

Remembrance of Allaah in the Heart is Legislated (i.e. Permissible)

At All Times and In All Places

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Question:

Since the human being is expected to remember Allaah at all times and in every situation or circumstance, except for the places in which it is prohibited to remember Allaah in them, like the bathroom for example - so does a person cut off the remembrance of Allaah completely while in the bathroom, even in his heart?

Answer:

'Remembering Allaah in one's **heart** is *Mashroo'* (legislated in Islaam, i.e. permissible) at all times and in all places, in the bathroom [where there is a toilet and sink, etc.] and elsewhere.

Rather, what is *Makroob* (disliked or undesirable) in the bathroom and similar places is to remember Allaah on one's **tongue** (i.e. orally expressing the words) - [this should avoided] due to reverence and respect for Allaah, the One Free From All Imperfections - except for saying *Bismillaah* (*In the Name of Allaah*) at the beginning of the performance of *Wudoo'* (ablution). Indeed, one should say it (i.e. *Bismillaah*) if it is not easy for him to perform *Wudoo'* outside of the bathroom. This is because it is *Waajib* (obligatory) according to some of the scholars [i.e. to say *Bismillaah* before *Wudoo'*], and it is *Sunnah Mu'akkadah* (an emphasized Sunnah) according to the Majority (of scholars).'

Fataawaa ash-Shaykh Ibn Baaz, 5/408

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