

SUNNATS OF TRAVELLING

1. As far as possible, there should be at least two people together when undertaking any journey. Travelling alone should be avoided. However, in extreme necessity there is no harm. (Fathul - Baari-Vol- 6,pg. 53)
2. When one has placed one's foot in the stirrup of one's conveyance and is about to mount it, one should say (بِسْمِ اللَّهِ). (Tirmidhi)

3. After settling down on the conveyance say: (اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ) thrice and thereafter recite the following dua:

سُبْحَانَ الَّذِي سَخَّرْنَا هَذَا وَمَا كُنَّا لَهُ مُقْرِنِينَ
وَإِنَّا إِلَىٰ رَبِّنَا لَمُنْقَلِبُونَ ط

(Muslim , Tirmidhi)

Trans: Glory be to the one who has subjugated this for us whereas we were not able to subjugate it on our own. And we will certainly be returning to our Lord.

4. Thereafter recite the following dua:

اللَّهُمَّ هَوِّنْ عَلَيْنَا سَفَرَنَا هَذَا وَاطْوِعْنَا بَعْدَهُ
اللَّهُمَّ أَنْتَ الصَّاحِبُ فِي السَّفَرِ وَالْخَلِيفَةُ
فِي الْأَهْلِ . اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي أَعُوذُ بِكَ مِنْ وَعْثَاءِ
السَّفَرِ وَكَآبَةِ الْمُنْظَرِ وَسَوْءِ الْمُنْقَلَبِ فِي
الْمَالِ وَالْأَهْلِ وَالْوَالِدِ .

(Muslim , Hisne Haseen)

Trans: O Allah make this journey easy for us and shorten the length of the journey as well. O Allah, You are our companion on this journey and the Protector of our household. O Allah, I seek Your protection from the hardship of travel, from witnessing a terrible sight and from finding an evil condition having befallen my family, wealth and children upon my return.

5. When the need arises to stop along the way, the Sunnat is to move to the side of the road. Do not camp in the middle of the road whereby the paths of others are blocked and they experience inconvenience thereby. (Muslim - Vol.2, pg.144)

6. When ascending any high place one should say اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ (Bukhari- pg. 420)

7. When descending to any place, one should say سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ (Bukhari)

8. Note: It is mentioned in Mirqaat that this is a Sunnat of travelling. However, when one is ascending the stairs of his house or Masjid, then he should begin with his right foot and say **اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ** even though it is only one stair. At the time of descending, begin with the left leg and recite **سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ** although it is only a small decline. There is hope that one will receive the reward of practising on a Sunnat. Mulla Ali Qari (رحمة الله عليه) has mentioned the wisdom in saying **اللَّهُ أَكْبَرُ** at the time of ascension, that although apparently we are going higher but O Allah! we are not high. Highness and greatness are only for you. While descending, a person says **سُبْحَانَ اللَّهِ** because we are low and O Allah! You are free from lowness.
9. When the town of one's destination comes into view, then recite this dua:

اللَّهُمَّ بَارِكْ لَنَا فِيهَا

Trans: O Allah, grant us barakah (blessings) from this town. When entering the town recite this dua.

**اللَّهُمَّ ارْزُقْنَا جَنَاهَا وَحَبِيبًا إِلَى أَهْلِهَا وَحَبِيبًا
صَالِحِي أَهْلِهَا إِلَيْنَا**

Trans: O Allah, grant us sustenance of this place. Make us beloved to the people of this place and make the pious people of this place beloved to us.

10. Rasullullah (صلى الله عليه وسلم) has mentioned that when the purpose for which one had undertaken the journey has been accomplished, one should return home immediately. It is not advisable to remain on a journey for no reason. (Bukhari-pg.421)
11. When returning after many days from a lengthy journey, and one arrives home when a great portion of the night has passed, then he should not immediately enter his home. Rather it is better to go the next morning. (Mishkaat, pg.339)
12. If the family is aware of your late arrival and is expecting you, then there is no harm in going home immediately. (Mirkaat - Vol.7,pg.338)
13. By practising these Sunnats one will receive the benefits in this world and the Hereafter.
14. It is forbidden to take a dog along on the journey or to keep bells, since Shaytaan follows such a person and the blessings of the journey are lost.(Muslim- Vol.1, pg.202)
15. Upon returning from a journey, it is Sunnat to first go to the Masjid, perform two rakaats of Salaah and thereafter enter the home. (Mishkaat)
16. When returning from a journey recite this dua:

آبُؤْنَا تَائِبُونَ عَابِدُونَ لِرَبِّنَا حَامِدُونَ

(Muslim,Tirmidhi)

Trans: "We are returning (home) with repentance, utmost humility and praising our Lord."