

ADVICES TO THE HAAJI

Assalaam-mu-alaikum

It has always been my desire to go for Hajj over and over again and Insha Allah this will be translated into some form of action i.e. May the Labaaik call be accepted and may we get invited by the Grace of Allah (SWT) and our beloved Nabi (SAW).

O Haaji, You have indeed been greatly and uniquely honoured to be invited to the Holy Lands of Hijaaz. Just think about it - many a great King, Sultan, Emperor, Prime Ministers, Presidents, despite having all the resources available, were never invited for this great spiritual Ibadaah and hence were very unfortunate so as not to visit this great land, where the Beloved of Allah (SWT), NABI MUHAMMAD (SAW) walked, talked practiced, on the injunctions of the Glorious Quraan. The entire world was transformed by the teachings, sayings, and revelations on our Master Nabi (SAW), never to be repeated in History will such peace, tranquillity, equality, social reforms, political stability, and dignity to Human Kind be ever achieved till the end of time.

O Haaji, just look at how Allah (SWT) has honoured you. Because of your intention to perform Hajj, just your intention, you are already called Haaji. People are already asking you to make dua for them and of course to convey salaams to NABI (SAW). If you remember, please convey my salaams to the Great Master (SAW) as many times as you remember me.

Kindly remember you are the guest and the host is ALLAH (SWT) and NABI (SAW). So please do not feel offended when I say this, but please behave as a guest, just like you want a guest to behave when you are the host. Of course make yourself totally comfortable, be open, and act with humbleness and humility, not pride and haughtiness. (South Africans Beware). You are not the only or the best Muslims in the world. You are just a drop in the ocean of the ± one billion or more of our beloved brothers and sisters. Be careful as to what you listen to, say and do, be careful as actions speak louder than words. With absolute hope in the mercy of Allah (SWT) and fear of rejection, that this great action will somehow not be accepted by the Great Sustainer. Keep focused on your intention and be clear of your goal?

Please take heed of some of the advices that follow and Insha-Allah your stay in the blessed land will be pleasant for all and sundry. May Allah (SWT) grant you Hajj Makbool and Hajj Mabroor. Please follow the Quraanic injunction on Hajj:

1. Make sure your intention is always for the pleasure of Allah (SWT) and constantly remember this.
2. Take sufficient provision with you and have taqwa.
3. Leave sufficient provisions behind for those loved ones you have left behind.
4. Do not be loud, angry, obscene, rude, uncouth and proud. Please be humble, soft, forgiving, accommodating, tolerant with patience and be helpful to others, not only your fellow South Africans and family members and to all Muslims regardless of colour, race, creed or language. We are but one Ummah at large.
5. Make sure your funds are totally from halaal sources.
6. Remember the EATS concept. O Allah make this Ibadaah:
 - EASY for me
 - ACCEPT from me
 - THANK you O Allah for this opportunity.
 - SORROWFUL that you could not fully fulfill the responsibility but have hope in the mercy of Allah for acceptance.
7. Make intention that you will not harm a single soul on this journey of yours. If perchance you do, be first to ask forgiveness.
8. On your entire trip be careful of what and to whom you do the following:

- What you speak, listen to, smell, touch, think of, and what you look at. Be very careful of the whisperings of shaytaan especially in the two great mosques.
9. Do not under any circumstances criticize the custodians of the two mosques. You have absolutely no proof only hearsay. Do not cause suspicion, it is as if you have eaten the flesh of your dead brother.
 10. Be kind to the descendants of the Muhajireen and Ansaar. For their sacrifices will never be able to be repaid by such sinful ones as us. May Allah grant them great stages in Jannah and forgive them and us as well. *Ameen.*
 11. Support their bazaars and shops with the intention of providing halaal and easy rizq to them. Please do not bargain excessively as this is a bad habit.
 12. Ask yourself are my fellow haji bhais and bhens really my friends or are they responsible for my time being wasted. Remember there is no free time. A moment gone in unmindfulness will never come back again.
 13. Dear sisters, the shops in the bazaar are not your exclusivity. Please be so kind as to share information willingly. Remember a Muslim is one who wants for others what they want for themselves.
 14. Spend maximum time in the two Great Mosques as abundant mercies descend on them continuously. Do not, please do not deprive yourself of the rains of mercy not to be found anywhere else.
 15. Do not push and shove others. Be accommodating and Insha-Allah others will accommodate you.
 16. Do not criticize the weather, cuisine, and ways of the indigenous heirs of our beloved Nabi (SAW) and Sahaba (RA).
 17. Make at least one Quraan khatam in the great mosque of Medina Munawwarah. Method - Read ± 15 min. before and after every Fard Salaat. You will also avoid huge crowds after salaats. Perform as many Qadaah salaats as possible (Beware of Makhrooh times). Send abundant Dueroods on our Beloved Nabi (SAW). Visit the Qabrastan of Jannatul Baqee in Madina Munawwarah daily if possible.
 18. Perform Janaazah Salaat whenever possible.
 19. Do not forget to enter the masjid with the right foot and make niyyat for Nafil Itikaaf every time.
 20. Drink abundant Zam Zam water.
 21. Always try to be in a state of wudhu and carry your Musallah with you on ziyaarat. Perform 2 rakaats of Nafil Salaat at every opportunity.
 22. Remember this is a journey of Dua, so make abundant and appropriate Duas at all times for all those that you remember and the Ummah at large.
 23. Do not forego a single Fardh Salaat with Jammah if possible.
 24. When in Makkah Mukarramah make abundant Nafil Tawaaf and make intention of at least the following:

