

ALI 332: Islam 101 for Reverts

Why do we need this course?

- Following a meeting with Reverts during holy month of Ramadan 1435 AH, the Academy had planned for this course.

There are many who were Muslim by birth even then they continue to make mistakes in their daily Islamic practices – especially when performing the rites of worship, when interacting with fellow Muslims and when displaying ethical (i.e. Akhlāqī) qualities. This is also true with new Muslims who have had no formal training in Islam after accepting the great religion of Islam. InshāAllah, in this course we will try to cover the practical aspects of Islamic Laws (Ahkām) and briefly about Islamic Ethics (Akhlāqiyāt).

What is 'ibādah and its importance in Islam?

- Showing of servitude to the Almighty Lord. A servant is known as 'abd
- We have been created for worshipping Allah (Q 51:56)
- The first command in the Holy Quran is on worship (Q 2:21)
- Examples from the devoted worship of the Ma'sūmīn (a)

Why do we need tabārah (ritual purification) before performing 'ibādah (act of worship)?

- Composition of human being: soul and body
- 'Ibādah helps the nourishing of the soul
- Spirituality is derived through practicing ritual worship correctly
- Spirituality takes us closer to the Almighty God (*qurb*)
- Spirituality gives strength to the soul to work in harmony with the body
- Difference between Hadath and Khabath
- Definitions of najāsāt and tahārat

Why do we need to be concerned or preoccupied with ritual purification?

- Four out of ten *najīsul'ayn* comes out of a human
- These are: urine, stool, blood and semen
- We must know how to stay *tābir* (ritually clean) from above impurities
- Good training and practice can make ritual purification easily
- How do other things get najis?

How do we keep ourselves clean from urine?

- Ensuring that all urine has come out before cleaning
- Performing istinja
- What if there is no water available?
- Using of urinals is not permitted in most cases
- Using of public washrooms