



Module Four

Purification

The Significance of Purification

1. The first ritual act performed by the Prophet Muhammad (Allah bless him and give him peace)
2. Half of *Iman*.
3. The Key to Prayer
4. The means by which the Prophet recognizes his Umma on the Day of Judgement.
5. Opens the Doors of Paradise
6. Is a part of the intact human nature (*Fitra*)
7. A means for forgiveness of minor sins
8. A means of protection from the Punishment in the Grave



The First Ritual Act Performed by the Prophet

The very first **ritual act of worship** the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) performed was purification. Allah revealed to him: 'And purify your garments.' Soon after this, Jibril instructed him on wudu' and salat, and the Prophet demonstrated it to the early Umma at the time.

The five obligatory prayers were legislated during the Isra' and Mi'raj, but the **form of prayer and wudu** were legislated at the very beginning of Islam.

Half of Iman

- The hadith, ‘Tuhur is half of faith,’ is often translated as ‘Cleanliness is half of faith,’ but Tuhur is a **legal term**, so it refers primarily to the legal form of purification, which is wudu’ and ghusl.
- The Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) encouraged us to make wudu’: **‘Were it not that I feared I would burden my Umma, I would have ordered them to make wudu’ every time they prayed.’**
- “Adhere to righteousness even though you will not be able to do all acts of virtue. Know that the best of your deeds is prayer, and that no one maintains his ablution except a believer.” (*Ibn Majah*)

This means we cannot be perfect, but we should still strive for righteousness. Then he tells us that the best action we can do is Salat, and that no one will maintain their wudu’ except a believer. This means a Mu’min, who is a higher degree than a Muslim, strives to maintain wudu’ all of the time, not just when they have to.

Being Recognized by the Prophet on the Day of Judgement

“On the Day of Resurrection, my followers will be addressed as ‘*al-Ghurr al-Muhajjalun*’ from the traces of ablution’. (*Sahih Muslim*) Whoever can increase the area of his radiance should do so.”

- *Ghurr* refers to a horse with a white streak on its forehead.
- *Muhajjal* means the white streaks are going down its limbs.



Opens the Doors of Paradise

“Whoever performs wudu’ well and then says: *‘Ashhadu an la ilaha illallah, wahdahu la sharika lahu, wa ashadu anna Muhammadan-‘Abduhu wa Rasuluhu, Allahummajalni minat tawwabin, waj’alni minal mutatahhirin*) ‘I testify that none has the right to be worshipped but Allah Alone, there are no partners for Him. And I testify that Muhammad is His servant and Messenger. (*Allahummaj-‘alni minat-tawwabina, waj-‘alni minal-mutatahhirin*) ‘O Allah! Make me among the repentant, and make me among those who purify themselves.’ **Then eight gates of Paradise are opened for him, that may enter by whichever of them wishes.**”
(*Sahih Muslim*)

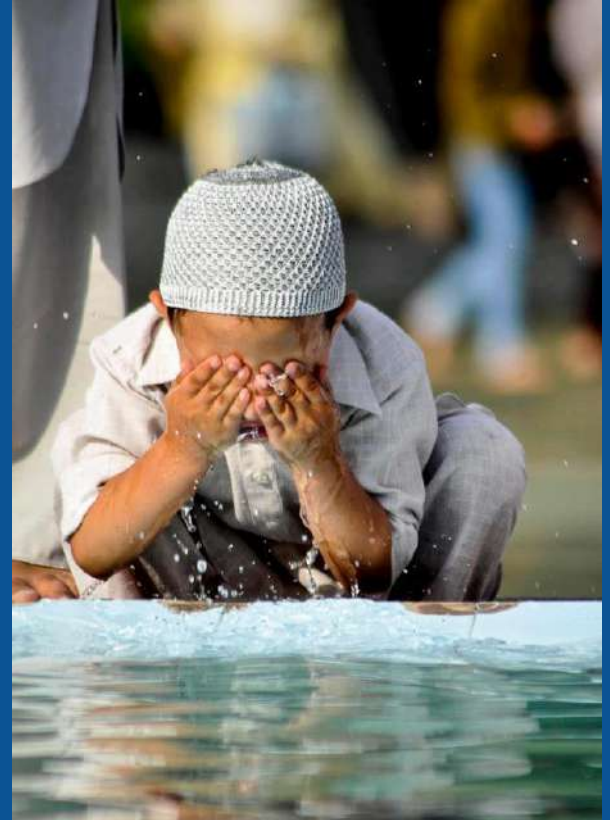
Learning Objectives

- Types of water
- The two types of ritual impurity
- Minor: What breaks *wudu*'
- How to make *wudu*'
- *Tayammum*
- Wiping socks and casts
- Major: what breaks *ghusl*
- How to make *ghusl*
- *Hayd, Nifas, Istihada* (menses, postpartum bleeding, abnormal bleeding)
- The types of physical impurities (*najasa*) and how to purify oneself and one's items from them
- Bathroom etiquette

TAHARA/PURIFICATION

Definition:

The removal of filth from one's body, garments, and place of prayer, as well as the removal of one's state of 'ritual impurity,' rendering one in a state of 'ritual purity.'



