

## Core Curriculum

### 3 Foundations of Islam - Obligatory Acts

#### 3.4 **Ritual Purity in Islamic Law: Understanding Tahāra and Najāsa**

**Question:** What is tahāra?

**Answer:** Tahara is ritual purity. Tahāra is necessary for ritual practices like prayer.

**Question:** What is najāsa?

**Answer:** Najasa is ritual impurity. Excrement, blood or semen are considered najis or ritually impure in Islam.

**Question:** What is tayammum?

**Answer:** Tayammum is a form of ritual purification with the same effects of ghusl. It is performed when one does not, for example, have water.

**Question:** If I perform ghusl, do I have to perform wudū as well?

**Answer:** Generally no. There are cases which it may be needed, but this is subject to disagreement among Muslim scholars.

**Question:** Does najāsa or janāba mean dirty?

**Answer:** No, it means ritual impurity. Something may be ritually impure, but be considered clean in the conventional sense. The same applies to tahāra.