

a simplified guide for

Ghusul

NEW TO THE
deen





What is Ghusul?

Ghusul (Major Ablution) is the washing of the entire body with clean and pure water and it is required for both living and dead in certain circumstances.

TWO TYPES OF GHUSUL

- Acceptable form: in the sense that if a person sufficed with doing ghusl in this manner, his ghusl is valid and he becomes purified from major impurity. But if a person misses, performing this ghusl completely, his ghusl is not valid.
- Complete and preferred form: this is the type that is mustahabb to do but is not obligatory.

GHUSUL STEP-BY-STEP

- Form the intention in the heart to purify oneself from major impurities: Janabah (*impurity following sexual discharge*), Menses or Nifas (*postpartum bleeding*).
- Then say Bismillah and wash your hands three times.
- Then wash any dirt from the private part.
- Then do wudu as for prayer, a complete wudu.
- Then pour water over the head three times, and rub the hair so that the water reaches the roots of the hair.
- Then wash the body, making sure that the water reaches all parts, starting with the right side of the body and then the left, and rubbing it with the hands so that the water reaches the entire body.

OUR EVIDENCE

The evidence for that is:

‘Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) said: When the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) did ghusl for janabah, he would wash his hands and do wudu as for prayer, then he would wash himself, then he would run his fingers through his hair, then when he thought that it [the water] had reached his skin, he would pour water over it [the head] three times, then he would wash the rest of his body.

(Narrated by al-Bukhari (248) and Muslim (316))

‘Aishah (may Allah be pleased with her) also said: When the Messenger of Allah (blessings and peace of Allah be upon him) did ghusl from janabah, he would call for something like a vessel used for milking and take water in his palm. He started with the right side of his head, then the left, then he took water in both palms and poured it all over his head.

(Narrated by al-Bukhari (258) and Muslim (318))

One of the important rulings concerning this matter is that ghusl for major impurity takes the place of wudu’, so the person who has done ghusl, whether the complete or the acceptable form, does not have to repeat wudu, unless he does something that invalidates purity whilst doing ghusl.

And Allah knows best.