

## Chapter Seven

### SOME MISCELLANEOUS AADAAB (ETIQUETTE)

Dear Children,

السلام عليكم

*Assalaamu Alaikum*

*Alhamdu-lillaah*, we have just completed our fourth year of publication. Last year's issues were devoted to the *aadaab* of a number of beliefs and practices and we will, *Inshaa Allaah*, endeavour to continue in this respect for our fifth year. Accordingly, we give below some *aadaab* which you will have to use frequently:

**\*BEFORE BEGINNING TO DO ANYTHING SAY:**

*Bismillaahir Rahmaan ir Raheem.*

In the name of Allaah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

**\*WHEN YOU MEET ANOTHER MUSLIM SAY:**

*Assalaamu Alaikum.*

Peace be with you.

**\*WHEN SOMEONE GREETES YOU WITH THE WORDS  
“ASSALAAMU ALAIKUM”, REPLY:**

*Wa’alaikum-us-Salaam.*

Peace be with you also.

You may add the words

*“Wa Rahmatul-laahi wa Barakaatuhu.*

*..May the Mercy and His Blessings be with you.*

**\*WHEN YOU MEET A MIXED GATHERING OF MUSLIMS  
AND NON-MUSLIMS, SAY:**

*Assalaamu Alaikum.*

Peace be unto you.

**\*WHEN A NON-MUSLIM GREETES YOU, REPLY BY  
SAYING:**

*Taslimaat.*

Respect to you.

**\*WHEN GIVING CHARITY, SAY:**

*Fii sabii lillaah.*

In the way of Allaah.

**\*WHEN SPEAKING ABOUT DOING ANYTHING IN THE  
FUTURE, SAY:**

*Inshaa Allaah.*

Allaah willing.

**\*ON HEARING GOOD NEWS, OR OF SOMETHING GOOD,  
SAY:**

*Subhaan-Allaah.*

Glory be to Allaah.

**\*WHEN SOMEONE IS LEAVING TO GO ON A JOURNEY,  
SAY:**

*Fii Amaan-illaah.*

May Allaah protect you.

**\*WHEN FEELING HAPPY ABOUT ONE’S ACHIEVEMENT, ON HEARING GOOD NEWS, OR WHEN ONE IS RELIEVED OF DIFFICULTIES, SAY:**

*Al Hamdu-lillaah.*

All Praise is due to Allaah.

**\*ON COMMITTING AN EVIL ACT, OR ON REMEMBERING ONE’S SINS, SAY:**

*Astagh-fir-ullaah.*

I seek Allaah’s forgiveness.

**\*ON HEARING OF AN INCIDENT OR SOMETHING NEW, ON BEING SUCCESSFUL IN ACHIEVING SOMETHING, SAY:**

*Maa Shaaa Allaah.*

Whatever Allaah has been pleased to do.

**\*WHEN THANKING SOMEONE, SAY:**

*Jazaak Allaah.*

May Allaah reward you.

**\*ON BEING CONFRONTED WITH SOME FEAR, SAY:**

*Laa Haula wa laa quwaata illa bil-laah.*

There is no power and no might except that which refers to Allaah.

**\*ON HEARING BAD NEWS, ON HEARING OF A DEATH, SAY:**

*Innaa lillaahi wa Innaa ilaihi raaqi-uun.*

To Allaah we belong and to Him is our eventual return.

**\*ON SNEEZING, SAY:**

*Al Hamdu-lillaah.*

All Praise is due to Allaah.

**\*ON HEARING SOMEONE SNEEZE, SAY:**

*Yarhamuk Allaah.*

May Allaah have Mercy on thee.

**\*ON HEARING “YARHAMUK ALLAAH” THE ONE WHO SNEEZES REPLIES:**

*Yahdeek Allaah.*

May Allaah lead thee on the path of guidance.

