

The Respect of the Holy Qur'an and the Akhlaq of its Recitation

The Holy Qur'an is a book containing the words of Allah. It should be treated with the respect it deserves. This respect should also extend to any book, such as this manual, wherein there are verses of the Holy Qur'an.

In this lesson we will learn how to respect the Holy Qur'an and how to recite it.

1. The words of the Holy Qur'an should only be touched after doing Wudhu.

Allah says:

لَا يَمَسُّهُ إِلَّا الْمُطَهَّرُونَ

None should touch it except the purified. [Al-Wáqi`áh, 56:79]

2. However, you may recite the words at any time, even without Wudhu.

Allah says:

الَّذِينَ يَذْكُرُونَ اللَّهَ قِيَامًا وَقُعُودًا وَعَلَىٰ جُنُوبِهِمْ

Those who remember Allah (recite Qur'an), standing, sitting and reclining,

وَيَتَفَكَّرُونَ فِي خَلْقِ السَّمَاوَاتِ وَالْأَرْضِ

and think and wonder about the creation of the heavens and the earth...

[Ali Imran, 3:191]

3. Always begin the recitation with Ta`awwudh.

Allah says:

فَإِذَا قَرَأْتَ الْقُرْآنَ فَاسْتَعِذْ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

When you recite the Qur'an, seek refuge in Allah from Shaitan, the accursed [an-Nahl, 16:98]

Ta`awwudh means to recite

أَعُوذُ بِاللَّهِ مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ الرَّجِيمِ

Which means, "I seek refuge in Allah, from Shaitan, the accursed."

4. After Ta`awwudh, recite

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

which means,

"I begin in the name of Allah, The Beneficent, The Merciful."

5. Even if you know the verses by heart, it is better to recite while looking at the words, as this increases the rewards many times.

6. It is Mustahab to recite the Holy Qur'an with your head covered and while facing the Qiblah.

7. The Holy Qur'an should be recited without rushing, in a clear manner.

Allah (SWT) says:

وَرَتِّلِ الْقُرْآنَ تَرْتِيلًا

And recite the Qur'an in a regulated tone. [Al-Muzzammil, 73:4]

8. When the Qur'an is being recited, listen attentively and do not eat or talk.

Allah says:

وَإِذَا قُرِئَ الْقُرْآنُ فَاسْتَمِعُوا لَهُ وَأَنْصِتُوا لَعَلَّكُمْ تُرْحَمُونَ

And when the Qur'an is recited, listen to it with (full) attention, so that you may be blessed with mercy. [Al-A`raf, 7:204]

9. Do not leave the Holy Qur'an open and unattended or in a place where it may be disrespected. Recite from it regularly and do not leave it unread on the shelf.

Allah says:

وَقَالَ الرَّسُولُ يَا رَبِّ إِنَّ قَوْمِي اتَّخَذُوا هَذَا الْقُرْآنَ مَهْجُورًا

And the Prophet (S) shall say, "O my Lord! Verily my people abandoned this Qur'an." [Al-Furqan, 25:30]

10. Worn-out pages of the Holy Qur'an or paper with verses of the Holy Qur'an must not be thrown in the bin, instead they should be re-cycled or buried.

References

Holy Qur'an, Tafsir of S V Mir Ahmed Ali

The Science of Reciting the Qur'an, M Surty, Pages 30-34