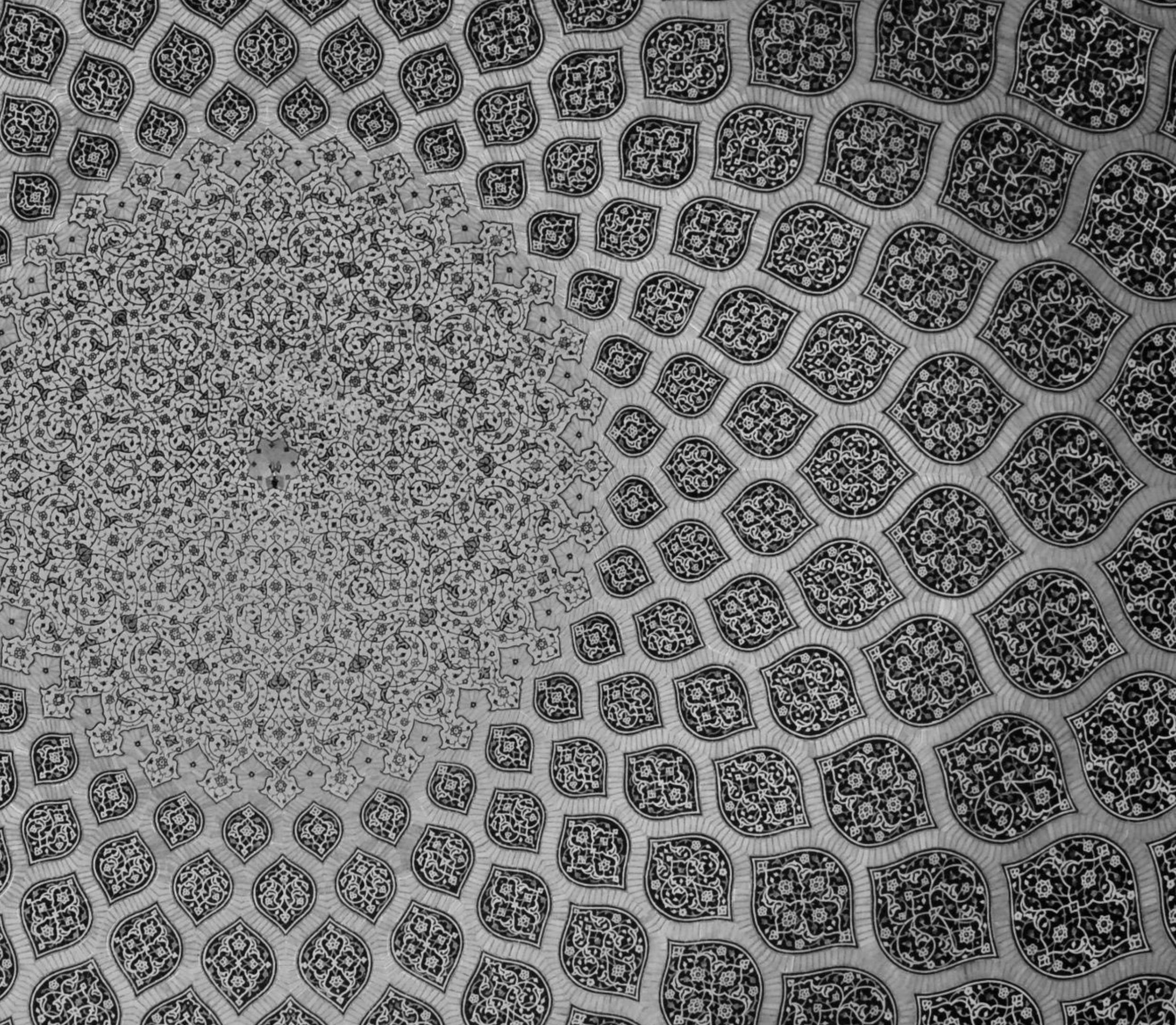


IMPORTANCE OF ATTENDING MOSQUES & OBSERVING ETIQUETTE

LAJNA IMAILLAH UK





The Mosque

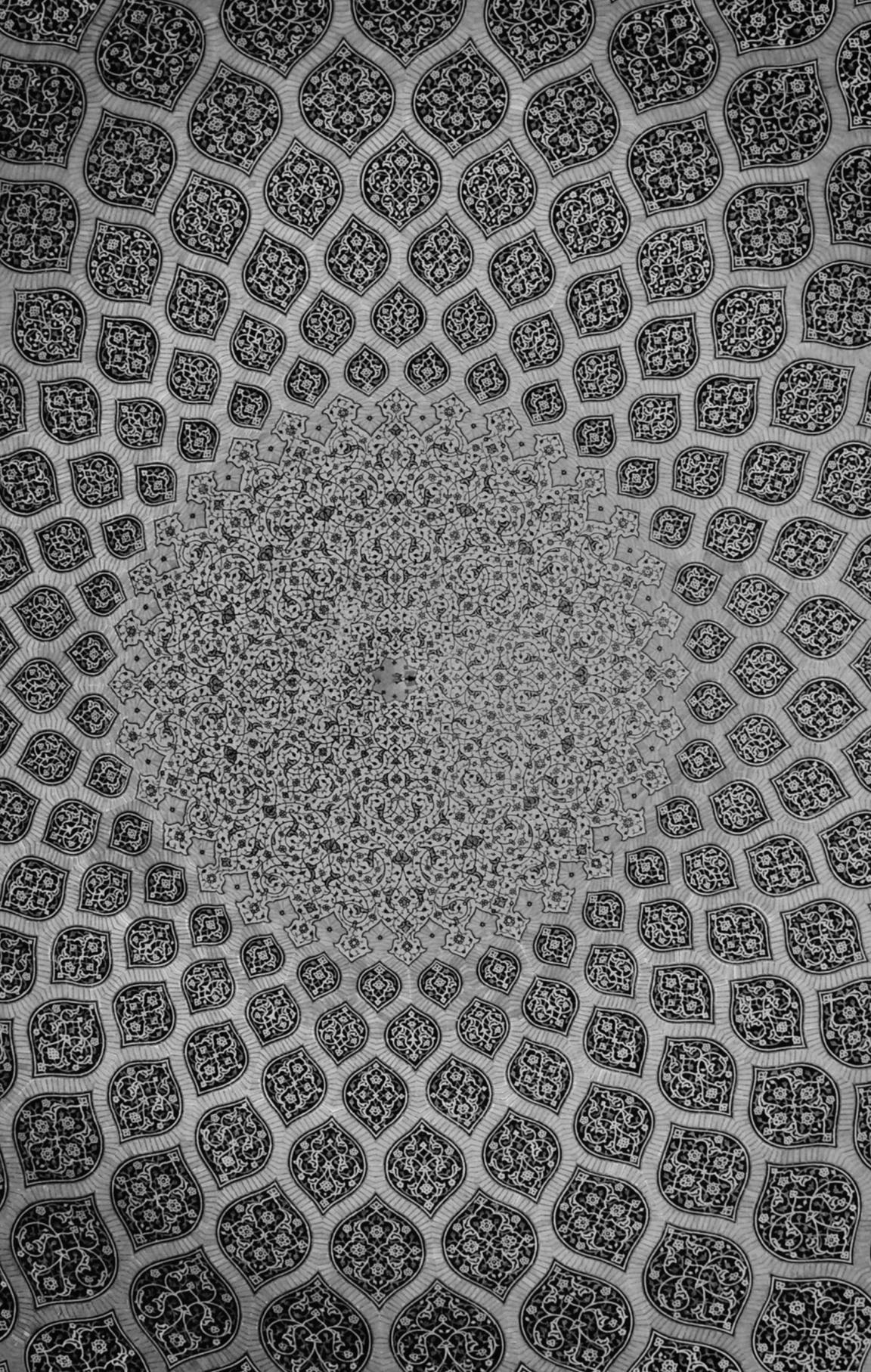
The Mosque is a place of deep reflection and spiritual peace. The atmosphere of the mosque helps develop humility and righteousness. It acts as a reminder of one's duty towards Allah the Almighty. In the Friday sermon of 20 January 2017 Huzoor (aba) said “*according to the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him) congregational prayers rewards a believer 27 times more than a prayer offered alone*”.

This highlights the importance of lajna taking every opportunity to participate in congregational prayer at the mosque, where possible.



