FAITH IN EVERYDAY LIFE

Why manners matter

Follow the Prophet's example

Allah praises the outstanding character of Prophet Muhammad ﷺ. Follow his example in speech, patience and treatment of others.

Qur'an 68:4

A measure of excellence

The Prophet ﷺ taught that the best people include those with the finest manners and character.

Sahih al-Bukhari 3559

Let worship shape conduct

Let prayer, fasting and remembrance shape your conduct at home, work and the masjid.

Keep promises, respect rights and act fairly, even at a personal cost.

Choose gentleness

Allah loves gentleness. Speak firmly when needed, but avoid cruelty, contempt and needless harshness.

Sahih Muslim 2593

Begin with sincerity

Seek Allah's pleasure rather than praise. Treat people well even when they cannot repay you or improve your reputation.

SMALL ACTIONS • DAILY PRACTICE

Build better habits

Start the day: Choose one quality to practise: patience, truthfulness, generosity or a gentle voice.

Before speaking: Ask, "Is it true? Is it useful? Can I say it respectfully?"

During conflict: Pause, listen and avoid insults. Seek a fair solution.

After a mistake: Admit it, apologize and repair the harm where possible.

At night: Reflect on whom you helped or hurt. Ask Allah for forgiveness and plan one improvement.

A personal du'a

O Allah, help me speak truthfully, act justly and treat others with mercy. Improve my character and forgive my shortcomings. Ameen.

Suggested personal wording, not a quoted hadith.

Read and reflect

Qur'an: 68:4; 17:23; 49:11–12; 5:8
Sahih al-Bukhari: 3559; 6018; 6114
Sahih Muslim: 2593
Read the texts at quran.com and sunnah.com.

The everyday examples in this brochure apply these principles; they are not verbatim quotations.

MOSQUE PRAISE ALLAH

Society for Islamic Brotherhood

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Good Manners in Islam

Faith expressed through kindness, honesty and respect

وَإِنَّكَ لَعَلَىٰ خُلُقٍ عَظِيمٍ

Allah describes the Prophet ﷺ as a person of outstanding character.

Meaning of Qur'an 68:4

Make good character a daily practice

Speak with care.
Honour people's rights.
Control your anger.
Keep your promises.
Show mercy.

A practical reminder for our homes, masjid and wider community.

THE WORDS WE CHOOSE

Guard your tongue

Speak good or remain silent

The Prophet ﷺ connected faith in Allah and the Last Day with speaking beneficial words or keeping silent.

Sahih al-Bukhari 6018

Tell the truth. Avoid exaggeration, humiliating jokes and promises you do not intend to keep.

Protect people's dignity

The Qur'an forbids ridicule, offensive names, spying and backbiting. Do not make someone's appearance, background or mistakes a source of entertainment.

Qur'an 49:11–12

Listen before responding

Let others finish. Ask what they mean before assuming the worst. Correct an error without attacking the person.

Your manners travel online

Check a claim before sharing it. Do not circulate private messages, spread rumours or join a group attack.

Disagree with an idea respectfully. Avoid posting in anger.

Speak up when help is needed

Protecting dignity does not mean hiding abuse or wrongdoing. Report concerns truthfully to someone who can help, sharing only what is necessary.

AT HOME AND IN THE COMMUNITY

Respect people's rights

Begin with your family

Honour parents, especially in old age. The Qur'an warns against speaking to them with contempt.

Qur'an 17:23

Be considerate with spouses, children and relatives. Help with daily tasks and listen patiently.

Be a considerate neighbour

Avoid harm through noise, rubbish, blocked access or careless parking. Offer help when appropriate and respect privacy.

Welcome guests and newcomers

Welcome newcomers. Explain masjid customs gently. Make room for elders and people with disabilities.

Neighbour and guest duties: Bukhari 6018

Be trustworthy

Be punctual, return borrowed items and communicate changes. Be honest in work and trade.

Practise justice with everyone

Do not let dislike lead you to unfairness. Respect is owed across differences of wealth, ethnicity, nationality and religion.

Qur'an 5:8

WHEN GOOD MANNERS ARE TESTED

Patience and self-control

Strength includes restraint

The Prophet ﷺ taught that real strength includes controlling oneself when angry.

Sahih al-Bukhari 6114

Anger does not excuse threats, insults or violence. Pause, lower your voice and take a safe break if needed.

Disagree without humiliation

Address the issue. Listen fairly. Give advice privately when possible.

Seek knowledgeable guidance when a religious question is beyond your understanding.

Apologize and make amends

Admit the wrong without blaming others. Return what you owe, correct falsehoods and change your behaviour.

Kindness and boundaries belong together

You can be respectful while saying no, seeking protection or reporting harm. Good manners do not require accepting abuse.

Keep practising

When you fall short, turn back to Allah and make a sincere effort to improve.