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Glossary of the Arabic and Islamc Terms

A

Adhan: The special call announcing that it is now time for performing the Salat.

Ahlul-Bayt: The family of the Messenger of Allah (s) consisting of the Prophet (s) himself, his daughter Fatimah (a.s.), her husband *Imam* Ali Ibn Abi Talib (a.s.), and their offspring who became *Imams*.

Alim (pl. Ulama): An Islamic scholar.

Akhlaq: ethics, manners, morality.

Akhaqi: ethical, moral

Asr: Afternoon.

В

Basmalah: Short for "Bismillahir-Rahmanir-Rahim", i.e. "In the name of Allah, the Merciful the Beneficent".

Batil: A ritually invalid or incorrect act.

D

Dhimmi: A follower of a Divine Book (a Christian or a Jew) who lives under the Islamic Rule, and gets protection for fulfilling his obligations towards the Islamic state.

Dhul-Hijjah: The 12th month of the Islamic calendar.

Du'a: Invocation; benediction; prayer, supplication.

F

Faqih: (Pl. Fuqaha): An Islamic jurisprudent.

Fatwa: (Pl. Fatawa): A decree issued by a religious authority on the religious matters.

Figh: The Islamic Jurisprudence.



Ghurub: Sunset

Ghusl: A ritual bathing in a specified manner



Hadath: A state or act which either invalidates Wudu only or requires ritual Ghusl

Al-Hadathul-Akbar: The act or state of impurity requiring Ghusl, such as the states of Janabah, Hayd, etc.

Al-Hadathul-Asghar: The state or act which invalidates *Wudu*, such as, urinating excreting faeces, sleeping, and passing (breaking) intestinal wind.

Hadith: A narrative (narration) quoted from the Prophet (s), his Companions and our 12 Imams (a.s.).

Hady: The animal offered for the sacrifice during the Hajj rituals.

Hayd: A woman in the state of menstruation.

H⊡*jj*: A person who is performing the *Hajj* rituals.

Hajj: The ritual pilgrimage to Mecca.

Halal: Religiously lawful, permitted, allowed.

Haram: Religiously unlawful, forbidden, prohibited.

Hayd: Menses, menstruation, monthly Period.

Hijrah: The year on which the Prophet (s) and his Companions migrated from Mecca to Al-Madinah.

Hilal: The new moon.

Ibnus-Sabil: A wayfarer (traveller) who is cut off his means

Eid: Feast.

Eidul-Adha: The feast on the 10th day of Dhul-Hijjah.

Eidul-Fitr: The feast on the 1st day of *Shawwal*.

Iftar: Breaking the fast, breakfasting.

Ihram: The wrappings, the dresses worn by the $H_{\square}jj$ during the Hajj, the period of wearing them.

ljtihad: The capability and endeavouring of the *Mujtahid* to deduce the Islamic precepts from their basic sources: the Qur'an and the *Sunnah* by means of valid proofs.

Al–lkhfat: Reciting inaudibly (softly) [in prayers].

Iman: Faith or belief in Allah and His Messenger.

Iqamah: A traveller's stay for a specified period in a place, a *Mustahabb* preparatory recitation before performing the *Salat*.

Irtimasi: By immersion in water.

Isha: The period following sunset at dusk time

Istita'ah: Ability, capability.

Itmam / Tamam: To perform the 4 Rak'ah Salats completely not in the Qasr form.

J

Jabirah: A splint, bandage, ointment, etc. put on a wound.

Al-Jahr: Reciting audibly. [esp. in prayers]

Jama'ah: Congregation (al), in congregation, a group.

Janabah: The state of being Junub after masturbation or sexual intercourse.

Jihad: Holy war, campaign for the sake of Allah.

Jima: Sexual intercourse.

Jumu'ah: Friday.

Junub: One who is impure because of being in a state of Al-Hadathul-Akbar Al-Janabah which requires the Ghusl for the Salat.

K

Kabah: The holy place in Mecca, and is the goal of Islamic pilgrimage, and the direction of the *Qiblah*.

Kafan: The cloths in which a dead body is wrapped, shroud.

Kaffarah: Atonement, expiation.

Kafir: A disbeliever, infidel.

Khutbah: A speech, an oration, a sermon.

Khums: One-fifth of the acquired wealth.

Kurr: A quantity of water regarded as *Tahir* and *Mutahhir* if not less than 377.5 kg or in volume 384.0 litres.

M

Maghrib: The time of disappearance of the reddish colour of the eastern horizon after sunset.

Makruh: Undesirable, advised not to be done.

Ma'mum: One who performs the Salat behind an Imam.

Manasik: Certain rituals done on certain occasions, such as Manasikul-Hajj.

Mash: Wiping a certain part of the body, as in *Wudu*.

Masjid: Mosque.

Massul-Mayyit: Touching the dead body of a human being, an act requiring a Ghusl.