Purpose of this Presentation

Whilst it is important for lajna to attend the mosque for congregational prayer it is also incumbent on lajna to observe the highest level of etiquette. The purpose of this presentation is to address the issues Lajna Imaillah UK have noted among lajna with regards to etiquette of attending the mosque and act as a guide and reminder with the aim of achieving the highest level of tarbiyyat.



Importance of attending the mosque



❑ **Hadrat Abu Musa (ra) relates that the Holy Prophet (sa) said:**

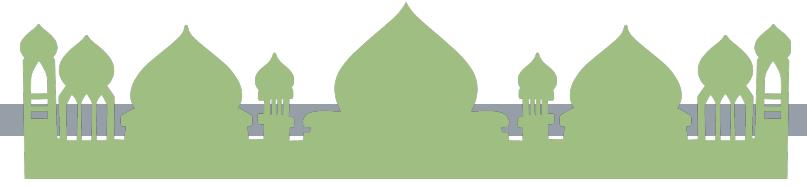
❑ *“Among the people who earn the highest reward from Allah are the ones who come to mosque from a distance. After them, the ones who come even from a farther distance. Person who waits and performs prayers behind an Imam earns more reward than the one who goes ahead and says his prayer so he can go to sleep.” (Bukhari Kitabul Adhan Hadith 613)*

❑ **Hazrat Abdullah ibn Umarra (ra) narrated that Allah’s Messenger (sa) said:**
“A congregational prayer is superior to a solitary prayer by twenty-seven degrees.” (Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitab al-adhan”, Bab fadli salati I-jama‘ah, Hadith 645)



❑ Holy Prophet (Peace be Upon Him) said that also eat and drink while you pass by the gardens of Jannah. Hazrat Abu Hurairah (Allah is pleased with him) says that I asked Holy Prophet (Peace be Upon Him) that O Prophet of Allah what are the gardens of Jannah? Holy Prophet (Peace be Upon Him) replied that mosques are the gardens of Jannah. Then asked O Prophet (Peace be Upon Him) what is meant from eating and drinking from the gardens of Jannah? Holy Prophet (Peace be Upon Him) said it is the remembrance of Allah, 'Tasbih'; repetitive utterances of short sentences in the praise and glorification of Allah and poem of Allah, to say SubhaanAllah, Alhamdulilah, La illaha illal Allah, Allah o Akbar. Saying all this is like eating and drinking from Jannah. (Sunan At-Tirmidhi 3509)

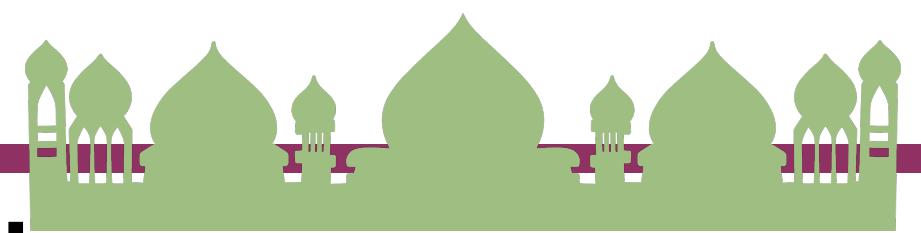
Friday Sermon delivered from Mahmood Mosque, Regina, Canada on 4th Nov. 2016.



Importance of attending the mosque:

Promised Messiah (as) stated

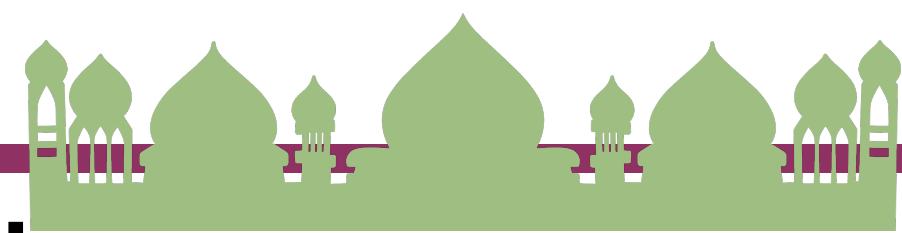
- ❑ “Congregational prayer … is for unity so that all those offering Salat be counted as one unit. The philosophy, underlying the instruction that all should stand together, is that those who are more enlightened may strengthen the lesser ones by infusing their light in them … Those from one ward should offer congregational prayers in the mosque of their locality five times a day. That will lead to mutual exchange of morals and intermixing of spiritual light, thereby removing all weaknesses. It will also create fellowship and mutual love … that being the basis for unity.” (Malfuzat, Vol. 4, p. 101) The Observance of Prayer - Al Islam
- ❑ We should populate the mosques according to the Sunnah and desire of the Promised Messiah (as). **Malfoozat Vol 2, p 42 first print.** Role of mosques in Islam **Al-Islam**