**\*WHEN UNDER GREAT STRESS OR GRIEF, SAY:**

*Laa ilaaha illaa anta subhaan-aka innii kuntu min-az za-limiin.*

There is no deity except Thee. Be Thou glorified! Lo! I have been a wrongdoer.

**\*WHEN IN DISTRESS, SAY:**

*Ya Haiyyu ya Qaiyoomu birah matika astagheesu.*

O Thou Living Eternal One! Unto Thy Mercy do I appeal.

**\*WHEN PLEASANTNESS APPEARS, SAY:**

*Fata Baarakallaah.*

Blessed be Allaah.

**\*WHEN UNPLEASANTNESS OCCURS, WHEN AN EVIL THOUGHT COMES TO YOUR MIND SAY:**

*Na-oozu billaah.*

We seek refuge with Allaah.

**\*WHEN PARTICIPATING IN PRAYER, SAY:**

*Aameen.*

Be it so.

**\*WHEN SEEKING KNOWLEDGE, SAY:**

*Rabbi zidnii ‘ilma(n).*

O my Lord! Increase me in knowledge.

**\*WHEN A PROBLEM APPEARS, SAY:**

*Tawakaltu Al-Allaah.*

I put my trust in Allaah.

**\*WHEN VISITING THE SICK, SAY:**

*Allaahumma adh-hibil-ba'sa Rabb-an-naasi ishfihi wa antash-shaafii  
laa shifa'a illa shifa'uka shifa'an laa yughaadiru saqaama.*

Allaah! Remove this pain. O Lord of mankind, grant health to this person. You are the Healer. There is none from whom we expect recovery from illness save You alone - Grant such recovery that this disease may be completely uprooted.

**\*WHEN BEGINNING A MEAL SAY:**

*Bismillaah wa 'ala Barakatillaah.*

In the name of Allaah and with the Blessings of Allaah.

**\*AT THE END OF A MEAL SAY:**

*Al-hamdu-lillaahil-ladhii at'amanaa wa saqaanaa wa ja'alanaa  
min-al Muslimiin.*

Praise be to Allaah, Who fed us and gave us drink and made us Muslims.

**\*ON GOING TO BED, SAY:**

*Allaahumma bismeka amootu wa ahya.*

O Allaah, with Thy name I retire and shall rise.

**\*ON AWAKENING, SAY:**

*Alhamdu lil laahil ladhii ahyanaa ba'da maa amaatanaa wa ilaihin  
nushoor.*

All Praise to Allaah, He Who revived us to life after giving us death and to Him we shall have to return.

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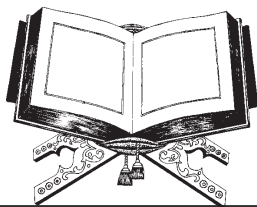
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## Chapter Eight



# THE ADAAB (ETIQUETTE) OF READING AL-QUR'AAN

*“Here is a Book which We have sent down upon thee, full of blessings, that they may meditate on its Signs, and that men of understanding may receive admonition”.*

Al Qur’aan 38 :29

Dear Children,

السلام عليكم

Assalaamu Alaikum

Al Qur’aan, you will know, is the last revealed book of Almighty Allaah. In this Book, therefore, is to be found Almighty Allaah’s instructions to mankind how to conduct himself in order to gain Almighty Allaah’s pleasure both in this world and in the Hereafter.

Al Qur’aan was revealed to the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) through the Angel *Jibra-iil* (Gabriel) over a period of twenty three years.

The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.), who was born in Makkah, Arabia, in the year 570, was forty years old when he received the first revelation of Al Qur'aan.

Al Qur'aan was revealed in the Arabic language, the language of the people of Arabia. It still exists in that language, although it has been translated into scores of other languages. Al Qur'aan has been memorised in its original form over the centuries by scores of thousands of persons so that if all the copies are lost it can be reproduced without a mistake. A person who memorises Al Qur'aan is called a *Haafiz* (plural *Huffaaz*). In our own country today there are quite a few *Huffaaz*.

