



Custodians of the Haq

Be Educated, Informed and Motivated

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The Haraam Cricket World Cup

It remains no secret and almost everyone is aware of the Haraam cricket world cup which is in progress. A Mu'min who is seeking the Pleasure of Allah Ta'ala will not require any proof as to why sports and world cups are Haraam. Nevertheless, for the benefit of reminding ourselves as well as all those who are interested in living a life which is pleasing to Allah Ta'ala, we will, Insha Allah, explain in this article the reasons which make sports and world cups Haraam and impermissible for Muslims.

Regarding the life of this world, Allah Ta'ala announces in His Glorious Kalaam: *"The life of this world is but **'Lawh' (play)** and amusement while the abode of the Aakhirah is best for those who fear (Allah)."* (Surah Ankaboot, Aayat 64)

Providing further '*Tashreeh*' (explanation) on the word **'Lawh' (play)**, Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said, "Every **Lawh (play, sport)** of a Mu'min is Baatil (futile, Haraam and impermissible)." (Tirmizi)

Sports and world cups fall under '**Lahw**', '**Laghw**' and '**play**'. And this '**play**' is a futile, impermissible and Haraam act as per the above Hadith.

Among the signs of the successful Mu'mineen, in the beginning verses of Surah Mu'minoon Allah Ta'ala announces: "Verily, the Mu'minoon have attained success. They who are humble in their Salaat, **and they turn away from 'Laghw' (futility)**..."

Allah Ta'ala also says, "When they (the Mu'minoon) hear '**Laghw**' (nonsense, futility and the like), they turn away from it and they say: 'For us are our deeds and for you are your deeds. Salaam on you. We do not follow the Jaahileen (ignoramuses).'" (Surah Qasas, Aayat 55)

Explaining further the meaning of **futility**, Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said, "The beauty of a man's Islam is that he shuns **futility**."

Once Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) recited the Aayat: "When Allah intends to guide a person, He expands his breast for Islam." (Surah An'aam, Aayat 125) Someone asked: "O Rasulullah! Is there a sign to recognise this?" Rasulullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: "Yes. It is to turn away from this abode of deception (the world), and to

turn towards the everlasting abode (Jannat), and to be prepared for Maut before its arrival.”

The Fiqh Kitaabs

Regarding ‘Laghw’, ‘Lahw’ and ‘play’ – sport and amusement, the following authentic Kitaabs of Fiqh explain:

- **Al-Jaami’us-Sagheer (Vol. 1, page 483)**: “Every sport is impermissible because Rasulullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: ‘Every sport of the son of Aadam is Baatil except his play with his wife, training with his horse and practising with his bow.’”
- **Tabyeenul Haqaaq (Vol. 6, page 414)**: Explaining the prohibition of backgammon and chess, it is mentioned: “Playing with backgammon, chess and every sport is not permissible because Rasulullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: ‘Every sport of Ibn Aadam (i.e. of man) is Haraam except three: his play with his wife, his training with his horse, and his practising with his bow.’”
- **Al-Bahrur Raaiq (Vol. 8, page 236)**: “Playing with chess, backgammon and every sport are not permissible because Rasulullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: ‘Every play of Ibn Aadam is Haraam except three.....’”
- **Majma’ul Anhur fi Sharhi Muntaqil Abhur (Vol. 4, page 222)**: “Playing with backgammon, chess and *arba’ ashar* which is a sport adopted by the Yahood, and every other sport are Haraam because Rasulullah (sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: ‘Every sport of Ibn Aadam is Haraam.....’”
- **Fataawa Hindiyyah**: It is stated that there is consensus of all Math-habs that every sport is Haraam except chess which according to the Ahnaaf (Hanafis), Hanaabilah (Hambalis) and Maalikiyyah (Malikis) is Haraam while Makrooh according to the Shaafi Math-hab. Besides this slight difference pertaining to chess, there is Ijma’ (consensus) of the Math-habs that all sport is Haraam.
- **Nisaabul Ihtisaab**: Two narrational proofs for the prohibition of sport are mentioned:
 - (1) The Qur’aanic Aayat: ‘What! Do you think that We have created you uselessly (to indulge in sport and futility)?’”
 - (2) The Hadith in which Rasulullah (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) said: “The sport of the Mu’min is Baatil except three.....” (Vol.1, page 153)

The Cricket World Cup

The ‘Laghw’ and ‘Lahw’ (sport, play, futile act – all of which was explained above) cricket world cup, and all other sporting world cups which are cups of Shaitaan, are Haraam for the following five common reasons:

1. **Photography**: The supporters take photographs of the ‘play’ (‘Lagh’, ‘Lahw’). Photography is Haraam. Several Ahaadith explain the seriousness of

photography. Among the worst of Punishments which will be meted out on the Day of Qiyaamah, will be to the photographer (of animate objects).