Importance of attending the mosque:

Hazoor-e-Aqdas (aba) stated:

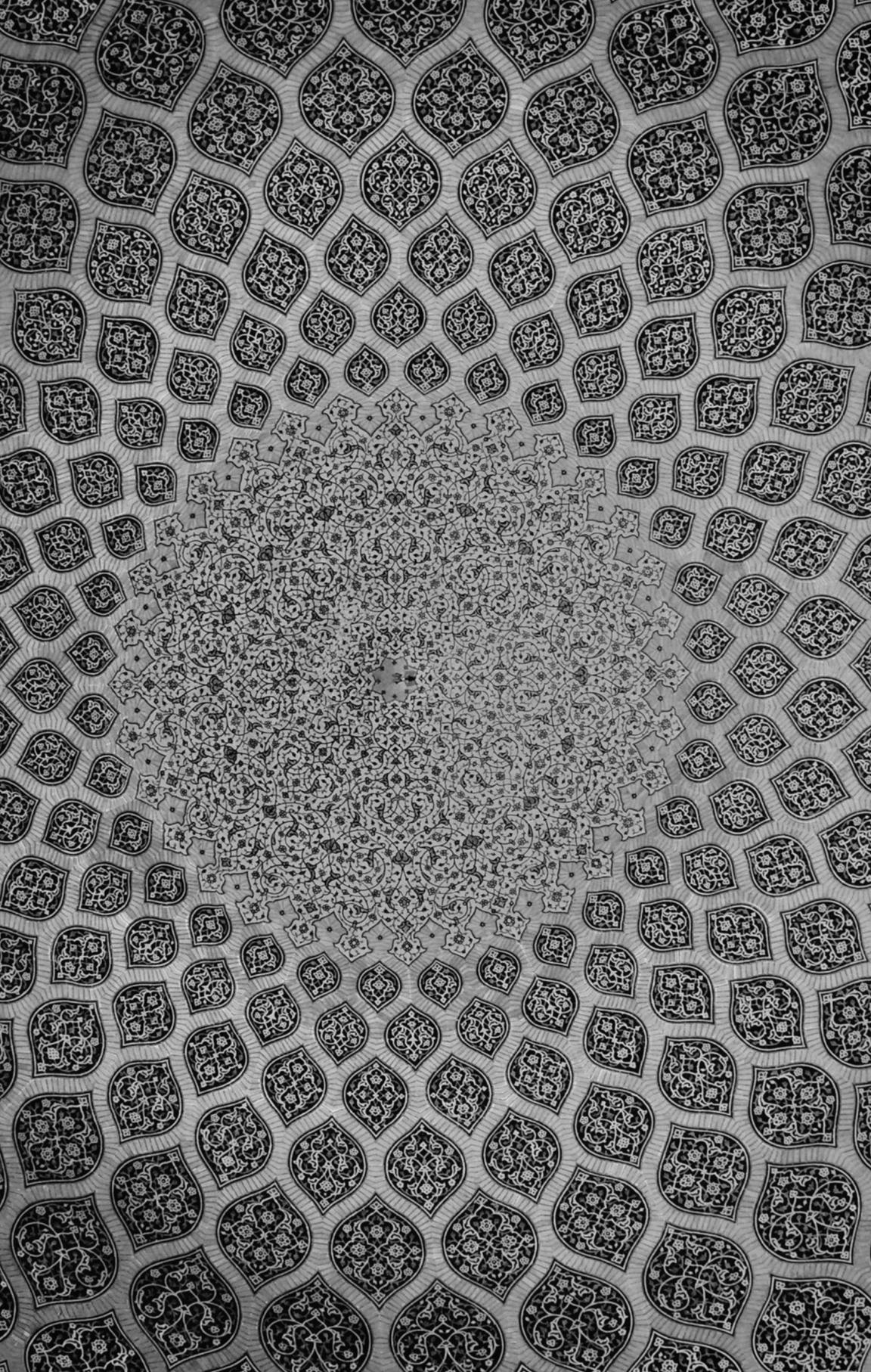
❑ “Every individual who wishes to become a worshipping servant of Allah the Exalted, wishes to acquire His nearness, wishes to purify himself and his future generations, wishes to save himself from the onslaughts of Satan, there is only one method, and that is, pay attention to worship, and the most important aspect of this is the congregational prayer.” (Al Fazl International, 28 January 2005)