Proper care must be taken of Al Qur'aan, or any booklet containing verses of this Holy Book, in its original form. You should be in a state of *taharah* or cleanliness when holding such books. Such books must be kept in a clean place and above floor level. They must not be thrown on the floor, or taken to unclean places such as the toilet. They must not be folded and placed in your back pocket as some are wont to do. If it becomes necessary to destroy such books because they are no longer usable, this must be done preferably by throwing the book in a river or the sea. If this is not possible, the material should be buried. **On no account, however, should such material be burnt, thrown in the garbage, or in a drain.**

Dear children, as stated in the verse quoted above, Almighty Allaah has given us a complete code of guidance for all aspects of our lives in Al Qur'aan.

It is therefore necessary for you not only to read this Holy book, but also for you to understand and to practise what you read. While reading the Arabic version therefore you should also read the English translation and the commentary at the bottom of the pages. When you need explanation on any points, ask your *Imaam* or other knowledgeable persons.

As you know there are certain *aadaab* to be always observed in all aspects of a Muslim's life. The following are some of those with respect to reading Al Qur-aan:

- Your main purpose in reciting Al Qur'aan must be to seek guidance.

Your aim must not be to be congratulated for your knowledge of it or for the beauty of your recitation.

- You must be in a state of *Taharah* (cleanliness) when holding or reading Al Qur’aan. In this respect, Almighty Allaah says in Chapter 56 Verses 77 to 80 of this sacred Book:

*“That this indeed is a Qur-aan most honourable, in a Book well-guarded, which none shall touch but those who are clean: a Revelation from the Lord of the Worlds.”*

- Your clothing must be free from impurities.
- You must be dressed as if for reading *salaat*.
- The place in which you are sitting must be clean.
- You must sit in a respectful manner, preferably facing the Holy Ka’aba.
- If you are in a congregation, ensure that your back does not face Al Qur’aan being read by another person.
- Take your time and read the words distinctly and in a melodious tone. As the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) said:

*“The reciter of Al Qur’aan shall be commanded on the Day of Judgement to recite Al Qur’aan melodiously with the same measured tone and sustained pitch, with which he used to read the Book in the world, and get elevated a step higher as a reward for each ayah (verse). His real abode lies near the last ayah he has recited.”*

- Do not read either in a very loud voice or in a very low voice. Rather read in a medium pitch. In this connection Almighty Allaah says in Chapter 17 Verse 110 of Al Qur’aan:

*“Say: ‘Call upon Allaah, or call upon Rahmaan: by whatever name ye call Him, (it is well): for unto Him belong the Most Beautiful Names. Neither speak thy Prayer aloud, nor speak it in a low voice, but seek a middle course between.’”*

- Do not complete reading the whole of Al Qur’aan under three days.

In this connection the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) said:

*“He who completes the recitation of the full text of Al Qur’aan in less than three days does not understand the meanings of the Qur’aan at all.”*

- Just as you have purified yourself before commencing to read Al Qur’aan, so too try to purify your thoughts while reading the Holy Book.
- As you read Al Qur’aan, ponder over what you have read and resolve that you will follow the instructions which Almighty Allaah has sent down for us therein. Remember the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“The man who has studied Al Qur’aan and recites it daily can be likened to a basket full of musk whose sweet smell is making the whole atmosphere fragrant. And the man who has studied Al Qur’aan but does not recite it may be likened to a bottle full of musk whose mouth has been sealed with a stopper.”*

- You should read Al Qur’aan as often and as long as possible as the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) said:

*“Allaah’s servant gains the maximum proximity to Him through the reading of Al Qur’aan.”*

- You must make prostration after reading each of the following fourteen *aayaat* (verses):

