Hajj journey Day-to-Day Activity Checklist

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Objective

Any journey needs detailed planning and preparation. But, that is more so with Hajj, being the most important journey for a Muslim. Hajj is an ibadah which a Muslim does once in a lifetime, hence he/she needs to have a day-to-day activity plan so that nothing gets missed out and best results are achieved, especially since the rewards are enormous and the financial investments in this journey are very high. Even though one may have paid for expensive Hajj packages we should not expect the Hajj operator to spoon feed the entire Hajj to us. The Hajj operator is mainly responsible for all the bookings, food, logistics and transportation, not for making us perform the Hajj. Also, planning for Hajj in advance, helps us psychologically prepare for what to do and what to expect.

This checklist was very useful during my Hajj journey and hence I am sharing it so as to benefit others. I had performed Hajj from India as per rules of Hajj Tamattu, hence the same is reflected in the checklist.

You can <u>download</u> the editable version of this document and add/modify as per requirement. I have not mentioned the rituals of Umrah and Hajj in this document, which you can add at the appropriate places after consultation with scholars and people of knowledge.

You can use this document along with another of my document called **Hajj Baggage Checklist**.

BEFORE DATE OF TRAVEL

- Before packing, use marker pens to write your names on all items. This will avoid any possible dispute with fellow Hajjis
- Mark your Baggage uniquely by tying some coloured ribbons. Since Hajjis belonging to same group are given baggage of same type/colour, putting unique ribbon will help you identify your baggage easily.
- Mark your passport with a unique sticker. This will help you easily identify your passport among other passports while taking back from your Hajj group.
- Note down the Saudi mobile number of your Hajj group leaders.
- Once Saudi SIMs have been provided to all Hajjis, note down mobile numbers of your family accompanying you and fellow Hajjis.
- Also, give all the above mobile numbers to your family back home.

ON DAY OF BOARDING FLIGHT TO JEDDAH

- Pray All Salah on time
- Clip nails of fingers/toes. Trim mustache. Shave under-arm pits, pubic hair, etc *
- Perform Ghusul *
- Apply perfume on hair and beard (Not on Ehram) *
- Wear Ehram & remove underwear *

- Apply Vaseline on thighs (to prevent injury due to rubbing of thighs inside Ehram)
- Charge mobile phones and power banks.
- Check your baggage for Passport, Visa, Air Tickets
- Reach airport early by 3 hrs (international flight)

^{* -} All these can be done at anytime before the Niyah of Umrah

ON FLIGHT TO JEDDAH

- Do dua of travelling
- Pray shortened Salah (as a traveller) at appropriate times
- Before Meeqat arrives do niyah of Umrah

ALLAHUMMA LABBAYK UMRATAN

(If feeling sleepy before arrival of Meeqat, then do Niyah and then sleep so that Meeqat is not crossed without doing niyah)

- After crossing Meeqat start reciting Talbiyah
- From now onwards be very mindful of all restrictions of Ehram

ON ARRIVAL IN JEDDAH

- Continue reciting Talbiyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions
- Perform all salah on time
- Buy buscuits/eatables/water bottle for bus journey to Makkah (better to carry sufficient small value SAR currency for such purchases)

- Buy Internet/calls SIM and Recharge cards at airport
- If possible, pay for Qurbani sacrifice at airport and get vouchers
- Wait for bus transportation to Makkah could be very long so be patient.
- Use toilet before departure to Makkah

IN BUS FROM JEDDAH TO MAKKAH

- Continue reciting Talbiyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions
- Bus will stop at masjids for salah during the journey

AFTER ARRIVAL AT HOTEL IN MAKKAH

- Continue reciting Talbiyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions
- Perform all salah on time
- Mark location of Hotel on Google Maps and also get familiar with Hotel surroundings.
- Take photo of Hajj ID, Hotel Business card and room number. Forward them to family back home. This will help locate room on getting lost

- Charge all mobile phones and power banks
- Take proper rest before leaving for Umrah
- If required perform Ghusul
- Keep yourself hydrated with juices/fluids/water.
- Prepare small baggage for Umrah.
 Better to also carry water bottle.
- Perform Wudhu before leaving for Umrah.