Importance of attending the mosque:

Hazoor-e-Aqdas (aba) stated:

❑ “Only guarding and supervising prayers will guarantee to keep us and our future generations free of sins and wrongdoings ... If you want to save your children from falling into [these] filthy and obscene practices, then the best way is try to make them regular with prayers.” (Khutabat-e-Masroor, Vol. 3, pp. 372-373)



Dedicating Ourselves to the Highest Standards of Conduct in the Mosque



Conduct

We should strive to achieve the highest moral and spiritual standards in the mosque as taught by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa), the Promised Messiah (as) and to fulfil the guidance by Huzoor-e-Aqdas (aba).

We should aim to achieve this by:

- Committing ourselves to uphold the highest level of discipline, cleanliness and respect for each other.
- Reflect sincerity, humility and reverence for the House of Allah demonstrated through our behaviour.
- Maintain high standards to show our obedience to khilafat and strengthen our spiritual environment.
- Punctuality, quiet reflection and respect for others should define the atmosphere of every mosque and salat centre.
- Every member should take personal responsibility to ensure the mosque remains a place of peace, learning and unity Continue regular self assessment and improvement in how mosques serve as centre of worship and community.

Conduct

We should strive to achieve the highest moral and spiritual standards in the mosque as taught by the Holy Prophet Muhammad (sa), the Promised Messiah (as) and to fulfil the guidance by Huzoor-e-Aqdas (aba).

- We should aim to achieve this by:
- Observe proper etiquettes when entering, sitting and praying in the mosque as it is a mark of a true believer.
- Attend regularly as it strengthens our relationship with Allah, brings rewards and offers an environment for moral training, spiritual reflection which is essential for personal development and sets a positive example for family, children and other members.
- Observance of punctual, congregational prayer led with discipline and respect enhances personal connection with Allah.
- A peaceful, clean and welcoming atmosphere and consistency in high moral standards in our conduct results in effective tarbiyyat of our younger generation.

Actions Before Going to The Mosque:

Make a sincere Intention:

- Remind yourself that you are going to the mosque for the sake of Allah and to earn His pleasure.

Cleanliness & Personal Hygiene:

- Plan and allow enough time to prepare. Observe punctuality by arriving on time.
- Shower, brush your teeth and wear clean clothing.
- Be mindful of unpleasant body odours.
- Avoid eating food with strong odours.
- Perform ablution (Wudu) so you enter the mosque in a state of wudu. Ensure you are in a state of physical and spiritual purity.



Actions Before Going to The Mosque:

Nu‘aym al-Mujmir narrated: “I once ascended to the roof of the Mosque with Abu Hurairah[ra]. He performed ablution, then said: ‘I heard the Prophet (sa) say, ‘On the Day of Resurrection, my ummah will be summoned with radiant faces and shining limbs, on account of their ablution. So whoever among you can extend the brightness of his radiance, let him do so.’”

(Sahih al-Bukhari, Kitab al-wudu, Bab fadli l-wudu’i wa l-ghurru al-muhajjaluna min athari l-wudu’, Hadith 136)

Al-Hakam ‘Importance of ritual purity for salat’ 7th March 2025



Actions Before Going to The Mosque Continued:

Children:

- Ensure young children/babies are bathed with clean clothing.
- Ensure babies with nappies are dry and clean before entering the prayer hall. Keep a close eye on your baby's nappies and if it gets full or smelly, immediately take them out of the prayer hall instead of waiting for namaz to finish, mothers with children under the age of 7 should use the creche if one is available in your local mosque.
- Ensure children are always guided by mothers.

Dress Modestly:

- Full arms, legs should be covered. Shirt/coat should be long enough to cover the bottom area when in prostration (sajdah). Long hair should be tied securely and neatly so that it does not fall forward or remain visible during salat.



