

Environmental
Awareness
Initiative



وزارة البيئة والمياه والزراعة
Ministry of Environment Water & Agriculture

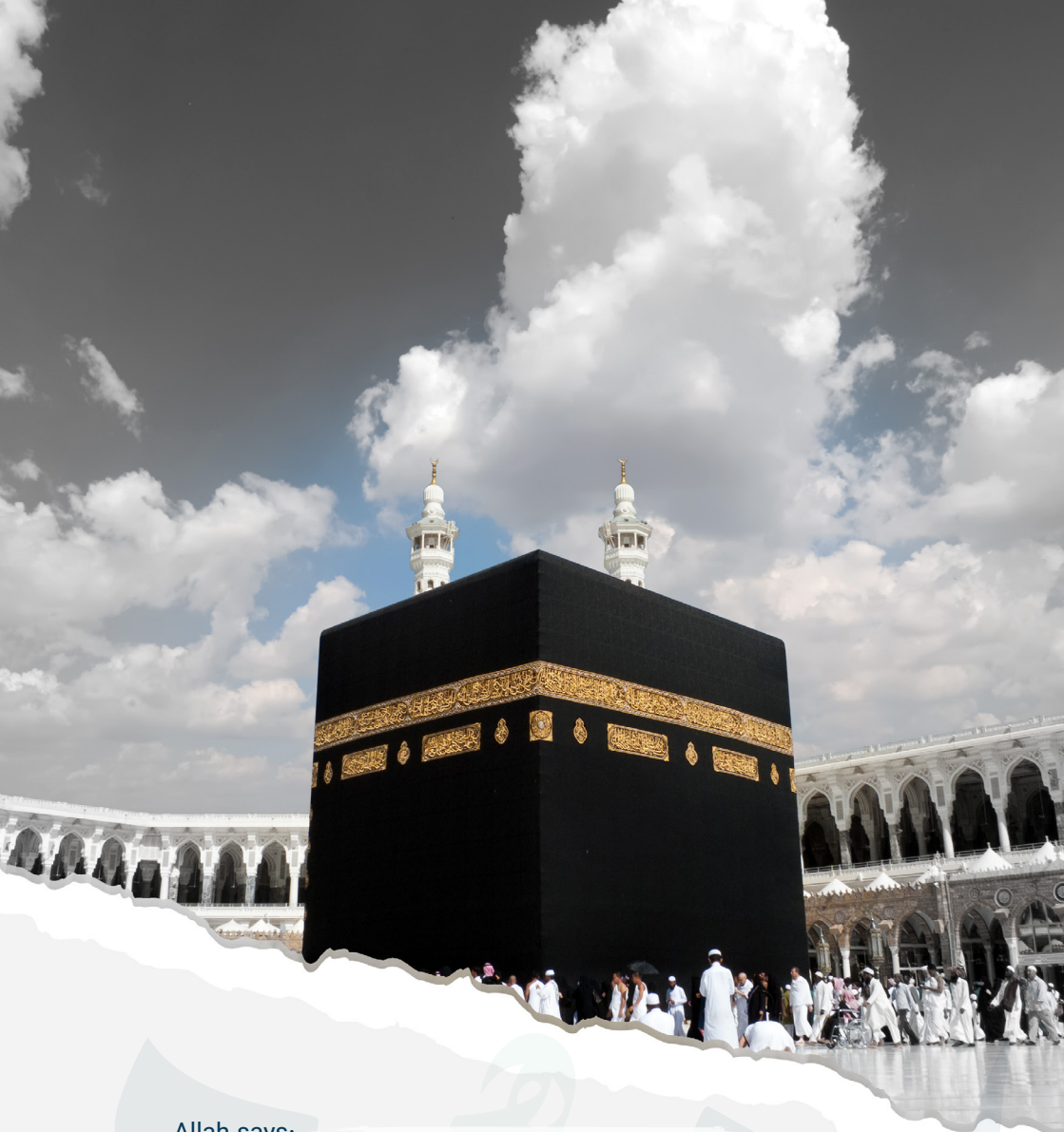


Guide

إِنِّهَا طَاهِرَةٌ

• It's a Pure Land •

Environmental Guidelines To Preserve Holy Places



Allah says:

“And We entrusted Ebrahem (Abraham) and Ismael (Ishmael) to purify My House for those who circumambulate, those who are sedentary, and those who bow and prostrate”.

