

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَنِ الرَّجِيمِ

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ كَمَا هُوَ أَهْلُهُ وَالصَّلَاةُ وَالسَّلَامُ عَلَى سَيِّدِ وُلُودِ آدَمَ كَمَا يُحِبُّ وَيُرِضِي بَأْنُ يُصْلِي عَلَيْهِ

Allah Almighty, in Whose Name we begin, The Most Compassionate,

The Most Merciful

All Praise is due to Allah Almighty, Countless Peace and Blessings be upon
His Beloved Messenger – *may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him* – his family & his
companions – *may Allah be pleased with them all*

The Masjid is not a Private Property

Imam Abu Yusuf's - *may Allah be pleased with him* - full name is Yaqub bin Ebrahim bin Habeeb bin Jaish bin Sa'ad. His famous title is "Abu Yusuf". He is considered as the most senior student of Imam A'zam Imam Abu Hanifah - *may Allah be pleased with him*. Imam Abu Yusuf's - *may Allah be pleased with him* - possessed a brilliant manner of answering any issue which came in front. He was also the first person in Islam who was given the title of "Qadi-ul-Quddhat". Sayyiduna Imam A'zam - *may Allah be pleased with him* - used to say about him, "Among my students, the one who possesses the most amount of knowledge is Abu Yusuf". Imam Abu Yusuf's - *may Allah be pleased with him* - passed away at the age of 67 in the month of Rabi-ul-Awwal in 182 A.H.

It is reported that once there was an argument which took place between Sultan Harun Rashid and his wife Zubaidah. Since the argument was quite lengthy, the Sultan, in a fit of anger, said to his wife that if she did not get out of his kingdom by the same night, complete Talaaq will take place and she would be Haraam upon him.

Bear in mind that this was someone whose kingdom stretched from the East to the West and it would have been impossible for someone to travel out of this area in one single night. Also bear in mind that there were no planes or helicopters in those days which transport a person in such high speed. Obviously, the couple realised that they had made a mistake and they needed to find a way of out this oath.

They decided to call all the 'Ulama to the royal court to present a solution to this predicament. Various 'Ulama were given a chance to present their answer, but none of them were acceptable.

Finally, the Sultan asked Imam Abu Yusuf - *may Allah be pleased with him* - for his answer. Imam Abu Yusuf's - *may Allah be pleased with him* – said that there was a very easy solution to this problem. He gave them advice that the wife of the Sultan should spend the night in a local Masjid because the Masjid is not part of the Sultan's kingdom and will never be part of anyone's personal property.

Obviously, the various other Ulama present were extremely surprised when they heard this immediate solution and realised that this was indeed the most brilliant student of the great Imam.

In Surah Jinn, verse 18, it is mentioned:

وَأَنَّا لَمَسْنَا السَّمَاءَ فَوَجَدْنَاهَا مُلِئَّةً حَرَسًا شَدِيدًا وَ شُهُبًا 

“And that the Mosques are for Allah only – therefore do not worship anyone along with Allah.”

This verse clearly proves that the House of Allah Almighty is a building which belongs to no one personally.