

Notes of Lectures on Fiqh

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Lecture #11 (Thursday 24 August 2006)

FASTING (SAWM)

☀ Fasting is wajib in the whole month of Ramadan. Fasting starts with the Niyat (intention) that I will refrain from all those things which break fast from the prescribed start time of Fajr (Dawn) to the prescribed time of Maghrib (Dusk) qurbatan ilallah. Niyat for fasting in Ramadan can be done each day before Fajr, or the night before each day, or can be done once for the whole month at the beginning of Ramadan.

☀ Fasting on 30th Shaban (Yaumush Shak) is haram with the intention of 1st of Ramadan when you are not sure about the 1st of Ramadan. It is better to keep Mustahab fast, or any Qaza of previous Ramadan, if any, on the 30th Shaban. And if you receive the confirmation of moon sighting of 29th Shaban while fasting on 30th Shaban, you must change Niyat to the fast of Ramadan. But if news of moon sighting of 29th Shaban comes after completion of the fast, then it will automatically be counted as fast of 1st Ramadan.

THINGS TO REFRAIN FROM DURING FASTING

☀ If you are fasting, then the following things, if done intentionally, will break your fast or will make it invalid

- [1] Eating or drinking anything
- [2] Vomiting
- [3] Allowing thick dust reach one's throat (e.g. smoking)
- [4] Taking liquid enema
- [5] Ascribing lies to Allah and His Prophet and Masoomeen
- [6] Sexual intercourse
- [7] Masturbation (Istimna)
- [8] Not Doing Wajib Ghushl Till Dawn (Fajr) Time
- [9] Immersing head in water (but Ayatullah Seestani says fast is not affected by this act)

☀ **Qaza and Kaffara:** Not keeping fast in Ramadan without any valid reason is a great sin. For each such missed fast, one has to do a Qaza fast **as well as** pay a heavy penalty called Kaffara. The kaffara for each missed fast is either keeping 60 fasts or feeding 60 poor persons. The same Qaza and Kaffara will also apply if one breaks his fast intentionally in Ramadan by doing any of the above things.

☀ It is haram to eat or drink during daytime in the month of Ramadan even for those who are not fasting for no valid reason. But for those who have a valid reason for not fasting (such as sickness, travelling, aged person, pregnancy, breast feeding, or woman in state of Haiz), it is Ihtiyate Mustahab to avoid eating or drinking during daytime.

☀ If a child becomes baligh (e.g. 9 lunar year for girls) at or before Fajr time during Ramadan, then fasting will become wajib on him/her from that day. If he/she

becomes baligh at or after zohr time during Ramadan, then fasting will become wajib from next day.

- ☀ If seminal discharge or sexual intercourse occurs during night in Ramadan (causing Ghusle Janabat to become wajib), then it is wajib to do Ghusle Janabat before the Fajr start time, otherwise Qaza and Kaffara will apply. If Ghusle Janabat is not possible or is harmful, then Tayammum must be performed instead before Fajr start time.
- ☀ If seminal discharge happens unintentionally after Fajr start time or during day time in Ramadan, then fasting is not affected.
- ☀ If a woman is in a state of Haiz (menstruation) during Ramadan, she will not keep fasts during the period of menstruation. But she will keep qaza of missed fasts after Ramadan.
- ☀ If a woman becomes free of menstruation before Fajr time during Ramadan, it is wajib on her to perform Ghusle Haiz before Fajr and keep fast. If she becomes free of menstruation during daytime, then she will start fast from next day.
- ☀ If a woman is fasting, and starts her period of menstruation at any time, then the fast of that day is invalid. She will keep Qaza after Ramadan.
- ☀ During fasting, injection for local anaesthesia is allowed but it is better that the injections, which are given as medicine or food are avoided.
- ☀ During fasting, if you say some statement attributed to Allah, or Prophet, or Masoomeen, assuming it was correct, but later it was found to be false, then your fast becomes invalid, and Qaza and Kaffara will apply.
- ☀ If a husband forces his wife for sex during Ramadan fasting and performs sex, then Qaza will become wajib on both, but husband will pay double Kaffara, for himself and for his wife.

MAKROOH (UNDESIRABLE) ACTS DURING FASTING

☀ If you are fasting, the following acts will not break your fast, but they are makrooh and will reduce the sawab (reward) of fasting:

1. Eye drops if its smell reaches throat
2. Inhaling something if it reaches throat
3. Smelling fragrance of herbs (but not perfume)
4. Getting tooth extracted
5. Wetting the dress you are wearing
6. Cleaning teeth with wet toothbrush
7. Putting water or any liquid in mouth (except for Wudu). If you put water in mouth, and if it goes into throat unintentionally, then Qaza of that fast is wajib, not kaffara.
8. Any acts which make you weaker such as going for hot bath, extracting blood etc.
9. For women, to sit in water tub
10. Foreplay between husband and wife if they know seminal discharge will not occur