<i>Suurah</i> (Chapter) (Verse)	<i>Aayah</i> (Verse)	<i>Surah</i> (Chapter)	<i>Aayah</i>
• VII (7)	206	• XXVII (27)	26
• XIII (13)	15	• XXXII (32)	15
• XVI (16)	50	• XXXVIII (38)	24
• XVII (17)	109	• XLI (41)	38
• XIX (19)	58	• LIII (53)	62
• XXII (22)	18	• LXXXIV (84)	21

- Recite the following *du'a* after reading Al Qur'aan:

*“Allaa-hummar-hamnii bil-Qur-aanil-’Aziim; waj-’alhu lii ‘Imaa-manw-wa Nuur-ranw-wa Hudanw-wa Rahmah; war-zuqnii Tilaa-watahuuu ‘aanaaa-’al-layli wa ‘aanaaa-’an-nahaar; waj-’alhu lii Huj-jutany-yaa Rabbal-’aalamiin, bi-haqqi Nabiyyika Muhammadin Sal-lallaahu ‘alay-hi was Sallam!”*

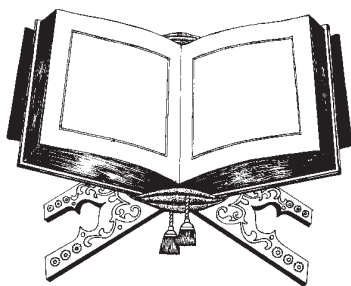
“O Allaah! Confer Thy Grace on me through the Magnificent Qur'aan; make it for me a Book of instruction and evidence, light, guidance and mercy. Grant me the honour of reciting it day and night and make it an argument and proof for me, O Lord and Sustainer of all the worlds, through the gracious instrumentality of Muhammad, Thy Prophet, - May Allaah shower blessings and peace on him.!

Finally, dear children, remember that Almighty Allaah bless not only those who read Al Qur-aan but also those who listen to it being read. In addition, the person who reads this Book receives ten blessings for every letter read. So let this Book be your constant guide and companion throughout your whole life.

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*Khudaa Haafiz*

*Rabi-ul-Awwal/Rabi-ul-Akhir 1420 A.H.*



## Chapter Nine



# THE AADAAB (ETIQUETTE) OF FRIENDSHIP



*“Muslim males and Muslim females  
are friends and helpers of each other...”*

Al Qur’aan 9:71

*“A Muslim is love and affection personified. The man, who neither  
loves others nor is loved in return by others, has no good in him.”*

The Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.)

Dear Children,

السلام عليكم

Assalaamu Alaikum

During the course of your respective lives you will get to know many people. Some you will just meet and know casually and carry on trivial conversations with them. Such persons may be called acquaintances. Others you will know better and you will meet very often and discuss many matters, some personal. These persons are regarded as friends.

The development of appropriate friendship is very important in Islam.

Some of you will have heard of the saying that a person is judged by the company he keeps. Thus, if others see you regularly in the company of indisciplined, ill-mannered and unkempt persons, they will most likely come to the conclusion that you yourself are indisciplined, ill-mannered and unkempt. On the other hand, if others see you regularly in the company of well-behaved and serious-minded people, they will think that you yourself are well-behaved and seriously minded.

The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) referred to this when he said:

*“A good friend is like a musk-shop where even if you do not gain any advantage, you will at least feel the aroma of musk. And a bad friend is like the fire of a furnace. Even if your clothes are not burnt they would certainly get smeared with smoke”.*

Accordingly, you should be very careful with whom you keep company, and more specifically who you regard as your friend. Almighty Allaah and the Holy Prophet Muhammad (S.A.W.) have given the guidelines for this and also how you should treat your friends. Some of these are given below.

