

27 MOST POPULAR QUESTIONS IN TABLIGH

1. Your hair is so pretty, why do you wear a scarf?

O Prophet! tell your wives and your daughters, and the women of the believers, that they should pull down upon them of their outer cloaks from their heads over their faces. That is more likely that they may thus be recognised and not molested. And Allah is Most Forgiving, Merciful.(CH33V60)

2. Why do you always have to cover yourself?

'And say to the believing women that they restrain their eyes and guard their private parts, and they display not their beauty and embellishments except that which is apparent thereof, and that they draw their head-covers over their bosoms, and they display not their beauty or their embellishment thereof save to their husbands, or to their fathers, or the fathers of their husbands, or their sons, or the sons of their husbands, or their brothers or the sons of their brothers, or the sons of their sisters, or their women, or what their right hands possess, or such of male attendants who have no wickedness in them, or young children who have not yet attained any concept of the private parts of women. And they walk not in a style that such of their beauty as they conceal is noticed. And turn you to Allah all together, O believers that you may succeed.'(CH24V32)

It is almost certain that our free glances would cause us to stumble sometime or the other. As God Almighty desires that our eyes and our hearts and all our limbs and organs should continue in a state of purity, He has furnished us with this excellent teaching. There can be no doubt that unrestrained looks become a source of danger. If we place soft bread before a hungry dog, it would be vain to hope that the dog should pay no attention to it. Thus God Almighty desired that human faculties should not be provided with any occasion for secret functioning and should not be confronted with anything that might incite dangerous tendencies. (The Philosophy of the Teachings of Islam, pp 23-25) Tawakkul Karman, the Nobel Peace Prize Winner from Yemen in 2011, was questioned about her Hijab by journalists and how it is not proportionate with her level of intellect and education. She said very eloquently:

"Man in the early times was almost naked, and as his intellect evolved he started wearing clothes. What I am today and what I'm wearing represents the highest level of thought and civilization that man has achieved, and is not regressive. It's the removal of clothes again that is regressive back to ancient times"

3. Why can't you eat pork?

Forbidden to you is the flesh of an animal which dies of itself, and blood and the flesh of swine; and that on which is invoked the name of one other than Allah; and that which has been strangled; and that beaten to death; and that killed by a fall; and that which has been gored to death; and that of which a wild animal has eaten, except that which you have properly slaughtered; and that which has been slaughtered at an altar. And forbidden is also that you seek to know your lot by the divining arrows. That is an act of disobedience. This day have those who disbelieve despaired of harming your religion. So fear them not, but fear Me. This day have I perfected your religion for you and completed My favour upon you and have chosen for you Islam as religion. But whoso is forced by

hunger, without being wilfully inclined to sin, then, surely, Allah is Most Forgiving, Merciful. (CH5V4)

4. Why do you celebrate Eid -ul-adhiya by killing an animal?

"Surely Abraham was an example, obedient to Allah, by nature upright, and he was not of the polytheists. He was grateful for Our bounties. We chose him and guided him unto a right path. We gave him good in this world, and in the next he will most surely be among the righteous." (Qur'an 16:120-121)

5. Why does God hurt humans by causing tsunamis, tornadoes and other natural disasters?

"(Allah) Most Gracious! It is He Who has taught the Qur'an. He has created man: He has taught him speech (and Intelligence). The sun and the moon follow courses (exactly) computed; and the herbs and the trees both (alike) bow in adoration. And the Firmament has He raised high, and He has set up the Balance (of Justice), in order that you may not transgress (due) balance. So establish weight with justice and fall not short in the balance. It is He Who has spread out the earth for (His) creatures." (Ar-Rahman: 1-10)

6. Why are you Muslims different from other Muslims?

"Allah had promised to those among you who believe and do good works that He will surely make them Successors in the earth, as He made Successors from among those who were before them; and that He will surely establish for them their religion which He has chosen for them; and that He will surely give them in exchange security and peace after their fear: They will worship Me, and they will not associate anything with Me. Then who so is ungrateful after that, they will be the rebellious. (Surah Al-Nur, Verse 56)

7. Why are men more important than women in Islam?

'A person who is blessed with a daughter or daughters and makes no discrimination between them and his sons and brings them up with kindness and affection, will be as close to me in Paradise as my forefinger and middle finger are to each other.'

