

JUMU'AH INVITATION



APR
18
2025

FRIDAY

1:00 PM

ASHTON CENTRAL MOSQUE,
HILLGATE STREET, OL6 9JA

RSVP
ALLAH

Are Muslims Extremists? Extremism refers to the holding of beliefs, ideas, or actions that are far outside the accepted norms of a society or legislation. Leading to radical views or behaviours that can lead to violence, intolerance or compelling others to comply.

Islamic Extremism - غلو **Ghuluw - is going beyond the limits set by Allah ﷻ & His Messenger ﷺ in belief, practice, or behaviour. **Ghuluw** is exceeding the bounds of moderation & balance of Islam.**

Do not go to extremes in your religion (4:171)

Beware of extremism in religion, for it destroyed those before you (Nasa'i)

And thus, We have made you a just and balanced nation (2:143)

Islam promotes the middle path **Wasatiyyah – Moderation & Simplicity. Islam is not a religion of extremes, neither excessive harshness nor irresponsible leniency. True piety is rooted in humility, compassion, simplicity, moderation, balance and adherence to the Qur'an & Sunnah.**

****Ghuluw** is not just limited to theology or ritual worship; Islam also cautions against excess in social and cultural practices, including weddings, funerals, celebrations and daily habits.**

Extravagance, ostentation, burdening oneself or others, and deviating from the Sunnah in the name of “culture” or “societal expectations” fall under **Ghuluw.**

Do not be extravagant, indeed, the wasteful are brothers of the devils, and ever has Satan been to his Lord ungrateful (17:27)

Eat and drink, but do not be excessive. Indeed, He does not like those who commit excess (7:31)

Today, weddings, especially in South Asian communities have become a competition rather than a blessed beginning of a new life. Soo many rituals it's bewildering!

- **Engagement – Mangni** – Venue, Décor , Catering, Clothes, Makeup, Jewellery, Gifts, Photographer, Music = **Minimum £6,000**
- **Dholki/Qawwali Nights** – Food, Stage, Décor, Clothes, Music = **Minimum £5,000,**
- **Bridal Shower/Pre-Mehndi Parties** = **£3,000**, Mehndi Function = **Minimum £5,000**
- **Baraat** – Venue, Catering, Stage, Décor, Photobooth, Dessert Table, Bride, Groom, Family Outfits, Hair, Makeup, Jewellery Accessories, Favours, Car Rentals, Food, Fireworks, Dhol, Photographer etc. = **Minimum £30,000**
- **Dowry** – gold, diamond ring, jewellery, clothes, furniture, gifts, shoes = **Minimum £15,000**
- **Walima** – (Reception) = **Minimum £30,000**
- **Post wedding rituals** – honeymoon, flights, guests, hotels, gifts etc = **Total £80,000**

The most blessed marriage is the one with the least expenses (Ibn Hibban)

Make things easy and do not make them difficult (Bukhari)

He who imitates a people is one of them (Abu Dawood)

The Prophetic model was joyful but simple, respectful yet humble, always within limits set by Shari'ah - no vanity, no showing off, no pleasing people - **Moderate, Humble & Simple.**

Parents remortgage, go into debt, siblings feel pressured to **"match & exceed"**.

Guests feel burdened to wear new clothes and buy expensive gifts for every event.

All for one day. All for a show. All for Instagram pictures. What do you do for Allah ﷻ?

- In the UK, average Asian wedding costs between **£50,000 to £100,000**.
- 60% of couples take loans to finance weddings.
- After the wedding couples argue about money and debt.
- Divorce among Asians in the UK has risen to over 30% today.
- 78% of brides plan their wedding with Instagram in mind. (Hitched 2022)
- Emory University study: Couples who spend less on weddings have lower divorce rates.

Simple Nikah at home or in a Masjid - A small Walima with simple food - No burden.