Types of Water

note the default is that plain water is pure and purifying

1] **PLAIN WATER:** Water that is 'pure in itself, and purifying for other things' is water that remains in its natural form, unmixed with anything that changes it.

- Rain water
- Well water
- Spring water
- River water
- Sea water (even if salty)
- Water from melted snow or hail



Types of Water

2] **PURE BUT NOT PURIFYING:** Water that is pure itself, and can be used to remove ‘impurities,’ but is disliked to drink or cook with it:

‘Used water’—water leftover from a previous wudu’ or ghusl.



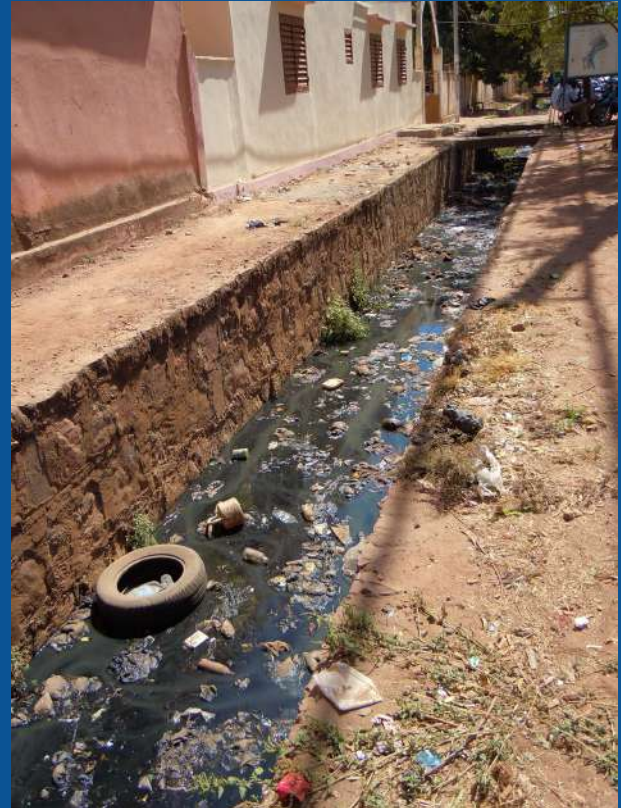
Types of Water

3] IMPURE WATER

- Small quantity of still water in which an impurity has fallen. This is a body of still water less than ten arm lengths. It is deemed impure even if no trace of impurity appears.

(One cannot use this water to remove physical impurities or make wudu'.)

- Running water in which, an impurity has fallen and in which the signs of impurity appear (smell, taste, color).



Types of Water

WHAT CANNOT BE USED FOR WUDU'

- 1] Water that comes from trees or fruits (fruit juice)
- 2] Water that has lost its essence through cooking
- 3] **'Dominated Water'**

SUBSTANCE: Water that has been dominated by another *substance* (where it loses its thin and flowing nature—like leftover water from cooking lentils. (If leaves and saffron and the like—solids—mix with the water, it can be used for wudu', even if some of the characteristics of the water changes.)

LIQUID: Water is 'dominated' when it is mixed with another liquid substance that changes the taste, color, and smell. When two of these qualities appear in a water, it is 'dominated' and cannot be used.



What Cannot Be Used for Wudu'...

- Coffee (color, smell, and taste)
- Milk (color and taste)
- Vinegar (color, smell, and taste)

When liquids mix with plain water, we assess **taste, smell, and color**, and when solids mix with plain water, we assess the qualities of **thinness and flowing**.

When water mixes with another liquid substance, such as 'used water' or rose water that has lost its smell, we assess by weight. (If two *Ritls* of plain water (769 grams) are mixed with one *Ritl* of another substance (384.240 grams), wudu' with it is not permitted.



REMNANT WATER (SU'R)

Remnant water is a **small quantity** of water which remains after a human or animal has drunk. This doesn't apply to rivers, streams, and the like, even if thousands of animals or humans have drunk from it.

Types:

- 1] **Pure and purifying**—what a human, horse, or halal animal has drunk from.
- 2] **Impure water**—what a dog, pig, or predatory land animal has drunk from (cheetah, fox, wolf, etc.)
- 3] **Disliked remnant water**—it is disliked to use it in the presence of plain water. This is the leftover water of a cat, stray chicken, predatory bird (falcon), or pests like mice and rats.
- 4] **Doubtful**—the leftover water of a mule or donkey.



TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