But whoso does good works, whether male or female, and is a believer, such shall enter Heaven

(Ch.4: V.125)

8. Why do you have to have an arranged marriage?

Narrated by Ḥaḍrat Abū Hurairah, Allāh be pleased with him: Said the Prophet of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be on him):

"In marrying a woman, a man's choice of a spouse is determined by the consideration of her wealth, her family and her physical beauty and her religious piety, but thou shouldst make thy life happy, prosperous and successful, by choosing a spouse, on account of her religious piety, otherwise thy hands will ever remain in dust." (Bukhārī)

9. It seems so unfair that men are allowed to have 4 wives and women aren't why is that?

And you cannot keep perfect balance between wives, however much you may desire it. But incline not wholly to one so that you leave the other like a thing suspended. And if you amend and act righteously, surely Allah is Most Forgiving, Merciful.

10. Why do women have to cover themselves to avoid attracting

men's bad intentions? Why can't the men control themselves? How come women have to be punished for men's problems?

Hazrat Anas (ra) relates that the Holy Prophet (saw) said: Indecency disfigures everything and modesty enhances the charm of everything. (Tirmidhi)

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11. Why does Islam condemn homosexuality? (especially when it is widely believed to be a part of one's 'nature' not nurture)

"Do you, of all peoples, approach the males, leaving your wives whom your Lord has created for you? Nay, you are a people who transgress" (26:166-67)

12. Does Islam allow wife-beating? (see Holy Qur'an 4:35)

Men are the guardians of women, because Allah has made some of them to excel others and because they (men) spend out of their wealth. So virtuous women are those who are obedient and guard the secrets of their husbands with Allah's protection.. And as for those on whose part you fear disobedience, admonish them, and leave them alone in the beds. and chastise them. Then if they obey you, seek not a way against them. Surely Allah is High, Great.

'The best among you is he who is best in his treatment towards his wife.' (Abu Daud)

"Do not hit her on the face." (Abu Daoud)

13. Why can't you drink alcohol?

O ye who believe! Intoxicants and games of chance and idols and divining arrows are only an abomination of Satan's handiwork. So shun each one of them that you may prosper. Satan desires only to create enmity and hatred among you by means of intoxicants and games of chance, and to keep you back from the remembrance of Allah and from Prayer. But will you keep back? (5:91-92)

14. What does halaal mean?

The term "halaal" means "that which is lawful for you"; thus halaal meat is that which has been slaughtered in the name of Allah, and has had the blood drained out from it. The term "haram" means that which is unlawful for you, and includes blood, pork and alcohol. Allah has further commanded that you eat only what is "tayyab," that is, food that is good and wholesome. (Pathway to Paradise CH4)

15. Is it true that you have a different kalima to other Muslims?

Abu Dharr relates that he heard the Holy Prophet (saw) say: Let no one reproach his brother with sin or disbelief else he should not be deserving of the reproach it could rebound upon the one who utters it (Bukhari)

16. Why does Islam encourage hatred for the western society?

Prophet Muhammad (saw) said: 'Love for one's country is part of faith' (Sakhavi)

17. Why does it seem that women are forced to do things that they don't want to in Islam?

“We do not send down the Quran for thee that thou may be distressed” (CH20V3)

“Allah desires ease for you desires not hardships for you”. (CH2V186)

18. Why do women get half the inheritance of men?

*Allah commands you concerning your children: a male shall have as much as the share of two females; but if there be females only, numbering more than two, then they shall have two-thirds of what the deceased leaves; and if there be one, she shall have the half. And his parents shall have each of them a sixth of the **inheritance**, if he have a child; but if he have no child and his parents be his heirs, then his mother shall have a third; and if he have brothers and sisters, then his mother shall have a sixth, after the payment of any bequests he may have bequeathed or of debt. Your fathers and your children, you know not which of them is nearest to you in benefit. This fixing of portions is from Allah. Surely, Allah is All- Knowing, Wise. (CH4V12)*

19. Why are twice as many women required to give testimony, compared to men?

*O ye who believe! when you borrow one from another for a fixed period, then write it down. And let a scribe write it in your presence faithfully; and no scribe should refuse to write, because Allah has taught him, so let him write and let him who incurs the liability dictate; and he should fear Allah, his Lord, and not diminish anything there from. But if the person incurring the liability be of low understanding or be weak or be unable himself to dictate, then let someone who can watch his interest dictate with justice. And call two witnesses from among your men; and if two men be not available, then a man and two women, of such as you like as witnesses, so that if either of two women should err in memory, then one may remind the other. And the witnesses should not refuse when they are called. And do not feel weary of writing it down, whether it be small or large, along with its appointed time of payment. This is more equitable in the sight of Allah and makes **testimony** surer and is more likely to keep you away from doubts; therefore omit not to write except that it be ready merchandise which you give or take from hand to hand, in which case it shall be no sin for you that you write it not. And have witnesses when you sell one to another; and let no harm be done to the scribe or the witness. And if you do that, then certainly it shall be disobedience on your part. And fear Allah. And Allah grants you knowledge and Allah knows all things well. (CH2V283)*

20. Islam's viewpoint on women seems too traditional, basic education, get married, have babies and no career - why is that?