Al-Baqara: 124

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Environment in Islam



The Holy Quran urges all people to

protect and preserve environment, considering it a religious duty and a definite necessity. God (Allah) commanded dealing with environment as a public property which people should preserve its ingredients, treasures and natural resources. Every Muslim must be thankful for God's many blessings on Earth. If a Muslim does not assume his duty towards Earth by thanking God for those divine gifts, it is a reason for them to be vanished.

In the Holy Quran , God (Allah) says:

“And it is He who subjected the sea for you to eat from it tender meat and to extract from it ornaments which you wear. And you see the ships plowing through it, and [He subjected it] that you may seek of His bounty; and perhaps you will be grateful.

(Surah Al Nahl, verse14)



Sunnah paid great attention to spreading evergreen, planting and afforestation. Prophet Muhammad (may God's prayers and peace be upon him) said: “No Muslim plants a tree except that what is eaten from it is charity for him” narrated by Muslim.





Planning for Hajj (Pilgrimage) trip

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A pilgrim could plan his Hajj trips in an environmentally friendly way, through following these steps and tips:

A pilgrim can choose a non-stop flight from his country to The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, or a flight with minimal stop over because planes burn a large amount of fuel during takeoff. So, the less time you spend while you are in the air, carbon emissions would be reduced.



Be sure to choose an airline which provides passengers with the option of buying plane ticket with a small fee for carbon offset from the aircraft, such as airlines plant a tree for you or invest in deforestation preventing programs in areas at risk.

Travelling in economy class on a plane contributes to preserve environment because every seat has less space, resulting in less Carbon emissions.



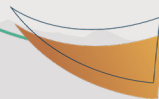
Don't print the plane ticket and have an electronic ticket instead. All required documents should be electronically kept on mobile.

Be sure of using paper cups and saucers during flight. You can demand them if they are available. Plastic cups and saucers couldn't be decayed. It causes harm to environment.





AL Rahman' guest (pilgrim) In Holy Mecca and Medina Munawwara



Makkah AL- Mukarramah and Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah (Holy Mecca and Medina) have a special beloved place in the hearts of the believers, because it is the land from which Islam began and it spread. They contain the Two Holy Mosques, which are the purest parts of the earth, so it is important for AL-Rahman's guests to follow the following environmental pieces of advice during residence and visiting these two cities:

While visiting the Prophet's Mosque and Quba Mosque:

Not jostling

and harming other Muslims during prayers at the airport, and when visiting and saluting the Prophet (may God's prayers and peace upon him). Do not stop completely, which will lead to disruption of the visitors' movement.



Being kind

to other Muslims and not harassing them during prayers in the honorable kindergarten (AL-Rawda AL-Sharefa). Maintaining the carpets' cleanliness and not spitting or snot, because this is part of the veneration of the rituals of God, Blessed and Exalted be He.



Make sure

to use only one plastic cup to drink Zamzam water and refill it. The Prophet said about Zamzam water: "It is blessed, it is good food and a cure for sickness," narrated by Muslim.



During the stay:

Take care to

search for environmentally friendly hotels.



Reducing

the use of electrical appliances and turning them off when not in use, such as heaters and air conditioners and other appliances.



Not to

waste water during ablution and bathing as well as during toothbrushing.



Reducing

food waste and requested it as needed to avoid wasting it and throwing it in garbage.





Eco - friendly hotels



Eco - friendly hotels (green hotels) have many characteristics which contribute to preserving the environment. They make the pilgrim's housing experience more comfortable.

The most important characteristics of eco-friendly hotels:

They depend on the lights provided for LED power.

