

## MASAH ON KHUFFAIN (Wiping over Leather Socks)

Masaah on Khuffain Literally means to wipe over leather socks when making Wudhu (ablution). This is valid in Shariah and is proven in the Qura'n and Hadeeth.

The verse of the Qur'an is as follows:

### Al-Maaidah, v6

مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ ﴿٦﴾ يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ ءَامَنُوا إِذَا قُمْتُمْ إِلَى الصَّلَاةِ  
فَأَغْسِلُوا وُجُوهَكُمْ وَأَيْدِيَكُمْ إِلَى الْمَرَافِقِ وَامْسَحُوا بِرُءُوسِكُمْ  
وَأَرْجُلِكُمْ إِلَى الْكَعْبَيْنِ وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ جُنُبًا فَاطَّهَّرُوا وَإِنْ كُنْتُمْ  
مَّرْضَىٰ أَوْ عَلَىٰ سَفَرٍ أَوْ جَاءَ أَحَدٌ مِّنْكُمْ مِنَ الْغَايِبِ أَوْ لَدِمْتُمْ  
النِّسَاءَ فَلَمْ تَجِدُوا مَاءً فَتَيَمَّمُوا صَعِيدًا طَيِّبًا فَامْسَحُوا  
بِوُجُوهِكُمْ وَأَيْدِيكُمْ مِنْهُ مَا يُرِيدُ اللَّهُ لِيَجْعَلَ عَلَيْكُمْ مِنْ حَرَجٍ  
وَلَٰكِن يُرِيدُ لِيُطَهِّرَكُمْ وَلِيُتِمَّ نِعْمَتَهُ عَلَيْكُمْ لَعَلَّكُمْ  
تَشْكُرُونَ ﴿٦﴾ وَأَذْكُرُوا نِعْمَةَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ وَمِيثَاقَهُ الَّذِي وَاثَقَكُمْ

**5:6** O you who believe! When you intend to offer As-Salat (the prayer), wash your faces and your hands (forearms) up to the elbows, rub (by passing wet hands over) your heads, and (wash) your feet up to ankles. If you are in a state of Janaba (i.e. had a sexual discharge), purify yourself (bathe your whole body). But if you are ill or on a journey or any of you comes from answering the call of nature, or you have been in contact with women (i.e. sexual intercourse) and you find no water, then perform Tayammum with clean earth and rub therewith your faces and hands. Allah does not want to place you in difficulty, but He wants to purify you, and to complete His Favour on you that you may be thankful.

The verse above indicates towards making Masah of the feet with socks (*conditions apply, see details below*).

**The Hadeeth are as follows:**

جُبَيْرُ بْنُ مُطْعِمٍ أَخْبَرَنَا أَنَّهُ سَمِعَ عُرْوَةَ بْنَ الْمُغِيرَةَ بْنِ شُعْبَةَ يُحَدِّثُ عَنِ الْمُغِيرَةَ بْنِ شُعْبَةَ أَنَّهُ كَانَ مَعَ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي سَفَرٍ وَأَنَّهُ ذَهَبَ لِحَاجَةِ لَهُ وَأَنَّ الْمُغِيرَةَ جَعَلَ يَصُبُّ الْمَاءَ عَلَيْهِ وَهُوَ يَتَوَضَّأُ فَعَسَلَ وَجْهَهُ وَيَدَيْهِ وَمَسَحَ بِرَأْسِهِ وَمَسَحَ عَلَى الْخُفَّيْنِ

**Bukhari, 182**

Narrated Al-Mughira bin Shu'ba:

I was in the company of Allah's Apostle on one of the journeys and he went out to answer the call of nature (and after he finished) I poured water and he performed ablution; he washed his face, forearms and passed his wet hand over his head and over the two Khuff, (leather socks).

حَدَّثَنَا أَبُو نُعَيْمٍ قَالَ حَدَّثَنَا زَكْرِيَّا عَنْ عَامِرِ بْنِ عُرْوَةَ بْنِ الْمُغِيرَةَ عَنْ أَبِيهِ قَالَ كُنْتُ مَعَ النَّبِيِّ صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَسَلَّمَ فِي سَفَرٍ فَأَهْوَيْتُ لِأَنْزِعَ خُفَّيْهِ فَقَالَ دَعُوهَا فَإِنِّي أَدْخَلْتُهَا طَاهِرَتَيْنِ فَمَسَحَ عَلَيْهِنَّ

**Bukhari, 204**

Narrated Ja'far bin `Amr: My father said, "I saw the Prophet passing wet hands over his turban and Khuffs (socks made from thick fabric or leather).

#### **CONDITIONS FOR THE VALIDITY OF MAKING MASAH ON SOCKS:**

- It must be possible to walk in them for more than three miles without them tearing. The walking is without shoes on.
- They must be non-porous preventing water seeping through.
- They must remain firm on the foreleg without being tied with laces, elastic, etc. They should not slip down while walking as ordinary socks do.

#### **THE METHOD OF MAKING MASAH:**

Draw the fingers of the right hand on the upper surface of the Khuffain starting from the toes and ending (the Masah) at the foreleg (just above the ankle). The Masah should be done once only on each sock. The right hand should be used for the right Khuff and the left hand for the left Khuff.

## **SOME RULES:**

The following acts will nullify the Masah which was made on the Khuffain:

1. All things which nullify Wudhu.
2. Removal of the Khuff (sock).
3. The expiry of the period i.e. 24 hours for the Muqem and 72 hours for the Musaafir.

If only one sock was removed then too, it is Waajib to remove the other one and wash both feet even if only the foreleg is exposed by lowering the Khuff, it will be regarded as if the whole sock has been removed. It will then be COMPULSORY to remove the Khuffain and wash both feet.

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1. It is not permissible to make Masah on a Khuff which is torn to such an extent that an area equal to the size of three small toes is exposed. It is permissible to make Masah on the sock if it is torn less than this.
2. If the seam of the Khuff comes loose, but while walking the foot is not exposed, Masah on such Khuffain will be valid.
3. If a Muqem who has made Masah Alal Khuffain goes on a journey before the expiry of 24 hours, then his Masah may be extended to 72 hours. His Masah will now be valid for 72 hours.
4. If a Musaafir who has made Masah Alal Khuffain returns to his home town then his Masah will be valid for only 24 hours.
5. It is permissible to make Masah on ordinary woollen etc, socks which have been covered with leather.
6. If Ghushl becomes compulsory then Masah Alal Khuffain will not be permissible even if the valid period has not yet expired. The Khuffain must be removed when the Ghushl is taken and the feet washed.
7. If after making Masah one sets foot in a puddle of water and water enters the Khuff wetting more than half the foot, then Masah will be nullified. Both Khuffain must be removed and the feet washed.