

Question:

Please answer these questions:

1. The rule regarding beards. What is the standing of the 4 schools of thought; can you give some evidences as well?
2. The rule regarding clothing for men ,do Muslims have to wear trousers above the ankles, what is 4 school of thoughts opinion on this?
3. The rule regarding following a scholar who is around today, and the issue of Taqleed?

**Answer:**

I post below previous answers of Sheikh Omar for your perusal:

1. THE BEARD

The Hukm of keeping a beard is that it is recommended (mandoub) and this is the strongest opinion in this matter. As for claims that the classical scholars all said that it is wajib does not represent the opinion of the main four schools of thought. Rather the opinion of most of the classical scholars is that it is recommended except for a few scholars such as Ibn Taymiyyah, Ibn Hazim and some Ahl ul-Hadith.

2. WEARING TROUSERS BELOW THE ANKLES

It is makrouh (disliked) to lower your izaar below your ankles (all the time) and it is haram to do so for arrogance or to show off.

3. TAQLID

Muslims are obliged to follow, obey, worship and submit to none but Allah (swt), in other words Muslims are obliged to follow the Wahi (revelation) only (the revelation is the Quran and the Sunnah). However Allah (swt) permits those who do not have knowledge about a matter to ask those who have got knowledge about it. Allah (swt) says 'ask those who have knowledge (Ahl Al-Zikr) if you don't know' and this verse specifies that we must ask people of knowledge i.e. Scholars if we do not know the answer. And the Messenger Muhammad (saw) said 'the scholars are the inheritors of the 'lm from the prophets'. The scholars are subjective to their area of knowledge and Taqwa. Some of them have wider knowledge than others and some of them are more active and pious. However, it is not allowed for a Muqallid to ask for Hukm Shar'ie i.e. a divine rule except from those who have got knowledge. In addition one cannot follow a non-scholar on what he has outweighed since in order to outweigh different opinions of Mujtahids (scholars) one must necessarily be a Mujtahid i.e. scholar himself. Note: Muslims must not follow government scholars nor those who contradict what is known from Islam by necessity or those who are not in the front line of the struggle for the vital issues e.g. Khilafah, Jihad for liberation etc....

I trust that this helps

Anjem Choudary
UK Leader of Al-Muhajiroun