

## Attending AIC Masjid & Campus Buildings

Policies and rules regarding conduct attending the AIC Masjid, and other campus buildings, that are respected by all patrons are the foundation that defines AIC and its patrons. As we look forward and ask Allah to bless our Masjid, we always keep in mind verse 108, *Suraht Attawbah*:

"... لَمَسْجِدٍ أُسِّسَ عَلَى التَّقْوَىٰ مِنْ أَوَّلِ يَوْمٍ أَحَقُّ أَنْ تَقُومَ فِيهِ ۚ فِيهِ رِجَالٌ يُحِبُّونَ أَنْ يَتَطَهَّرُوا ۗ وَاللَّهُ يُحِبُّ الْمُطَهَّرِينَ"

"... Certainly, a mosque founded on righteousness from the first day is more worthy of your prayers; in it are men who love to purify; and Allah loves those who purify themselves."

The more Muslims adhere and practice what they preach, adhering to policies and rules based on *taqwa*, the more all attending have a chance to feel consistency and confidence in messages and ideals true belief while attracting the most pious to attend.

### Behavior and Etiquette

#### Code of Conduct

Everyone attending *Masjid* and other AIC campus buildings is required to adhere to Quran and *Sunnah* of the Prophet ﷺ in behavior, manners, and dressing as concluded by majority of Scholars. Such code of conduct include:

- 1- Mixing and socializing of men and women is not allowed.
- 2- There are areas designated for women and others for men. Each gender is not allowed in the opposite gender area.
- 3- The AIC campus buildings are **No Smoking Zone** at all times. That includes the parking lot and side walks.
- 4- Do not stand or socialize or smoke on any of the neighbors' properties as this is opposite and afront to *dawa*.
- 5- Inappropriate language, gestures, or loud noise/arguments are not allowed.
- 6- Running and shouting is not allowed anywhere inside the premises.
- 7- Parents are responsible to control their kids immediately when they find them distracting worshipers.
- 8- Food and beverages may only be consumed in the designated areas of the building and not the Masjid prayer areas.
- 9- Please set cell phones to vibrate or auto silent before entering the prayer room. (iPhones, and others, have a "Focus" feature, where you can setup specific "Prayer Time", e.g., Friday 1:10-2:00 pm, for your phone to be completely silent.)
- 10- It is prohibited by Sharia to conduct any type of business in the Masjid prayer area.
- 11- While being overheard backbiting is toxic to attendees, please remember that backbiting is a sin. Talking ill of others while is sinful anywhere but it is more so at the Masjid.
- 12- The prayer area is not a playground for children. Parents should teach children respect of the Masjid prayer area and that distracting those who pray affects the quality (*khushou3*) in their prayer.
- 13- The prayer area is not an exercise area for adults. We ask all not to allow *shaytan* to the minds of those praying. Any form of physical exercise, like pacing, may distract or annoy (from *shaytan*) others. Being concerned for the welfare of others' *3badat* is part of building a loving community.
- 14- AIC asks women, Muslims and non-Muslim, to remember that visiting the AIC campus, especially the Masjid (prostration areas), is for the benefit of a spiritual experience. Ideally

women encounter worshipping acts during significant period of their stay. Dressing appropriately **and** humbly for such a spiritual time is required for best experience. Although there is an element of socialization, women's mindset should be that this is a place where they attend to listen to a lecture and do not need the many forms of distractions including talking loudly/noisily during lectures or leaving their kids running around distracting those who came to worship or listen to a lecture.

### **Dress Code** (for Muslims and non-Muslims)

We ask all to strictly adhere to the dress code on the AIC campus.

#### **Men Dress Code:**

1. Men are required to dress modestly with loose attire.
2. Chest bare tops are not allowed.
3. Area from above the navel to the knees must be covered at all times; .
4. If wearing shorts, it should be at the knees when prostrating.
5. Tight pants or pants with soft fabric that defines the contour of the area between the naval and the knees are not allowed.
6. Since most wear pants and shirts. Shirts must be below the edge of the pants by 10-20 inches, so it does not rise above the pants' edge and expose the waist when prostrating.

#### **Women Dress Code:**

Islamic *khemar*\* (veil) and Hijab for women is **A MUST**. For public appearance, *Khemar* (most use the word Hijab, though the latter is broader) is commanded by Allah in the Quran in these verses:

(a) Suraht *An-nur*, (Chapter 24) verse 31:

"وَقُلْ لِلْمُؤْمِنَاتِ يَغْضُضْنَ مِنْ أَبْصَارِهِنَّ وَيَحْفَظْنَ فُرُوجَهُنَّ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا مَا ظَهَرَ مِنْهَا ۗ وَلَا يَضْرِبْنَ بِخُمُرِهِنَّ عَلَىٰ جُيُوبِهِنَّ ۗ وَلَا يُبْدِينَ زِينَتَهُنَّ إِلَّا...."

“And tell the **believing women** to lower their gaze and guard their chastity, and not to reveal their adornments except what normally appears; let them draw their veils (*khumurahun*) over their chests, and not reveal their adornments except .....

\*The Arabic word “*khumurahun*” means the head cover, which completely **covers the hair**. Scholars differed only on interpreting this to cover the face as well or not, but there is no difference on covering the hair.

(b) Suraht *Alahzab* (Chapter 33) verse 59:

"يَا أَيُّهَا النَّبِيُّ قُلْ لِأَزْوَاجِكَ وَبَنَاتِكَ وَنِسَاءِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ يُدْنِينَ عَلَيْهِنَّ مِنْ جَلَابِيبِهِنَّ ۚ ذَلِكَ أَدْنَىٰ أَنْ يُعْرَفْنَ ۚ فَلَا يُؤْذِينَ ۗ وَكَانَ اللَّهُ غَفُورًا رَحِيمًا"

“O Prophet! tell thy wives and daughters, and the **believing women**, that they should cast their ***Jalabeebuhun***\* over their body, that is most convenient that they be recognized (for their virtuousness) and not harmed. And Allah is Oft-Forgiving, Most Merciful.”

\*The Arabic word “*Jalabeebuhun*” Refers to loose cloaks that reach to cover the whole body including the feet. This excludes pants.

According to the above and other scholarly evidence from *Sunnah* agreed upon are:

- 1- Allowed to be exposed are the face and hands only. The face is defined between the ears lines and below the hairline to the tip of the chin. The hands boundaries are at the wrist joint.
- 2- Hair should be completely covered at all times. Falling scarfs are not code compliant. Letting head cover loose and/or slips defeats the purpose.
- 3- Wearing makeup or any form coloring “*zeenah*” on the face or hands is not complaint according to the *Ayat*.

- 4- Head covers may be available for women who come without one. *En shaa* Allah, full body cover will be made available in limited quantity for Muslims and non-Muslims who like to visit the facility.
- 5- Dresses should not inappropriately define body parts and/or contour.
- 6- Tight dresses and transparent ones showing skin are prohibited.
- 7- Pants are inappropriate, see verse interpretation above. Other interpretations are argumentative to majority scholarly opinion. So, no pants or jeans allowed without a full dress covering head to feet above hem.