- Marriages are an act of worship, obedience to Allah ﷻ, do you see any Ebaadah?
- When the Prophet ﷺ married Safiyyah رضي الله عنها, their Walima was just dates & simple food.
- When Fatimah رضي الله عنها married Ali رضي الله عنه, her dress was a simple cloth, & Ali رضي الله عنه had almost nothing materially - yet their home was filled with love, respect, understanding & Barakah.

The worst of feasts are those to which the rich are invited, but the poor are left out (Muslim)

Why sacrifice your future for a few hours of impressing people who will forget your wedding within a week? Why obey people for 1 day whilst disobeying Allah ﷻ?

Whoever wears clothes to show off and gain fame, Allah will clothe him with a garment of humiliation on the Day of Resurrection. (Ibn Majah) Whoever seeks the pleasure of the people by displeasing Allah, Allah will be displeased with him. (Tirmidhi)

QUICK WEDDING Q&A

"Everyone has big weddings!" – But the Prophet ﷺ taught us that blessings come from simplicity, not showing off!

"We have to invite hundreds of people" – But the Prophet ﷺ invited those who mattered – close family, friends, and the poor - that's the true Sunnah!

"What about our reputation?" – But doesn't your reputation with Allah ﷻ matter more?

"It's only once in a lifetime!" – Exactly, that's why we want the day to be pure and full of blessing, not full of debt and stress!

"It's my money, so what" – Your wealth is an Amanah to use sensibly, not waste.

- Culture is beautiful when it enhances the Deen. But when culture begins to contradict what Allah ﷻ commands, then it becomes a burden, not a blessing.
- After everyone leaves, you're stuck paying bills. After the photos fade, you're still fighting over money. After the applause ends, you're still living with what you chose.

BIG WEDDINGS = BIG PROBLEMS - SIMPLE WEDDINGS = BIG BARAKAH

There are dangers though worse than debt and extravagance at weddings.

There are spiritual dangers that destroy marriages even before they begin.

When you expose every detail of your wedding, your outfits, your jewellery, your venue, your stage, your happiness, hundreds and thousands of eyes are endlessly watching you.

Not all of them with, sincerity, love or Du'as.

Most with envy, jealousy, hatred, resentment, & with silent hatred.

THE EFFECT OF AN EVIL EYE IS REAL (BUKHARI)

Nazar (evil eye) can cause: Marriages to break. Love to disappear. Health to collapse. Barakah to vanish in an instant.

Today's Weddings = Perfect Recipe for Nazar. Then people say, "WHAT WENT WRONG"?

SEEK HELP IN ACHIEVING YOUR NEEDS BY BEING SECRETIVE, FOR EVERY BLESSED PERSON IS ENVIED (MUSLIM)

- Free-Mixing, Loss of modesty - men becoming Dayyooth - دیوث - who'll never enter Jannah**
- Dancing, Grooms standing next to non-mahram women for photos.**
- Flirting, exchanging numbers, open platform promoting Zina in different forms.**

WEDDINGS OR MARRIAGES?

WEDDING = A one-day event party for two people.

MARRIAGE = A lifelong commitment between two souls under the sacred bond of Nikah.

WEDDING = Focused on celebrations, appearances & pomp.

MARRIAGE = Focused on trust, mercy, responsibility & partnership.

WEDDING = A few hours or days

MARRIAGE = A lifetime in Dunya and Eternity In-Shaa'Allah in Jannah.

WEDDING = Families, friends, community, hundreds of unknown guests.

MARRIAGE = Immediate Family, Neighbours, Close Friends & Poor.

WEDDING = Money, style, popularity in society's eyes.

MARRIAGE = Taqwa, Imaan, Sabr & Rahmah in Allah's eyes.

Allah ﷻ will not ask us how grand your wedding was, but how much Taqwa we had in starting our marriage. Were we humble? Did we pray? Did we invite the poor? Did we give Sadaqah? Did begin our journey with Barakah or with debt?

Plan your marriage, not wedding. Invest in your marriage, not wedding.

Don't think about people watching you, worry about Allah ﷻ watching you.

Simplify your Marriages, Nikahs & Walimas, make it easy for yourself & children.