

Significance of Purification in Islam

أَهْيَةُ الطَّهَارَةِ فِي الْإِسْلَامِ

الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ الَّذِي تَلَطَّفَ بِعِبَادِهِ فَنَعْبَدُهُمْ بِالنَّظَافَةِ وَأَقَاصَ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ تَرْكِيَةً لِسَهَّةِ إِنْرِهِمُ أَنُوَارَهُ وَالنَّظَافَةُ
وَأَعْدَّ لِفَوَاهِهِمْ تَطْهِيرًا لِهَا الْبَاءَ الْبَخْصُوصَ بِالرِّقَّةِ وَالنَّظَافَةِ وَصَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَى سَيِّدِنَا مُحَمَّدٍ الْبُسْتَغْرِيقِ
بِنُورِ الْهُدَى أَطْرَافَ الْعَالَمِ وَأَكْنَافَهُ وَعَلَى آلِهِ الطَّيِّبِينَ الطَّاهِرِينَ صَلَاتٌ تَنْتَهِيَ إِلَيْهِ كَانَتْ يَوْمُ الْمَحَافَةِ
وَتَنَتَّصِبُ جَنَّةً بَيْنَنَا وَبَيْنَ كُلِّ آفَةٍ

All Praise due to Allah Who has shown kindness towards His servants and thus endowed them with cleanliness; who for the purification of their inward thoughts has made His light and grace to flow into their hearts; and for the washing of their bodies, has given them water smooth and soft. And may the blessings of Allah be upon Sayyiduna Muhammad, who has encompassed the entire world from one end to another with the light of guidance, as well as upon his noble and righteous family – the blessing of which will be a salvation for us or the day of resurrection, and a fortification between us and every affliction.

أَشْهَدُ أَنَّ لِلَّهِ إِلَّا اللَّهُ وَحْدَهُ لَا شَرِيكَ لَهُ وَأَشْهَدُ أَنَّ سَيِّدَنَا مُحَمَّدًا أَعْبُدُهُ وَرَسُولَهُ بِالْهُدَى وَدِينِ الْحَقِّ

أَرْسَلَهُ

I bear witness that there is none worthy of worship besides Allah the only one who has no partner, and I testify that our master Mohammad is his slave and messenger whom he has sent with the true religion and guidance.

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا أَطِيعُوا اللَّهَ وَأَطِيعُوا الرَّسُولَ وَأُولَئِكُمْ مِنْكُمْ أَعْلَمُ

'O believers! obey Allah and obey the messenger, and those who have power of command amongst you.

(Al-Nisa 4, Verse 59)

يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اتَّقُوا اللَّهَ حَقَّ تُقَاتِهِ وَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنْتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ ﴿٤﴾

'O believers! Fear Allah as rightly He is to be feared, and do not die ever save as Muslims.

(Aale Imran 3, Verse 102)

قَالَ اللَّهُ تَعَالَى فِي الْقُرْآنِ الْمَجِيدِ:

فِيهِ رَجَالٌ يُحِبُّونَ أَنْ يَتَطَهَّرُوا طَوْبَةً وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُطَهَّرِينَ ﴿٣٦﴾

Allah Almighty states in the Holy Quran:

Therein are those who desire to be well purified and Allah loves the pure.

(Al-Taubah 9, Verse 108)

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ يَا مَعْشَرَ الْأَنْصَارِ إِنَّ اللَّهَ قَدْ أَثْنَى عَلَيْكُمْ فِي الظُّهُورِ فَبَا طُهُورُكُمْ قَالُوا

تَسْوِضَ أَلِصَالَةً وَنَغْتَسِلُ مِنَ الْجَنَابَةِ وَنَسْتَنْجِي بِالْبَاءِ. قَالَ هُوَ ذَلِكَ فَعَلَيْكُمُ الْمُبْرَكُونَ

'O Ansar! Allah has praised you for your cleanliness. What is the nature of your cleanliness?' They said: 'We make Wudhu for Salah and take bath to cleanse ourselves of impurity due to sexual activity, and we clean ourselves with water (after urinating). He said: "This is it, so adhere to it."