2. **Videography / TV:** The cricket world cup will be broadcasted on Haraam TV – the same wretched devil on which some evil Ulama appear! TV is Haraam.
3. **Hero worshipping:** Muslims will ape and mimic Kaafir sports players, some of whom are arch-enemies of Islaam! It is indeed surprising that Muslims will support such Kuffaar players and teams who are hopelessly ignorant of even the existence of their Muslim ‘fans’. On the other hand, our loving Rasool (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) cried for us even before our existence! Who deserves more support? Whose ways deserve more to be imitated? By imitating the ways (Sunnats) of Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam), one will earn guaranteed rewards! Allah Ta’ala says in His Beautiful Qur’an Majeed, “He who obeys the Rasool obeys Allah.” (Nisaa, Aayat 80). Thus, by observing the Sunnats one automatically obeys Allah Ta’ala! By supporting teams and players one gets no reward at all!

Furthermore, Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) will not forget us on the Day of Qiyaamah when his call will be different to the rest of the Ambiya – their call will be ‘Nafsee! Nafsee!’ (what will be my condition?), whilst Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) will call, ‘Ummati! Ummati! (what will be my Ummat’s condition?) Thus, a genuine *Aashiq-e-Rasool* (staunch lover of Rasulullah) will shun the sports, plays, amusements, ‘*Lagh*’ and ‘*Lahw*’ of the Kuffaar and exert him/herself in following the Sunnats.

4. **Liquor:** Wine has been termed as ‘*mother of all evils*’ in the Hadith. The Kuffaar love liquor. Hence, their sports and stadiums are filled with liquor. Some liquor companies also sponsor the teams, grounds etc. Supporting such players and teams are totally Haraam.

The following Hadith will really tremble the hearts of Muslims: “Wine is cursed from ten angles. The wine itself, the one who squeezes (the grapes etc.), the one for whom it is squeezed, the one who sells it, the one who buys it, the one who carries it, the one to whom it is carried, the one who consumes its price, the one who drinks it and the one who pours it.” (Ibn Majah).

Such an accursed drink which is drunk at sports grounds and some teams are sponsored by liquor companies etc. how then can Muslims support such a futile, Haraam and accursed sport – in this case the cricket world cup?

5. **Honouring Kuffaar:** Besides imitating and aping the Kaafir players, when such ‘heroes-zeros’ win the games, Muslims will then honour and respect them. Nabi (Sallallahu alaihi wasallam) warned us, “You will be with those whom you love.” (Bukhari)

Do we want to be grouped with the Kuffaar players and teams on the Day of Qiyaamah? Do we want to be grouped with the lovers and drinkers of liquor, gambling and Zina? Or do we want to be with the lovers of Salaah, personalities of Taqwa amidst the Siddeeqeen, Shuhadaa’ and Ambiyaa. Regarding honouring, hero worshipping and befriending the enemies of Allah Ta’ala, Allah Paak declares in His Kalaam: “O People of Imaan! Do not take My enemies and your enemies as friends, inclining towards them with love. Verily, they have rejected the truth which has come to you (from your Rabb)...” (Surah Mumtahinah)

To the Muslims who adopt the dressing of the Kuffaar teams, hairstyles of the Kuffaar players and imitate the moves and dives of the Kuffaar ‘heroes’, the above Aayat is sufficient as declaring all this as Haraam.

While there are many, many other reasons why the cricket world cup and all other Shaitaan’s cups and sports are Haraam, we will suffice on the above common five Haraam factors.

The sports of the Kuffaar should not distract a Muslim. Our mission in this world is not to play and win trophies. Our objective in this world is what has been mentioned in the Qur’an Majeed, “And I (Allah) have not created mankind and Jinnaat but that they worship Me.”

Therefore, as Ramadhaan just left us, let us maintain our A’maal and not get carried away by the ploys and traps of the Kuffaar which are engineered by Shaitaan to make us loose focus and directions. Let us not get involved in following, supporting, watching and livestreaming the cricket world cup, the statistics, the upcoming matches etc. Many sins are accumulated in doing any of these.

May Allah Ta’ala remove the love for sports, play and amusements out of our hearts and instil in them the love for Zikrullah, Tilaawat, Istighfaar, Du’a and Ittibaa-e-Sunnat (following the Sunnah), Aameen.