

DRY ABLUTION [TAYAMMUM]

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LEGALITY OF TAYAMMUM

“I have been given five [things] which were not given to anyone else before me.

1. Allah [swt] made me victorious by awe [by His frightening my enemies] for a distance of one month's journey.
2. The earth has been made for me [and for my followers] a place of offering *salah* [prayer] and a thing to purify [perform *tayammum*] therefore, anyone of my followers can offer *salah* wherever he is at the time of *salah*.
3. The booty has been made halal [lawful] to me yet it was not lawful to anyone else before me.
4. I have been given the right of intercession [on the Day of Resurrection].
5. Every Prophet used to be sent to his nation only but I have been sent to all mankind.¹

SURAH AL-MA'IDAH CHAPTER 5 VERSE 6

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِذَا قُمْتُمْ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ فَاغْسِلُوا وُجُوهَكُمْ وَأَيْدِيَكُمْ إِلَى الْمَرَافِقِ
وَأَمْسَحُوا بِرُءُوسِكُمْ وَأَرْجُلَكُمْ إِلَى الْكَعْبَيْنِ ۚ وَإِن كُنْتُمْ جُنُبًا فَأَطَهَّرُوا ۚ وَإِن كُنْتُمْ مَرْضَىٰ أَوْ
عَلَىٰ سَفَرٍ أَوْ جَاءَ أَحَدٌ مِّنْكُمْ مِنَ الْغَايِبِ أَوْ لَمَسْتُمُ النِّسَاءَ فَلَمْ تَجِدُوا مَاءً فَتَيَمَّمُوا صَعِيدًا
طَيِّبًا فَامْسَحُوا بِوُجُوهِكُمْ وَأَيْدِيكُمْ مِنْهُ ۗ مَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيَجْعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ حَرَجٍ وَلَٰكِن
يُرِيدُ لِيُطَهِّرَكُمْ وَلِيُتِمَّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٦﴾

O you who believe! When you intend to offer the prayer wash your faces and your hands up to the elbows rub [by passing wet hands over] your heads and [wash] your feet up to the ankles. If you are in a state of janabah [after sexual discharge] purify yourselves [bathe your whole body]. But if you are ill or on a journey or any of you come after answering the call of nature or you have been in contact with women [sexual intercourse] and you find no water then perform tayammum with clean earth and rub therewith your faces and hands. Allah does not want to place you and to complete His Favour to you that you may be thankful.²

¹ Sahih Al-Bukhari 335

² Surah Al-Ma'idah Chapter 5 Verse 6

DRY ABLUTION [*TAYAMMUM*]

THE STORY OF *TAYAMMUM*

“We went out with the Messenger of Allah [saws] on one of his journeys and when we were in Al-Baida’ or Dhat Al-Jaish, a necklace of mine broke [and fell off]. The Messenger of Allah [saws] started to look for it, and the people did likewise. They were not near any water source, and they did not have any water with them. The people came to Abu Bakr [ra] and said, ‘Do you not see what ‘A’ishah has done? She has delayed the Messenger of Allah and the people with him. They are not near any water source, and they do not have any water with them.’ Abu Bakr came, and the Messenger of Allah was resting his head on my thigh and had gone to sleep. He said, ‘You have delayed the Messenger of Allah and the people. They are not near any water source, and they do not have any water source and they do not have any water with them.’ Abu Bakr scolded me and said whatever Allah willed he should say. He started poking me in the side with his hand, and nothing prevented me from moving except the fact that the Messenger of Allah was resting on my thigh. The Messenger of Allah slept until morning came, and there was no water. Then Allah revealed the Verse of *tayammum*, so they performed *tayammum*. Usaid bin Hudair [ra] who was one of the leaders said, ‘This is not the first of your blessings, O family of Abu Bakr!’ We made the camel that I had been riding get up, and we found the necklace underneath it.”³

TO STRIKE THE GROUND WITH THE PALMS OF BOTH HANDS, BLOW OFF THE DUST, WIPE FACE AND THEN THE HANDS

“Do you not remember O Commander of the Believers when you and I were on a military expedition, and we became sexually impure and could not find water? As for you, you did not pray but I rolled in the dust and then prayed. When I came to the Prophet [saws] and told him what happened he said, ‘It would have been enough for you [to do this].’ [Then demonstrating] the Prophet struck the ground with his hands then blew on them and wiped his face and palms with them.”⁴

TO USE A WALL TO MAKE *TAYAMMUM*

“The Prophet came from the direction of Bi’r Jamal. A man met him and greeted him. But he did not return back the greeting till he went to a [mud] wall and rubbed his hands, and his face with its dust [performed *tayammum*] and then returned back the greeting.”⁵

TAYAMMUM REPLACES *WUDU’* AND *GHUSL* IN THE ABSENCE OF WATER

“Allah’s Messenger [saws] saw a person sitting aloof and not offering *salah* [prayer] with the people. He asked him, ‘O so-and-so! What prevented you from offering the *salah* with the people?’ He replied, ‘O Allah’s Messenger! I am *junub*, and there is no water.’ The Prophet said, ‘Perform *tayammum* with clean earth and that will be sufficient for you.’”⁶

³ Sahih Muslim 816 [108/367]; Sahih Al-Bukhari 334; Sunan Abu Dawud Sahih 317; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 311

⁴ Sunan Ibn Majah Sahih 569; Sahih Al-Bukhari 338; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 313

⁵ Sahih Al-Bukhari 337; Sahih Muslim 822 [114/369]; Sunan Abu Dawud Sahih 329; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 312

⁶ Sahih Al-Bukhari 348; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 322

DRY ABLUTION [*TAYAMMUM*]

TO PERFORM *TAYAMMUM* INSTEAD OF *GHUSL* FOR FEAR OF DYING FROM USING WATER

“I had a wet dream on a cold night during the Battle of Dhat As-Salasil. I felt that if I performed *ghusl* I might kill [myself], so I performed *tayammum* and led my companions in *subh* [*fajr* prayer]. They mentioned this to the Messenger of Allah [saws], so he said, ‘O Amr! You led your companions in prayer while you were sexually defiled?’ I informed him of the reason that I did not perform *ghusl* and said, ‘I heard Allah [swt], “And do not kill yourselves; verily Allah is Ever-Merciful to you.” So the Messenger of Allah [saws] laughed and did not say anything.”⁷

IF STILL WITHIN TIME FOR THE PRAYER, RECOMMENDED TO PERFORM *WUDU’* AND REPEAT THE PRAYER

“Two people left on a journey. The time for prayer came, and they did not have any water. They performed *tayammum* with pure earth and prayed. They then found water within the time [for the prayer], so one of them repeated the prayer after performing *wudu’* whereas the other did not. They then came to the Messenger of Allah [saws] and mentioned this to him. He said to the one who did not repeat [the prayer], ‘You have correctly performed the *sunnah* and your prayer is sufficient for you.’ And he said to the one who performed *wudu’* and repeated [the prayer], ‘You get the reward twice.’”⁸

CAN PERFORM SEVERAL PRAYERS WITH *TAYAMMUM*

“Pure clean earth is a purifier for the Muslim; even if he did not find water for ten years. Then if he finds water, then let him use it on his skin. For, that is better.”⁹

⁷ Sunan Abu Dawud Sahih 334

⁸ Sunan Abu Dawud Hasan 338

⁹ Jami’ At-Tirmidhi Hasan 124; Sunan An-Nasa’i Hasan 323