‘It is the duty of every Muslim man and every Muslim woman to acquire knowledge’ (Ibne Majah)

Ch.4:V.33 – ... Men shall have their share of that which they have earned, and women a share of that which they have earned...

The early history of Islam bears out that the wives and daughters of the Holy Prophet (saw) used to go out of their houses. Muslim women assisting men in battles; working the fields, and gardens; going out to answer the call of nature and undertaking journeys to acquire education or to teach, are facts clearly recorded in history.”(Hazrat Musle Maud-Misbah 1:4:28)

21. Why doesn't Islam modernize itself to go with the changing times, like Christianity etc?

Narrated by Ḥaḍrat Ibn Umar, Allah be pleased with him: Said the Prophet of Allah (saw): "Whoso imitated another people (leaving the way and tradition of his own community and people) will be considered one of them."
(Abū Dāwūd)

22. Why can't a Muslim woman shake hands with her boss?

From among women, whoever agreed to these conditions, the Prophet () said to her, "I made Bai'ah with you." By Allah, his hands never touched a woman's hand even at the time of making Bai'ah with them. He used to make Bai'ah with women verbally and then he used to say to them: "I made Bai'ah with you." (Bukhari)

23. You can't celebrate birthdays, Halloween, and a lot of other stuff? Being a Muslim sounds boring!

A birthday is seen as the decrease of the life span by a year, thus a cause for prayer rather than a celebration. Muslims take part in national holidays, such as Independence day and Thanksgiving day, but do not celebrate Christmas, Easter, Halloween and Valentine's day. (Welcome to Ahmadiyyat The True Islam. M.M. Ahmad)

24. Is it true that Muslim wives are supposed to walk 4 steps behind their husbands?

Barbara Walters of Television's 20/20 did a story on gender roles in Kabul, Afghanistan, several years before the Afghan conflict. She noted that women customarily walked 5 paces behind their husbands. She recently returned to Kabul and observed that women still walk behind their husbands. From Ms Walter's vantage point, despite the overthrow of the oppressive Taliban regime, the women now seem to walk even further back behind their husbands and are happy to maintain the old custom. Ms Walters approached one of the Afghani women and asked, "Why do you now seem happy with the old custom that you once tried so desperately to change?"

The woman looked Ms. Walters straight in the eyes, and without hesitation, said, "Land mines."

25. Is it true that a Muslim wife should bow before her husband? (mujazzi khuda)

The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "If I were to command anyone to prostrate to anyone other than Allah, I would have commanded women to prostrate to their husbands. By the One in Whose hand is the soul of Muhammad, no woman can fulfil her duty towards Allah until she fulfils her duty towards her husband. If he asks her (for intimacy) even if she is on her camel saddle, she should not refuse." [Narrated by Ibn Majah, 1853; classed as Saheeh by al-Albaani in Saheeh Ibn Majah] (Hadith denotes RESPECT and HONOUR to husbands not WORSHIP!)

26. If Muslims hate the west so much why don't they go back to their own country?

Prophet Muhammad (saw) is reported to have said: 'Love for one's country is part of faith' (Sakhavi)

Abu Hurairah (ra) relates that the Holy Prophet(saw) said: The strong one is not he who knocks out others in wrestling, the strong one is he who keeps control over himself when he is roused.(Bukhari and Muslim)

27.I am a working Muslim and I have to wear a uniform which doesn't allow for purdah. What should I do?

Narrated by Hazrat Ibni Umar, Allah be pleased with him: Said the Prophet of Allah (saw): "Whoso imitated another people (leaving the way and tradition of his own community and people) will be considered one of them."

(Abu Dāwūd)

'And say to the believing women that they restrain their eyes and guard their private parts, and they display not their beauty and embellishments except that which is apparent thereof, and that they draw their head-covers over their bosoms, and they display not their beauty or their embellishment thereof save to their husbands, or to their fathers, or the fathers of their husbands, or their sons, or the sons of their husbands, or their brothers or the sons of their brothers, or the sons of their sisters, or their women, or what their right hands possess, or such of male attendants who have no wickedness in them, or young children who have not yet attained any concept of the private parts of women. And they walk not in a style that such of their beauty as they conceal is noticed. And turn you to Allah all together, O believers, that you may succeed.'(CH24V32)