They contain tools to rationalize water consumption in its health facilities.

They have glass windows that allow sunlight to enter to reduce energy consumption and dependence on natural lighting.

They offer environmentally friendly and biodegradable products such as personal care tools.



Performing rituals and environment observation

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For keeping it pure, maintain the cleanliness of the holy sites environment and follow the instructions below:

Using eco-friendly bags for carrying shoes.



Throwing waste in the designated places.



Use an umbrella and be careful of not to hurt others with the umbrella's edges.



In case of rain, stay away from places where torrents gather.



Refrain from throwing Ihram garments upon completion in streets or leaving them inside toilets.



Avoiding ablution in places where you drink Zamzam water.



It is important for AL Rahman's guests to follow screens located in AL- Masged AL- Haram (Grand Mosque) area at Mecca and abide by guidelines.



Slaughtering the sacrifice in approved and licensed slaughtering houses.





Using toilets in the holy sites

Keeping the cleanliness of toilets is a vital necessity for the benefit of all pilgrims:



Ensure that toilets are clean and not contaminated with impurities.



Do not hang clothes on bathroom doors.



Hanging the water bidet in its place after using it.



Ensure that the siphon is removed before leaving the bathroom.



Rationalizing the use of paper tissues and making sure that you throw them in the closed trash bin, not on the bathroom floor.



Use an electric dryer if possible to reduce waste in using of paper tissues.



Use liquid soap packaged in containers hanged in toilets instead of plastic containers.



Rationalizing the use of water during ablution and making sure to close the water tap after using.



Keeping the bathroom floor dry and not pouring water on it to prevent pilgrims from slipping and getting injured as a result.





Decomposition of Ihram and shaving





Environmentally friendly tips while shaving

Be careful to shave only in licensed shops.

Ensure that the occupational health card is in prominent place in the barbershop.

Emphasis on the worker to wash hands and sterilize them before starting the barber.

Emphasis on the barbershop worker to wear a mask and a special hairdressing coat.

Refrain from using a multi-use razor even if it has been sterilized in front of you by burning it with fire or wiping it with a sterilizer because this is not sufficient to kill some infectious germs.

Using a wrapped razor that is opened in front of the pilgrim from razors that are used only once.

Correct disposal of hair in the designated places and not to throw it in public places or roads.





Historical sites visiting and souvenirs buying





In order for the experience of visiting historical places and shrines to be environmentally friendly there are some guidelines we advise pilgrims to follow:

If places are nearby, we recommend walking to them.

In the event that places are far away, they can be reached by tourist buses designated for that.

Be careful not to damage the antiquities in the shrines or write on them.

Take care not to dump garbage in these places and collect it in environmentally friendly bags.

Do not cut down trees, break them or tamper with their leaves.

Refrain from throwing food to birds in the yards of historical places, attacking them, or attempting to hunt them.

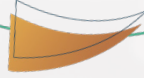
Preparing a list of the needs to be purchased before arriving at the shopping place, in order to save time spent in the market.

Be careful not to fall and get injured when climbing some mountains, such as Mount Hera, Mount Thawr and Mount Uhud in Medina.

-Online shopping through delivery applications contributes to saving time and fuel and reduces printed bills.



Conclusion



Brother Hajj, here are some important pieces of advice which will help you in preserving the environment:



Reducing the use of plastic and replacing it with environmentally friendly materials.



Use personal water flasks, as an alternative to plastic water bottles.



Be sure to buy household environmentally friendly products such as detergents and other supplies.



Use a cloth bag for shopping instead of plastic bags.



Maintain rationalization of water and energy consumption to last us all.



Adopting a healthier and more sustainable diet and reducing food waste.



Ensure the safe disposal of waste in the designated containers.



Encourage family and friends to practice environmentally friendly habits.





Some numbers
that may interest you

911	emergency
920002814	Ministry of Hajj
988	National Center for Environmental Compliance Control
940	municipal communications
1900	Ministry of Commerce

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