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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

كان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يلبس قنسوة بيضاء

Headgear (Topee) in Islam

Allah ﷻ has stated in the Holy Qur'an:

He That Obeys Allah and His Rasulallah ﷺ has already attained The Great Victory. (Surah Ahzab, v71)

O children of Adam! Take your adornment while praying... (Surah Al-A'raf, v31)

Why Wear The Topee in Islam?

القنسوة من لباس الأنبياء والصالحين {عارضه الأهودى، ص: 242، ج: 7}

Wearing a Topee is known from previous prophet's ﷺ (peace be upon them) as well as from Rasulallah ﷺ and his Sahaba رضي الله عنهم. Apart from being a Sunnah it is also a part of Islamic culture. (Umdatul Qari Shara Bukhari, vol 12, p 307, Aaridaatul Ahwadhi vol 7 p242)

عن ابن عمر رضي الله عنه قال كان رسول الله صلى الله عليه وسلم يلبس قنسوة بيضاء (السراج المنير 3 / 318 باسناد حسن)
It is narrated by Sayyidina Ibn Umar رضي الله عنهما that Rasulallah ﷺ used to wear a white Topee. (Al Sirajulmunir vol 3 p183, Faidul Qadeer vol 5 p246)

Rasulallah's ﷺ long shirts and shawls were white as well as other colours but he used to wear only white Topees. Therefore it is better for the Topee to be white. (Shamail e Kubra vol 4 p455)

Wearing a Topee is therefore a Sunnah act. For Muslim males, covering ones head is Mustahab. If this is not possible then at the very least a Topee should be worn during Salah. (Jawahil Fiqh vol 3 p47)

Due to this fact the Ulema have written that whomsoever, in an important act of Ibaadat such as Salaat, has their head uncovered, performs an action which is Makruh. (Al fiqh ul Islami wa'adilla, Al Duri Muhktar, Shaami, vol 2, p 407)

It is thus emphasised that in the condition of prayer (in Salah) the head should be covered, keeping with the respect and manners of standing in front of Allah ﷻ.

Ibn ul Arabi writes: 'The Topee is amongst the clothing of the Ambiya and pious ones. It protects the head and keeps the turban in place, which is Sunnah. The Topee should sit on the head and should not be standing like a dome. Should anyone feel the necessity of making holes in the Topee in order to keep the head cool, and then this would be regarded as a means of treatment. (Faidul Qadeer vol 5, p247)

The Virtue of The Topee and Rasulallah's ﷺ Topees

In Tabrani Sayyidina Ibn Umar رضي الله عنه narrates that Nabi ﷺ used to wear a white Topee.

(Allamah Suyooti has written in Jamius Sagheer that the Sanad of this Hadith is Hasan, the commentator Azeezi has affirmed this viewpoint)

It is reported from Sayyidina Ibn Umar رضي الله عنه that Nabi ﷺ wore a white Topee. (Mujamul Kabeer, Tabrani)

Nabi ﷺ has said that a Muhrim (*a person in Ihram*) must not wear a Kurta, Turban, pants and Topee. (Sahih Bukhari, Vol I, p 209)

It is thus learned that people were in the habit of wearing the Topee in the time of Nabi ﷺ. Due to this fact Nabi ﷺ has emphasised that it should not be worn in the condition of Ihram specifically.

Abu Sheihk reports from Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه that Nabi ﷺ had three Topees in his possession. (Bazlul Majhood, vol 6, p52)

Sayyida Ayisha رضي الله عنها narrated that Nabi ﷺ would wear a white Topee which lay flat and compressed to his head. (Faidul Qadeer, vol 5, p246)

In Ibn Asaakir Sayyidina Ibn Abbas رضي الله عنه has related that Nabi ﷺ would wear a Topee under his turban and would sometimes wear only a Topee.

Sayyida Ayisha رضي الله عنها narrates that Nabi ﷺ would wear a Topee which covered his ears while on a journey and while at home he would wear a thin (Syrian style) Topee. (Faidul Qadeer, vol 5)

Iraaqi has written that of the Ahadith dealing with the Topee, this Hadith is the most authentic and reliable. (باسناد صحيح جداً)

Mention of the Topee of the Sahabaa and Tabieen

Isa Ibn Tahmaan says that he saw Sayyidina Anas ibn Malik رضي الله عنه wearing a Topee. (Sahih Bukhari, vol 2, p863)

The mention of the topee of Abu Ishaq Sabe Tabie'e is found in Sahih Bukhari vol 1, p159.

Sayyidina Ali رضي الله عنه was seen wearing a white Egyptian Topee. (Tabaqaat Ibn Saad, vol 3, p187)

It is mentioned in Jami Tirmidhi from RasulAllah ﷺ that there is a Martyr whose Iman is complete and when meeting the enemy has accepted and believed in Allah's promise, and fights with valour and is martyred. His status will be so elevated that on the Day of Qiyamah people will look at him with raised heads. (In saying this, he lifted his head to such an extent that the Topee which he had on fell off - Al Hadith. (Jami Tirmidhi, vol 1, p293-294)

May Allah ﷻ grants us the Tawfeeq to following the footsteps of RasulAllah ﷺ and the Salaf-As-Saliheen, آمين (وأخردعوانان الحمد لله رب العلمين)

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