❑ Actions After entering the Mosque:

- ❑ Follow the instructions of duty holders with patience and cooperation, they will guide you where to pray and will ensure there are no gaps in sufs/lines.
- ❑ Offer two rak'ahs when you enter the mosque.
- ❑ As mosque is a place of worship focus on your prayers, look to the ground in front of you (the place of sajdah) and concentrate on your prayers.



- Actions After entering the Mosque:
- Sit quietly in the remembrance of Allah. As soon as azan is heard, quietly stand, close any gaps and form straight lines. Sit in the prayer lines between Azan & Iqamat and spend time in the remembrance of Allah. You should not talk whilst in the mosque your full concentration should be on preparing for prayer.
- Look at the place of sajdah when you establish your prayer. Excessive or unnecessary motions (like fidgeting or looking around can break the concentration and even invalidate the prayer if movements are continuous. Remove any objects in front of you or by your side that may distract your prayer e.g. bags, phones, or any items that may distract you.



Actions After entering the Mosque:

Switch off or silence mobile phones before entering the prayer hall you should not need your phone, if you do, please leave the mosque and take or make a call outside of the mosque area.



❑ Actions After entering the Mosque Continued:

- ❑ Do not enter the prayer hall if you are not reading namaz (if on periods and you have entered to join an event before namaz, do not sit on the floor/prayer area (sit on a chair instead) sit outside if space is provided and DO NOT enter the prayer area. If you are sitting on chairs during an event and not praying, vacate them before salat so gaps are filled.
- ❑ If the Prayer has already started, it is forbidden for a worshipper to run and join in the congregation or to get in front of others and disturb others who are already seated. Walk to the prayer hall and join the suf/line without disturbing others.



❑ Actions After entering the Mosque Continued:

- ❑ When forming lines, fill a gap in an existing row before starting a new one. When forming a new row, start from the middle of the row and then fill both sides. Again, the Holy Prophet (sa) instructed that a new row should not be started until the previous one is fully filled. It is therefore clear that those who come early and occupy the first row and spend more time in the remembrance of God Almighty will be rewarded more than those who come just in time while the Takbir is being recited or even later. <https://www.alislam.org/book/salat/>
- ❑ The rows must be perfectly straight, and all should stand shoulder to shoulder but in no way in a position to interfere with each other's prayer. The Holy Prophet(sa) was very particular about the straightness of rows. Stand shoulder to shoulder and ensure to not to leave a gap.



Actions After the Prayer:

- ❑ Stay seated and engage in tasbih and tahmid and DO NOT start any conversations.
- ❑ Be mindful of others who have not finished praying, allow them to finish and quietly leave.
- ❑ The mosque is a sacred place, show the utmost respect when inside, do not speak to family or friends until you have left the mosque building.



Actions After the Prayer:

- Be respectful and mindful of those who are still praying as you leave the mosque. Do not walk in front of them, across them, lean on them or kick them in your haste to leave the mosque. This is completely abhorrent and interferes with the worshippers full submission to Allah. This is a problem and is noted here as a reminder of your responsibility uphold the highest standard of etiquette during and after salat.
- Respect elders. If you bring young children use the creche area. If no creche available, mothers to ensure children do not disrupt the prayer or disturb others. Ensure children are disciplined to not to run in front of other whilst praying. If a young child/baby cries during the prayer, please take them outside immediately. If you notice your baby's nappy is full or smelly, immediately leave the prayer area instead of waiting for namaz to end.



Points to remember for Friday Prayer:

- ❑ Take shower, wear clean clothes, avoid using strong odour food, use fragrance.
- ❑ Everyone is required to listen to the sermon attentively. any type of conversation during the sermon is prohibited.
- ❑ If you arrive at the mosque during the sermon, do not steer your way to the front by jumping over other's shoulders, instead sit quietly at the first available space.
- ❑ If you have children under the age of 7 please use the creche, if a creche is not available in your local mosque sit at the end of a suf/line towards the back of the prayer hall to make it easy for you to leave if your child becomes unsettled.



Points to remember for Friday Prayer :

- Do not enter the prayer hall if you are on your period.
- Please do not eat snack during Friday prayer and at any time whilst in the mosque.
- At the end of Friday prayers after you have completed tasbih, leave the mosque quietly without disturbing other worshippers. You can resume talking only after you have left the mosque building.
- Please take instruction from the discipline team they are there to help you.