### **SEEK FRIENDSHIP WITH PIOUS AND VIRTUOUS PERSONS**

As a Muslim you would naturally want to cultivate all the qualities which would qualify you to be called a Muslim. You should therefore try to keep the company as much as possible of persons who follow the Path of Allaah so that they can influence all aspects of your life. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“A person is supposed to follow the faith of his friends. Therefore a person should consider as to what type of man is the person with whom he is going to forge friendship.”*

### **SHOW YOUR LOVE FOR YOUR FRIENDS**

You should let your friends know how much you care and appreciate them by telling them so. In addition, you should give them gifts from time to time. In these ways the relationship between you and your friends will grow stronger with time. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“Any person who cherishes in his heart sentiments of love and sincerity for his brother, he should express these sentiments to his brother and tell him clearly that he holds him in love and affection.”*

### **GUIDE YOUR FRIENDS IF THEY GO WRONG**

If you find any of your friends doing anything wrong or tending to follow the wrong path, tell them so. Encourage them to mend their ways. Remember the words of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.):

*“Each of you is like a mirror for his brother. If he sees something ill in his brother, he should try to dispel it.”*

### **PRAY FOR YOUR FRIENDS**

When you are offering *du’a*, include your friends among those whose welfare you would like to see improved. You should also request them to include you in their *du’a*. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“When a Muslim prays for his friend who is absent, Allaah grants this prayer. An angel appointed by Allaah at his side says: “Ameen! You may have for yourself what you desire for your brother.”*

### **KEEP YOUR FRIENDS’ SECRETS**

From time to time your friends will tell you something in confidence. This is because they trust you. Do not therefore betray that trust by telling others what was told to you in confidence.

### **ON MEETING WITH YOUR FRIENDS**

You should be happy when you meet with your friends and this happiness should be reflected on your face and with your words of greeting. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“Your smile when you see a friend, is also a sadaqah (a good deed of charity).”*

### **SHARE IN YOUR FRIENDS’ HAPPINESS AND ALSO**

## **SORROW**

When your friend is happy you should also be happy for him and should not begrudge anything that he has obtained. When your friend is unhappy for one reason or another, you should express your sympathy to him and try to cheer him up. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“Just as when a part of the body becomes sick, the entire body feels the pain, in the same way, a Muslim will feel the pain for other Muslims.”*

## **SETTLE YOUR DIFFERENCES QUICKLY**

It is quite normal for friends to disagree from time to time. In disagreeing however they should not use harsh words to each other nor should they break the friendship. They must resolve the problems between themselves quickly, bearing in mind that the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“The muster of the acts of the people are presented on each Monday and Thursday to Allaah. Every Muslim is forgiven except the one who bears grudge against his Muslim brother. They are left out so that they may reconcile.”*

And again:

*“Allaah has said, it is imperative for Me that I should love those who make friendship with each other for My sake and sit together to remember Me and do good to each other for pleasure.”*

## **HELP YOUR NEEDY FRIENDS**

You may be in the fortunate position where your parents are able to give you most of what you need. Some of your friends however may not be in such a position. You should try to assist your needy friends in whatever way you can for the Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said:

*“Allaah keeps on helping a person as long as he is engaged in helping his brother.”*

## **BE CAREFUL OF YOUR LANGUAGE**

You must always be careful of your choice of words when speaking to anyone. If a person offends you, you must not respond by using abusive or offensive language. Rather, respond in a mild tone and with civil, courteous words. The Holy Prophet (S.A.W.) said that:

*“The worst person before Allaah on the Day of Resurrection will be the man whom people avoid meeting because of his foul and annoying language.”*

Finally, dear children, you should offer *du’a* for your friends. The following prayer from Ch. 59 Verse 10 of Al Qur’aan is an appropriate prayer:

*“Rabba-nag-fir lanaa wa li-’ikhwaani-nallaziina sabaquunaa bil-’Iimaa ni wa laa taj-’al fii quluubinaa gillal-lillaziina ‘aamanuu Rabbanaaa ‘innaka Ra-’uufur-Rahiim.”*

“Our Lord! Forgive us and our brethren who came before us into the Faith, and leave not, in our hearts rancour (or sense of injury) against those who have believed. Our Lord! Thou art indeed full of Kindness, Most Merciful.”

*Khudaa Haafiz*

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