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## **Guidelines for Ramzan during COVID-19**

### **Unanimous Declaration from the President in Consultation with Ulema**

#### **Arrangements for Namaz and Taraweeh in Mosques and Imambargahs**

- Carpet or rugs will not be spread/laid in Mosques or Imambargahs, prayers will be offered on the bare floors.
- Clean chatais can be used if the floor is earthen.
- If people wish to bring their own prayer mats from home, they can do so.
- Before and after the prayers, people should avoid gathering in crowds.
- In mosques and Imambargahs, where there is a courtyard, prayers will be offered not inside but in the courtyard.
- Those older than 50 years, adolescent children and those suffering from flu, cough, etc should not come to mosques or imambargahs.
- Tamaz Taraweeh will be arranged within the boundaries of the mosques or imambargahs. Praying on roads and footpaths will be avoided. An attached map should be useful in this connection.
- The floors of the mosques and imambargahs should be cleaned with Chlorine solution in water.
- The same solution should be used to wipe the chatais before namaz.
- Rows of the praying individuals should be aligned so that there is a distance of 6 feet between individuals. There is an attached map which can assist in achieving this.
- Mosques and imambargahs should constitute committees consisting of responsible individuals who will ensure the adherence to precautionary measures.
- It will be easy for the namazis if the administrators of mosques and imambargahs place marks for the namzis on the floors according to correct distances. This will facilitate in the placement of the namazis.
- People should come to the mosque or imambargahs after doing ablution and washing hands with soap for 20 seconds.
- It is obligatory that mask is worn before coming to mosque or imambargah and not to shake hands or hug anyone in the mosque.
- Avoid touching the face. This can be done after washing hands after returning home.
- In the current situation, it is better that Aitikaf is performed at home.



- Sehr and iftar should not be arranged at the mosque or the imambargah.
- The administration of mosques, imambargahs, imams and khateebis should communicate and collaborate with the district and provincial authorities and the police.
- The administrations of the mosques and the imambargahs are being given permission conditional upon observation of these precautionary measures.
- If during Ramzan, the government feels that these precautionary measures are not being observed or the number of affectees has risen to a dangerous level, then the government will revise its policy related to mosques and imambargahs, as for other departments. The government has also the right to change the orders and policy regarding severely affected specific areas.

*Note: The above recommendations are being regularly reviewed by the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations & Coordination and will be updated based on the international recommendations and best practices.*

*The Ministry acknowledges the contribution of Dr Sayema Awais and HSA/ HPSIU/ NIH team to compile these guidelines.*

**For more information, please contact:**

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