- For our Beloved Nabi (SAW)
- Sahabah (RA)
- Tabiee
- Tabe Tabiee
- Ibrahim (AS), Bibi Hajira (AS), and Ismail (AS).
- Our Forefathers who came into the fold of Islam, to whom we owe our Islamisation.
- For those who you have hurt and have bad feelings for.
- Then for other family and friends
- For e-Saale-Thawaab

If you do remember and have the opportunity kindly make a Tawaaf for me as well and for all who made this effort possible.

25. Read a good book on the seerah of Nabi (SAW), on the lives of Sahabah (RA) so that Ziyaraah becomes more meaningful, and attend lectures and slide shows before proceeding for Hajj.
26. Kindly spread the salaam to as many Muslims as possible.
27. For men read the Labaaik (Talbiyah) audibly and in abundance. Remember there are only Muslims here (Do not, I repeat Do not feel shy).

This is your announcement to Allah (SWT) that this weak, sinful and insignificant slave has repented to your Great Invitation.

28. Bond with your creator from within your inner soul and try and understand what you are reading and asking for.
29. Sit in a place where Kabaah Sharief is always visible.
30. Be fit and healthy for the five days of Hajj. Eat moderately and do not overexert yourself prior to Hajj so that you are not over exhausted to perform and enjoy the rites of Hajj.
31. Do not argue with fellow Haajis, especially your travel agent. Remember every condition comes from Allah (SWT).
32. Fulfill the responsibilities of your spouse and mahrams, remembering that you are human and need your own space.
33. Remove animalistic qualities and become a human being.
34. To increase the value of your hajj, read Virtues of Hajj, Duas for Hajj, Al Hizbul Azam, Munaajate Maqbool, and most importantly the Duas from the depths of your heart is most certainly more valuable.
35. Always be thankful and grateful. Spend on your needs and do not be miserly.
36. Kindly remember those at home looking after your children and make abundant duas for them, your beloved parents and teachers.
37. Ask Allah for good conditions for the Ummah at large. Pray for the orphans, the poor, widows, Mujaahideen, and that Allah protect the signs of Islam and especially our Imaan. Ask for peace, tranquillity and victory over the tyrant unbelievers occupying Muslim lands, such as Palestine, captives in Guantanamo Bay, Iraq, Sudan and Afghanistan.
38. Gifts to bring back :
 - a). Dates and Zam Zam,
 - b). Implement the greatest gift - Bring sunnats into your life.
 - c). Become a propagator of Deen.
 - d). Become a better human being and Muslim.
 - e). Become a lover of Allah Taala (SWT) and Nabi (SAW).
 - f). Encourage others to do good and stay away from evil.
 - g). Ask for emancipation from the fire of hell and entry into Jannah.
 - h). Recognition of Allah Taala and the signs of Allah Taala.
 - i). Become a responsible and caring Muslim.

It has been reported that just looking at the following 5 things bring blessings:

- 1). KABAHAH,
- 2). ZAM ZAM
- 3). AN AALIM
- 4). PARENTS
- 5). THE QURAAN SHARIEF.

The first four are limited to time and place. But Quraan is unlimited, so therefore recite Quraan daily.

Make sure that you do not fall into one of the following Categories:

- (Going to the Holy Land for:)
- 1). Solely for Business,
 - 2). Leisure and Recreation,
 - 3). Begging

Kindly remember me and all those who contributed to this publication in your Duas. Pray for the forgiveness of the Ummah, that Allah Taala show us truth from falsehood, halaal from haraam and guides us onto the straight path. Aameen.

JAZAKALLAH for your valuable time in reading these Advices.

Was-salaam
Yous in Islam
Yusuf

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