(Qurtubi, Ibn Majah)

إِنَّ النَّبِيَّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ مَرَّ عَلَى قَبْرَيْنِ فَقَالَ: إِنَّهُمَا لِيُعَذَّبَانِ وَمَا يُعَذَّبَانِ فِي كَبِيرٍ أَمَّا أَحَدُهُمَا فَكَانَ

يَيْشِي بِالثَّبِيْبَةِ وَأَمَّا الْآخَرُ فَكَانَ لَا يَسْتَتَرُ مِنْ بَوْلِهِ.

The Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – passed by two graves and said: Indeed these two are being tormented and it is not due to something major but one of them used to carry tales and the other never used to guard himself against the splashes of his urine.

(Qurtubi, Bukhari, Muslim)

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

إِنَّ أَفْوَاهَكُمْ طُرُقُ الْقُرْآنِ فَطَهِّرُوهَا بِالسِّوَابِ

The Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:
Indeed your mouths are the passages of Quran-recitation, so cleanse them by
brushing (with Miswak).

(Ihya Vol. 1, Hilyat al-Awliya, Al-Tamheed)

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

بُنْيَ الدِّينُ عَلَى النِّظَافَةِ

The Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:
Islam has been founded upon cleanliness.

(Ihya Vol. 1)

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ:

الظَّهُورُ نَصْفُ الْإِيمَانِ

The Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him – has stated:
Purification is one half of Iman.

(Ihya Vol. 1)

أَنَّ أَهَمَّ الْأُمُورِ تَطْهِيرُ السَّرَّاءِ إِنِّي أَذِيغُ دُونَ يَكُونَ الْبُرَادُ بِقُولِهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ الظَّهُورُ نَصْفُ الْإِيمَانِ

عِيَارَةُ الظَّاهِرِ بِالْتَّنَطِيفِ بِإِفَاضَةِ الْسَّاءِ وَإِلْقَائِهِ وَتَحْرِيْبِ الْبَاطِنِ وَإِبْقَائِهِ مَسْحُونًا بِالْأَخْبَاثِ وَالْأَقْذَارِ

هَيَهَاتِ

Those who possess insight awoke to the fact that the most important thing is the purification of the heart, because, it is very unlikely that the words of the

Holy Prophet – may Allah send peace and blessings upon him, "Purification is one half of Iman" meant that men should polish and clean the body with a generous use of water and to neglect the heart and leave it stuffed with impurities and filth.

وَالظَّهَارَةُ لَهَا أَرْبَعُ مَرَاتِبٍ

الْبَرْتَبَةُ الْأُولَى تَطْهِيرُ الظَّاهِرِ عَنِ الْأَحْدَاثِ وَعِنِ الْأَخْبَاثِ وَالْفَعَالَاتِ

الْبَرْتَبَةُ الْثَّانِيَةُ تَطْهِيرُ الْجَوَارِحِ عَنِ الْجَرَائِمِ وَالْأَشَامِ

الْبَرْتَبَةُ الْثَّالِثَةُ تَطْهِيرُ الْقُلُوبِ عَنِ الْأَخْلَاقِ الْمَذْمُومَةِ وَالرَّذَائِلِ الْمُنْقُوتَةِ

الْبَرْتَبَةُ الرَّابِعَةُ تَطْهِيرُ السِّرْعَانِ سَوْيَ اللَّهِ تَعَالَى وَهِيَ طَهَارَةُ الْأَنْبِيَاءِ صَلَواتُ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِمْ وَالصَّدِيقِينَ

Purity has four stages:

1. The first stage is the purification of the body from excrements, impurities, and bodily growths, and discharges.
2. The second stage is the purification of the bodily senses from crimes and sins.
3. The third stage is the purification of the heart from blameworthy traits and reprehensible vices.
4. The fourth stage is the purification of the inner self from everything other than Allah. This last stage is that of the Prophets – peace be upon them – and saints.

أَللَّهُمَّ طَهِّرْ قُلُوبَنَا مِنْ حُبِّ الدُّنْيَا وَالشَّهَوَاتِ

O Allah, cleanse our hearts of worldly love and fancies.

أَللَّهُمَّ ارْزُقْنَا الْخَاتِمَةَ عَلَى الْإِيمَانِ

O Allah, make our end upon Iman.

أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهِ لِي وَلَكُمْ، وَلِسَائِرِ الْبُوُمَنِيَّنَ وَالْبُوُمَنَاتِ، إِنَّهُ هُوَ الْغَفُورُ الرَّحِيمُ

I seek Allah's forgiveness for me, for you and for all the Muslim males and females. Verily, He is All-forgiving, the Merciful.