

The Qur'ān: Respect and Proper Manners

4th Grade

The following is a list of etiquettes of the Qur'ān. These are not necessarily issues of ḥalāl and ḥarām but rather ways through which we can honor the Qur'ān, giving it the respect and proper manners it deserves.

1. Before reciting it, say the isti'ādah and the basmalah, whether you are starting at the beginning of a sūrah or some other part you have reached.
 - a. The Isti'ādah
 - i. 'a'ūdhu bi l-lāhi mina sh-shayṭāni r-rajīm
 - ii. I take refuge in Allāh from the accursed shayṭān
 - b. The Basmalah
 - i. bismi l-lāhi r-raḥmāni r-raḥīm
 - ii. I begin/My beginning is in the name of Allāh, the Unimaginably Merciful, the Ever-Merciful
2. Make sure that the Qur'ān is higher than all other books with no book over it.
3. Place the Qur'ān on your lap when reading it or on something in front of you but not on the floor.
4. Only touch it when you are clean and in a clean place.
5. When you want to hand it to another person, do so carefully with two hands rather than tossing it.
6. Only touch it when you are in a state of ritual purity (wuḍū').
7. When reciting it, sit up straight and respectfully, e.g., do not stick out your feet or cross one leg over another when in a chair.
8. Recite it slowly, distinctly pronouncing each word.
9. Do not enter the bathroom with it.
10. Dispose of it or anything written in Arabic in the proper way, e.g., by burning it or by shredding it using a micro-cut, crosscut shredder and then recycling it.
11. Once you begin reciting, do not interrupt your recitation from moment to moment with human words unless it is something important.
12. When you yawn, stop reciting it because the Qur'ān is the word of Allāh and yawning is from the shayṭān.
13. Do not recite it out loud over another person's recitation of it because that may make him not like what he hears.
14. Give each letter its right, clearly and fully pronouncing it, for each letter counts as at least ten good deeds.
15. Do not use the Qur'ān as pillow or lean upon it.