

## Basic Rules of Fasting in the month of Ramadan

*Salamun alaykum and welcome to the second session of ALI 481: Preparing for the month of Ramadan for Teenager Boys. In the group of two, try to respond to any three of the following scenarios in 7 minutes.*

Definition: Fasting means that a person must do and avoid nine things, in obedience to the commands of Almighty Allah, from the time of Adhān for Fajr prayers up to Maghrib. Acts that break the fast are known as mubtilāt of fast, i.e. things that invalidate a fast. A few of the mubtilāt are: (1) eating and drinking, (2) immersing one's entire head under water, (3) ascribing false things to Almighty Allah, or to Prophet Muhammad or the 12 Imams (4)swallowing dust, (5) vomiting deliberately, (6) masturbation which is a self abuse, (7) remaining in the state of janābat till fajr time.

Scenario 1: If you forgot or did not know that it was already the first of Ramadan and you came to realize during the day, what should you do?

Scenario 2: Ali became bāligh after fajr in Ramadan, is fasting wājib on him for that day?

Scenario 3: If you get well during the day in Ramadan, are you required to fast on that day?

Scenario 4: Zaahid will be turning 14 a few days before this Ramadan. He informed his parents that he is bāligh and will be fasting with wājib niyyat. How is that possible?

Scenario 5: Husayn felt thirsty in the middle of the day in Ramadan. Without realizing that he was fasting, he drank water to his fill. He later realized that he was fasting. Is his fast valid? What kind of penalty will apply to him?

Scenario 6: Asgar was passing by a restaurant where they were preparing fresh kababs. His mouth was full of saliva as he thought about kababs. Will swallowing the saliva break is fast?

Scenario 7: Muhammad brushed his teeth before fajr prayers during Ramadan. Later in the day he found some food particles between his teeth. Instead of spitting it out, he swallowed it. Is his fast valid? What is the penalty?

Scenario 8: Abbas is sports couch and spends a lot of time outdoor. One day during his Ramadan fast he felt extreme thirst which was unbearable. What should he do?

Scenario 9: Ashraf woke up half an hour before fajr to have take his sahri. He realized that he had a wet dream and could see the semen on his cloth. What is he required to do? What happens if a person has a wet dream during the day when he was fasting?

Scenario 10: Zayd knows well that masturbation is always haram, and it breaks a fast. Despite this, Zayd committed this awful sin while fasting. What is the ruling?

### **Basic Rules of Fasting in the month of Ramadan**

Niyyat: it is enough for us to intend to abstain, in obedience to the command of Allah, from all mubtilāt from a few minutes before Fajr time till Maghrib time. It is permissible to do one niyyat for the entire month.

### **ANSWERS TO VARIOUS SCENARIOS**

Scenario 1: Then you fall into one of the three situations:

- i) You realized before zuhr and not done any mubtilāt. Therefore, immediately perform the niyyat to begin your fast
- ii) You realized it before zuhr, but you have done things that breaks the fast. You need to abstain from all mubtilāt till maghrib and keep a qadhā fast
- iii) You realized about it after the zuhr; then you should abstain from the mubtilāt till maghrib; and keep a qadhā fast after Ramadan.

Scenario 2: The fasting will become wājib on him from the next day. However, if he was already keeping a mustahab fast on that day, then he must continue with his fast till maghrib time.

Scenario 3: then you will do the niyyat and fast on that day, provided you have not done an act that breaks the fast. Fast is not wājib on that day if your recover after zuhr time.

Scenario 4: For boys there are three signs for become bāligh:(i) reaching the 15<sup>th</sup> Islamic birthday, (ii) appearance of pubic hairs, and (iii) experiencing a wet dream. Zaahid could have become bāligh due to either second or third sign.

Scenario 5: His fast is valid, and there is no penalty on him.

Scenario 6: Swallowing the saliva by Asghar will not break his fast.

Scenario 7: His fast is bātil (void). He must abstain from the mubtilāt for the rest of the day and must keep a qadhā fast after Ramadan.

Scenario 8: Abbas can drink enough water to overcome the unbearable hardship, and then abstain from mubtilāt for the rest of the fast. He also required to keep a qadhā fast after Ramadan.

Scenario 9: Ashraf must take a ghusl before fajr to begin his fast on time. If he had wet dream during the day then he will take the ghusl before next prayers and continue with his fast; his fast is valid and there is no qadhā on him.

Scenario 10: Zayd has committed a sin which breaks his fast. He will perform his ghusl, avoid from all mubtilāt till Maghrib time, seek forgiveness from Allah for his sin, keep a qadhā fast after Ramadan and give a kaffāra of either feeding 60 poor Mu'minīn or keep 60 fasts.