

THE TOOTH-STICK [SIWAK]

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THE TOOTH-STICK [*SIWAK*]

USING *SIWAK* IS RECOMMENDED, NOT OBLIGATORY

“*Siwak* is a means of purification for the mouth and is pleasing to the Lord.”¹

“Were it not for the fact that I did not wish to cause hardship to the believers I would have commanded them to delay the ‘*isha*’ prayer and to use the *siwak* for every prayer.”²

“I have indeed urged you with regard to the *siwak*.”³

TO USE *SIWAK* BEFORE PRAYER

“Whenever the Messenger of Allah [saws] got up for prayer at night to pray the optional night prayer, he would clean his mouth with the tooth stick.”⁴

TO USE *SIWAK* AFTER ENTERING HOUSE

“I asked, ‘Aishah [ra], ‘With what did the Prophet [saws] start when he entered his house?’ She said, ‘With the *siwak*.’”⁵

TO USE *SIWAK* ON THE TONGUE

“I entered upon the Prophet [saws] while he was using the *siwak* upon the tip of his tongue and he was saying, ‘Eh, Eh’, making a gagging sound.”⁶

TO CLEAN THE *SIWAK* AFTER USE

“The Prophet of Allah [saws] would clean his teeth with the *siwak* then he would give me the *siwak* in order to wash it. So I would first use it myself then wash it and return it to him.”⁷

TO SHARE THE *SIWAK*, WITH THE ELDER BEFORE THE YOUNGER

“I dreamt that I was cleaning my teeth with a *siwak* and two persons came to me. One of them was older than the other, and I gave the *siwak* to the younger. I was told that I should give it to the older and so I did.”⁸

¹ Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 5

² Sunan Abu Dawud Sahih 46; Sunan Ibn Majah Sahih 287; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 7; Sahih Muslim 589, 42/252

³ Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 6

⁴ Sunan Ibn Majah Sahih 286; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 2; Sunan Abu Dawud Sahih 55; Sahih Muslim 593, 46/255; Sahih Al-Bukhari 245

⁵ Sahih Muslim 590, 43/253; Sunan Ibn Majah Sahih 290; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 8

⁶ Sunan Abu Dawud Sahih 49; Sunan An-Nasa’i Sahih 3; Sahih Al-Bukhari 244

⁷ Sunan Abu Dawud Hasan 52

⁸ Sahih Al-Bukhari 246