شَرِّهِ مِنَ اللَّهِ عَزِّ الْكُرُونِ

I believe in Allah, in His angels, in His books, in His messengers, in the Day of Judgement, and (I believe) that all good and evil is decreed by Allah, and in the life after death.
♦ Fasting during the month of Ramadān.
♦ Performing the Hajj.

Q. What is the kalimah ṭayyibah and what does it mean?
A. Kalimah ṭayyibah is:

Laā ilā-ha il-lā-lā-hu muḥammadur rasoolul-лаа

There is no god except Allah; Muhammad (peace be upon him) is His Messenger.

Q. What is kalimah shahadah and what is its meaning?
A. Kalimah shahadah is:

Ash-hadu an laa ilā-ha il-lā-lā-hu wa ash-hadu an-na
Muhammadan ‘ab-duhoo wa rasooluh

I bear witness that there is no god except Allah and I bear witness that Muhammad (peace be upon him) is Allah’s worshipper and His Messenger.

Q. Does a man or woman become Muslim if they recite the kalimah without understanding its meaning and intent?
A. No. It is necessary to understand its meanings and believe in it and express this belief in words.

Q. What do you call this belief and its oral expression?
A. It is called “testification” or expression of imaan.

Q. How does one receive the testification of a dumb man who cannot talk?
A. Since it his natural inability to talk, his gestures would do. That is, he must express himself by pointing out that Allah is one and that Muhammad (ﷺ) is His prophet.