Maytah: The dead body of an animal, or the meat of an animal not slaughtered according to the Islamic precepts.

Mayyit: The deceased, a human dead body, corpse.

Mecca: Name of the holy town in Al-Hijaz, where some of the *Hajj* rituals are performed, and where the *Ka'bah* is situated.

Mubah: Religiously permissible, allowed.

Mu'adhdhin: One who recites the *Adhan* aloud.

Muftir: One who is not fasting.

Mufattir: (Pl. Mufattirat): Acts or things which render fasting Batil.

Mujnib: One who is *Junub* or is in the state of *Janabah*.

Mukallaf: One who has reached the puberty age and, therefore, has become responsible for the performance of the religious duties.

Muqaddimah: Preparatory act, introductory act.

Muqallid: One who follows the opinions (*Fatwas*) of a religious authority in the religious matters.

Musafir: A traveller, one who is on a journey.

Musalli: One who is performing the *Salat*.

Mustahabb: Supererogatory, a recommended and desirable act which procures Divine reward, commendable.

Mustahigg: One who deserves receiving due-alms.

Mustati[!]: One who is capable of going to the *Hajj*.

Mutanajjis: That which has become Najis (impure and unclean).

Mutahhir: (Pl. Mutahhirat) That which makes a Mutanajjis thing Tahir.

Mutawaddi: One who has performed the *Wudu*.

N

Nafilah: (Pl. Nawafil) Mustahabb Salat, supererogatory prayer.

Nafsa: A woman in the state of Nifas.

Najasah: (Pl. Najasat) Things which are ritually impure or not Tahir, and cannot be made Tahir by itself.

Najis Ayni: adj. impure (not Tahir) in itself.

Nifas: Bleeding period after childbirth.

Nisab: Prescribed quantity, number of items liable to due *Zakat* and *Khums*.

Niyyah: intention.

Q

Qiblah: The direction of Ka'bah to which every Musalli must face when performing the Salat.

Qada: Performing a lapsed obligatory Salat or Sawm which had not been performed in its due time.

Qasr: A shortened form of the 4 Rak'ah Salat to a 2 Rak'ah Salat, for the travellers.

R

Rajab: The 7th month of the Islamic Calendar.

Rak'ah: A unit of the Salat.

Ramadan: The 9th month of the Islamic Calendar.

Rukn: A principal part of the Salat.

Ruku: The ritual bowing in the Salat, ritual genuflection.

S

Sa'im: One who is fasting.

Sajdah: (or Sujud) The ritual prostration in the Salat: or in worshipping.

Sajdatus-Sahw: Two Sajdahs performed as an atonement for an inadvertent act done in the Salat.

Sawm (or Siyam): Fasting in Ramadan month.

Ash-Shahidatan: The two testimonies: Ashhadu An La Ilaha IllaLlah, Wa Ashhadu Anna Muhammadan Rasulu-Llah. [I testify that chere is no God except Allah, and that Muhammad (s) is His Messenger].

Shari'ah: The Islamic Divine Law.

Shawwal: The 10th month of the Islamic Calendar.

Subh: Morning.

Sunnah: The traditions and conduce of the Prophet (s)

T

Tabi'un: Those who lived with, and learnt from the Companions of the Holy Prophet (s)

Tafsir: an exegesis, explantion.

Taghut: Tyrant.

Tahirah: The state of being Tahir.

Tahir: Ritually being pure and clean according to the Shari'ah.

Takbir: To say: "Allahu Akbar".

Takbiratul-Ihram: The first Takbir in the Salat said just after making the Niyyah.

Tamam / Itmam: Performing the 4 Rak'ah Salats completely, not Qasr.

Taqlid: To follow a Mujtahid's Fatwas in performing one's religious duties.

Tarakhkhus: (Limit of) A distance at which a traveller cannot hear the *Adhan* from the town he has left behind, or a distance from which it is difficult to distinguish the walls of the town.

Tartib: Sequence, ordinal of the ritual acts.

Tawaf: Circumambulation around the Ka'bah as a part of the rituals of the Hajj.

Tawhid: Monotheism, Oneness of God.

Tayammum: A kind of "dry purification" done with clean soil instead of the *Wudu* or the *Ghusl*.



Ummah: Nation, the whole Muslim community.

Umrah: A kind of Hajj to Mecca (minor Hajj)



Wajib: Obligatory, binding.

Wajib Ayni: Obligatory on every Mukallaf individually.

Wajib Kifa'i: A duty which remains *Wajib* upon the Muslims as a whole, but if some individuals have carried it out, other Muslims would be exempted from the responsibility.

Wudu: Islamic Ritual ablution usually before the Salat.

Z

Zakat: A certain Islamic obligatory tax on certain items.

Zakitul-Fitr (Al-Fitrah): A Due-Alms given on Eidul-Fitr.

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