



In the Name of Allah The Most Gracious, Ever Merciful

DIRECTIONS FOR NIKAH (MARRIAGE) FORM

1. Guardian of the proposed bride is her real father.
2. If the father cannot attend the NIKAH ceremony, he should appoint someone else to officiate as his representative. But it is the father himself who will sign as the guardian of the proposed bride. A place has been assigned in the form for this purpose. The proposed bridegroom can also appoint someone to officiate as his representative, if he can not attend the NIKAH ceremony. A place has been assigned in the form for this purpose.
3. For the deceased father of the proposed bride, following relatives can in descending order, be the guardian of a sane, adult woman: Grandfather, real brother, step-brother, paternal uncle or such other close relatives on the father's side.
4. Hazrat Musleh Maood (*May Allah be pleased with him*) advised the amount of dower money from six months to one year's income of the proposed bridegroom. This directive should be followed.
5. In case there has been a TALAQ or divorce (separation by husband) or a KHULA (separation by the wife), at the time of second Nikah, documents of the separation must be attached with the NIKAH Form. These documents should also clearly indicate that the liabilities of either sides have been paid in full. It should also be confirmed by two witnesses as well as by the Ameer / President of the local Jama'at.
6. In case NIKAH is to be conducted in Rabwah, permission must be from the Marriage Office, Islah-o-Irshad, Rabwah and the guardian of the proposed bride and witnesses of her consent should also be present themselves in the office.
7. NIKAH form should be completed quite sometime before the date of the announcement for NIKAH so that if the form is not complete or if contains any mistake, enough time is available for correction.
8. Four copies of NIKAH form (all originals) should be completed in every respect.
9. NIKAH form should be completed in a clear and legible handwriting. Preferably only one ink should be used.
10. Confirmation should necessary be made by the Ameer / President of local Jama'at where proposed bride and bridegroom reside. Apart from the signature, the Ameer / President of the local Jama'at should use his seal, if he has one.
11. The NIKAH should be registered within one month of its announcement. NIKAH form should be registered at a place where an arrangement of this kind exists. If any Jama'at does not have the facility registration should be done at the center. NIKAH form should be scrutinized properly before they are brought for registration.
12. In case the NIKAH is to be conducted in Canada, Marriage License must be obtained from the city where bridegroom / bride is residing before announcement of Nikah followed by registration with Registrar of Marriages.

MEMBERS OF THE AHMADIYYA JAMA'AT ARE REQUIRED TO AVOID AND HELP AVOID THE FOLLOWING CUSTOMARY AND INNOVATIVE PRACTICES.

1. The believers shun all that is vain. When they spend they, are not extravagant.
(*The Holy Qur'an*)
2. He (The Holy Prophet *Peace be on him*) removes from them their burden and the hackles that were upon them.
(*The Holy Qur'an*)
3. He will stop being a slave to mere custom, greed and
(*Extract from the covenant of 'Bait'*)
4. The purpose of Tahreek-e-Jadid and its requirement was nothing more than that the Jama'at should learn to spend according to its means and thus save itself from disaster with a view to gradually eliminate the disparity that exists between the rich and the poor.
(*Regulations of 'Tahreek-e-Jadid P 174*)
5. It is obligatory on the part of Ahmadi families to eradicate evil customs and throw them out root and branch.
(*The Promised Messiah*)

6. According to the law of Islam, it is prohibited to distribute, give or take 'Bhaji' or ... food among relatives. Spending on fireworks, professionals dancing and slogsans is an absolute prohibition. *(Promised Messiah)*
7. The value of the dower should be equal to the husband's six months to a year's income. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
8. Any demand from the bride's relations, for ornaments and apparel is shamelessness. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
9. 'Mahndi' and other related things as practiced today are, to my mind, 'un-Islamic'. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
10. The practice of 'Sehra' is 'Bidaat' or deviation from the norm. It amounts to turning a human to a horse. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
11. To wear garlands of currency or to have a 'Sarbala' or the bridegroom's best man is a vain and pointless act and amounts to 'Bida'at' or innovative devotion.
12. Ostentation and display should be avoided. Whatever gifts are given, should be placed in boxes that are shut... To exhibit 'Jahez' (Dowry) and even 'Bari' (Bridal dresses) is bad. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
13. Any desire or demand for dowry on the part of the Bride's in-laws is 'un-Islamic'.
14. Casting and scattering of coin, the ritual of making the bridegroom wear a gold ring or to demand payment for suckling milk or hide the shoes are bad customs.
15. Dowry should not be displayed nor should the bridegroom's people be given gifts of suits etc. *(President Lajna Imaillah Central)*
16. On the occasion of 'Rukhstana' or marriage ceremony to serve food to local guests is prohibited except for a simple hot or cold drink consistent with the weather conditions. The out-station guests / members of the procession can be offered food. *(Khalifa tul Masseh IV)*
17. To invite people to 'Walima' is keeping with the Holy Prophet's practice but there should be no wastage or overspending. The bridegroom should be invite and feed some friends. *(Promised Messiah)* It is enough to limit the number invitees from 10 to 15. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
18. The 'Walima' party should be given after the consummation of the marriage. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
19. 'Non-Mehram' ladies should observe 'Pardah' in the presence of bridegroom and should not indulge in badinage. *(Hazrat Musleh Maood)*
20. Photographs of the couple i.e. the bride and the bridegroom, should not be taken in company with the 'non-mehram' ladies.
21. On the occasion of such parties, it should be so arranged that ladies serve ladies to avoid violation of 'Pardah'.
22. It is a sin to attend parties uninvited similarly to take uninvited children to parties is also a sin. To the holy Prophet (on him be peace) such guests are thieves and robbers. *(A Tradition of the Holy Prophet)*

In short, as far as possible let all men and women try to avoid unnecessary expenditure and pointless customs and rites.

May Allah be with you, Amen!