

The Sunan Of Al-Fitrah (One's Natural State)

Notes From Mu'tassim Al-Hameedee's Fiqh Class

Masjid Al-Ghurabaa' Luton (12-06-05)

Source Book: Al-Wajeez Fee Fiqh As-Sunnah Wal-Kitaab Al-Azeez of
Shaykh Abdul-Adheem Al-Khalafi (student Of Shaykh Al-Albaanee)

The Sunan Of Al-Fitrah: (Natural, Innate, Inborn State)

It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) that he said: "Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"There are five (sunan) which are part of al-fitrah: "Shaving the pubic hair, circumcision, trimming the moustache, plucking the armpit hair and trimming the nails." [Agreed upon]

And it is reported on the authority of Zakariyah ibn Abi' Zaa'idah, from Mus'ab Ibn Shaybah, from Talq ibn Habeeb, from Ibn az-Zubayr, from Aa'isha (Radiya 'Llahu 'anha) that she said "Allah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"There are ten things which are part of al-fitrah: Trimming the moustache, growing the beard, using the siwaak, istinshaaq (sniffing water into the nostrils for the purpose of cleaning) with water, clipping the nails, washing the finger-joints (and in between them), plucking the armpit hair, shaving the pubic region and cleaning the private parts after excretion." Zakariya said: 'Mus'ab said: "I have forgotten the tenth thing, unless it was Madmadah." (I.e. rinsing the mouth with water) [Muslim, Abu Daawood, Tirmidhi Nasaa'I and Ibn Maajah]

Circumcision (Al-Khitaan):

Circumcision is obligatory because it is one of the rites of Islaam and the Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said to a man who had embraced Islaam:

"Remove from yourself the sign of disbelief and become circumcised."
[Abu Daawood and Al-Bayhaqi]

It is also a sunnah of the community of Ibraheem ('Alayh is-Salam). It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) that the Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"Ibrahim, the friend of the Most Beneficent, circumcised himself after he had reached eighty years of age." [Agreed upon]

And Allaah (Subhanahu wa ta'ala) said to His Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam):

"Then we sent the Revelation to you [O Muhammad, saying]: "Follow the true Religion of Ibraaheem..." [An-Nahl (16): 123]

And it is preferred that the circumcision be performed on the seventh day after the birth, according to the hadeeth of Jaabir (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu), where he states that:

"Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) held the aqeeqah of Al-Hasan and Al-Husayn and circumcised them on the seventh day."
[At-Tabaraani - Al-Ma'jam as-Sagheer]

It is also reported on the authority of Ibn Abbaas (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) that he said:

"There are 7 things which are part of the Sunnah regarding the male infant on the seventh day: He should be named, circumcised..." [Al-Ma'jam al Awsat]

Although the above two hadeeth (Jaabir & Ibn Abbaas) are weak, Al-Albaanee (Rahimahu 'Llah) says each one strengthens the other.

Growing The Beard:

Growing the beard is obligatory and shaving it is forbidden, because it entails changing Allaah's creation and it is one of the deeds of Satan, who said:

"And I will surely order them to change the creation of Allaah..."
[Suratul-Nisaa (4):119]

Also, shaving it entails imitation of women and: "The Messenger of Allaah (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) cursed those men who imitate women." [Bukharee and Tirmidhi]

And the Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) commanded us to grow our beards and it is obligatory to follow his commands: It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurairah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) that he said: "Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"Trim your moustaches and grow your beards and be different from the Magians."
[Muslim]

And it is reported on the authority of Ibn Umar (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) from the Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) that he said:

"Be different from the pagans and grow your beards and trim your moustaches."
[Agreed Upon]

The Siwaak (Toothstick):

The use of siwaak is strongly preferred at all times, and most strongly preferred at the following times:

1) When making ablution: It is reported on the authority of Abu Hurayrah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) that Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"Were it not that I fear to burden my people, I would have ordered them to use the siwaak every time they make ablution."
[Ahmad - Saheeh al Jaami' Albaanee]

2) At the time of prayer:

Abu Hurayrah: Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"Were it not that I fear to burden my people, I would have ordered them to use the siwaak [whenever they pray (Bukharee)]." [Agreed upon]

3) When reciting the Qur'aan:

Alee (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) that he said:

"He (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) ordered us to use the siwaak saying: "Verily, when the slave stands in prayer, the angel comes to him and stands behind him and listens to the Aur'aan and draws close to him and he continues to listen and draw closer until his lips are on those of the slave and he does not recite a single verse except that it goes into the angel's insides." [Al-Bayhaqi, weak but strengthened by other chains to saheeh - As-Saheehah of Al-Albaanee]

4) When entering the house:

Miqdaam Ibn Shurayh, from his father: "I asked 'Aa'ishah: "With what did the Prophet (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) begin upon entering the house?" She said: "With the siwaak". [Muslim]

5) When praying qiyaamul-layl:

Hudhayfah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu): "When Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) used to stand in the night prayer, he would cleanse his mouth with the siwaak." [Agreed upon]

White Hairs:

It is disliked to pluck out one's white hairs: Amr ibn Shu'ayb from his father from his grandfather: Allah's Messenger said:

"Do not pluck out the white hairs. There is no Muslim whose hair turns white in Islam except that it will be a light for him on the Day of Resurrection
[Abu Dawood and Nasaa'i - Authenticated by Al-Albaanee]

Changing one's white hair with henna and al-katam or the like and the prohibition of using black:

Abu Dharr (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu): "Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"Verily, the best thing with which to change white hair is henna
and al-katam (a vegetable dye resembling henna)"
[Abu Dawood, Tirmidhi, Nasaa'I, Ibn Maajah saheeh al-Jaami' Albaanee]

Abu Hurayrah (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu): "Allaah's Messenger (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"Verily, the Jews and Christians do not dye (their hair) so be different from them." [Agreed upon]

Jaabir (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu): "Abu Qahaafah was brought on the day of the fall of Makkah and his head and his beard were very white. The Messenger of Allaah (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said: "Change this with something, but stay away from black." [Muslim]

Ibn Abbaas (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu): "The Messenger of Allaah (Sallallahu 'alaihi wa sallam) said:

"There will be a people at the end of time who will dye their hair like the tails of pigeons and they will not (even) smell the aroma of Paradise.
[Abu Daawood and Nasaa'i]

Note: If the mushrikeen start to grow their beards or Jews and Christians start to dye their hair then they have taken on something from Islam and of course we don't have to differ with them on these things now by shaving our beards and not dying our hair!!

published: 16-09-07