

Etiquette of Walking and Riding in Islam

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Imam Ali (a.s) said: " Walking fast takes away the believer's brilliancy." [Reference: Al-Bihar Ch.73, pp.301]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " Ladies must not use the middle of the road, but rather its sides." [Reference: Al-Bihar Ch.73, pp.302]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " Do not use mosques as roads (short cuts) until you have performed a two-units prayer in them." [Makarim al-Akhlaq]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " Part of a Muslim's welfare is a comfortable means of travel." [Al-Kafee Ch.6]

Imam al-Sadiq (a.s) said: " Part of a believer's happiness is a transport means that he uses for his needs and to provide for his fellow believers' needs." [Al-Kafee Ch.6]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " Horses have welfare pinned on them." [Al-Wasa'il Ch.7-Riding animals regulations]

Imam Ali (a.s) said: " He who ties (has) a horse that is blond with a blaze or pure blond-preferably having a flowing blaze with a brightness in its leg-won't have poverty strike his house as long as that horse is in it. And as long as it is in his owner's possession, injustice does not befall his house." (He who possesses a blond horse shall not be impoverished or wronged) [Al-Wasa'il Ch.7-Riding animals regulations]

Imam Ja'fer al-Sadiq (a.s) said: " the riding animal has seven rights with its owner:
He must not overload it.

He must not use its back as a seat from which he talks (to others).

He starts feeding it hen he gets off,

He must not brand it in its face,

He must not strike it on its face because it glorifies God,

Offers to let it drink when he passes by a water, he must not strike it on the ... but rather on the, for it sees what you do not." [Al-Bihar, Ch.61: pp. 202]

Imam Ali (a.s) said: " The Messenger of Allah (s.a.w) said: 'No threesome should ride a single animal for one of them would be cursed.' (The animal should not be ridden by more than two people) [Al-Kafee Ch.6 pp.541]

According to Imam Ja'fer al-Sadiq (a.s): " The Messenger of Allah (s.a.w) said: ' Do not strike riding animals on their faces because they praise God.' And on another occasion, he said: 'Do

not brand them on the face.' [Al-Kafee Ch.6 pp.2203]

Imam Ja`fer al-Sadiq (a.s) said: "Abu-Thurr, may Allah be pleased with him was seen watering a donkey in al-Rabtha (his place of exile-outside Medina), and some people asked him if he had someone to spare him the trouble. He said: ' I heard the Messenger of Allah (s.a.w) say: 'No animal but it asks Allah on every morning; O Allah, grant me a righteous owner who gives me enough fodder, waters me and does not overwork me.' This is why I like to water it myself."

[Al-Kafee Ch.6 pp.537]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " When an animal stumbles and its rider says: ' May you perish! It would reply: 'May the more disobedient of us to the Lord, perish! [Al-Kafee Ch.6 pp.538]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " Do not sit on riding animals for a long time; do not use their backs as seats."

The women's riding on saddles is mentioned in many credible Traditions as one of the signs of the end of time.

According to Imam Ja`fer al-Sadiq (a.s): " Saddling is an abominable way of transport for women." [Al-Kafee Ch.6 pp.541]

According to Imam Mohammed al-Baqir (a.s); " It is not permissible for a lady to saddle except in case of necessity or when travelling." [Al-Bihar Ch.73 pp.300]

According to Imam al-Reza (a.s): " There is a Satan on each riding animal's nostril, so when one of you wants to bridle it, let him pronounce the name of Almighty Allah." [Al-Kafee Ch.61 pp.209]

Many sayings from the Tradition strongly advise against travelling alone. [Al-Bihar Ch.73]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " No two people travel together but the kinder between them to his companion would have the greater reward and be dearer to Allah than the other." [Al-Bihar Ch.73 pp.268]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " the most preferable company to Allah is the foursome; and no more than seven people (travel together) but their noise will rise." [Al-Bihar Ch.73]

According to Ibn-Omayr: ' Imam al-Sadiq (a.s) disliked it for a man to companion someone who could spend on him, and that he (a.s) said: " Travel with (in the company of) your equal." [Al-Bihar Ch.73]

Imam Mohammed al-Baqir (a.s) said: " When you intend to travel do it with your like; and do not companion someone who meets all your demands, because that humbles the believer." [Al-Bihar Ch.73]

According to abu-Baseer: " I said to Imam al-Sadiq (a.s) (What do you say about) A man who sets out with well-to-do people and he is the least prosperous among them, and they expend

while he cannot do the same? He said: ' I do not like him to humble himself; let him set out with his equal.' [Al-Bihar Ch.73]

The Prophet (s.a.w) said: " When one of you sets out on a journey and he comes back to his family, let him present them with a new thing, even a rock." [Al-Bihar Ch.73]

Imam Ja`fer al-Sadiq (a.s) said: " He who hugs a dust-covered pilgrim (who has just arrived from his journey) is as if he has touched the black stone (of the Kaaba); and when a man comes back to his house from his travel, he mustn't attend to anything until he has washed himself, performed a two-unit prayer and prostrated and thanked Allah a hundred times