ON REACHING HARAM FOR UMRAH

- Stop reciting Talbiyah
- Recite dua of entering Masjid
 Allaahum-maftah lee
 'abwaaba rahmatika.
- Load yourself with lots of Sabr
- If possible, fill your water bottle with Zamzam to drink later #.
- If time for Fard Salah then offer the Salah.

 Go to the MATAF AREA of Haram to perform TAWAF

(# - It is better to fill bottles with Zamzam as soon as you visit Haram so that its temperature settles down in the bottles. Since, zamzam is mostly available ice cold in Haram and regularly drinking ice cold Zamzam could cause sore throat)

<u>UMRAH - TAWAF</u>

- Ensure to be in Wudhu during Tawaf
- <Here mention the correct steps for performing <u>Tawaf of Umrah</u> based on consultation with Islamic scholars>

<u>UMRAH - MAQAM E IBRAHIM</u>

 <Here mention the correct steps of rituals near MAQAM-E-IBRAHIM based on consultation with Islamic scholars>

UMRAH - DRINKING ZAMZAM WATER

- Say Bismillah before drinking. No specific dua before drinking.
 Ibn Abbas would say, Allahumma Inni Assalukan Ilman Nafiyan wa rizqan Taiyyiban wa Amalan Mutaqabbalan
- Drink Zamzam to your full satisfaction
- While drinking you can ask Allah for any Shifah or ask any dua
- You can even pour Zamzam over head
- Fill water bottles with Zamzam
- Move to MAS'AA area of Haram

UMRAH - PERFORMING OF SA'EE

 <Here mention the correct steps for performing <u>SA'EE</u> based on consultation with Islamic scholars. Add more pages if space is not sufficient>

<u>COMPLETION OF UMRAH</u>

- In order to come out of Ehram you can now either trim your hair or shave your head completely.
- Before leaving Haram you should preferably say the dua

Bismillahi Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala rasoolullahi, Allahumma innee asalauka min fadhlika

7TH DHUL HIJJAH (DAY BEFORE HAJJ)

- Pack bags with items sufficient for your entire 5-6 days of Hajj stay in Mina, Arafat and Muzdalifah (List of these items should preferably be prepared in advance at your home country).
- Since head cannot be covered in Ehram, you can carry White umbrella to protect from sun.
- Preferably also carry Dates, juices, Laban (butter milk), fruits (oranges, bananas), etc which help you keep hydrated and healthy in Hajj.
- Fill water bottles.
- Carry a big water can (2L) to do wudhu at your sleeping place in Muzdalifah. It is difficult to go looking for water at Muzdalifah.
- Trim nails, mustache, arm pits, pubic hair before sleep
- Fully charge all mobiles and power banks.

8TH DHUL HIJJAH (AT HOTEL ROOM)

- Perform Ghusl and apply Vaseline on thighs
- Perform Fajr salah
- Apply perfume on hair and beard
- Wear Ehram and say niyah

ALLAHUMMA LABBAYK HAJJAN

- Start reciting Talbiyyah
- From now onwards be very mindful of all restrictions of Ehram
- Proceed to Mina before Zuhr
- Use toilet before leaving
- Continue reciting Talbiyyah on the way to Mina.

8TH DHUL HIJJAH (AT MINA TENT)

- Continue reciting Talbiyyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions
- Note down your Mina tent number and mark the tent location on Google Maps.
- Try to familiarize yourself with surroundings of your tent.
- Pray all Salah shortened
- Collect 7+21+21 small size pebbles (This can be done in any place till day of Jamarat and not necessarily in Mina)
- Charge mobiles and power banks
- Pack small bag with items just sufficient for your stay in Arafat and Muzdalifah (List of these items should preferably be prepared in advance at your home country).
- Also prepare the big water can (2L) for doing wudhu at Muzdalifah

9TH DHUL HIJJAH (JOURNEY TO ARAFAT)

- Perform Ghusl (preferable) and apply Vaseline on thighs
- After Fajr leave for Arafat
- Continue reciting Talbiyyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions

9TH DHUL HIJJAH (AT ARAFAT)

- Arafat is the most important day of Hajj and without Arafat there is no Hajj.
- Continue reciting Talbiyyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions
- If possible, go to Masjid-e-Nimrah for Khutbah
- Do Qasr Jama of Zuhr-Asr salah
- Avoid wandering away from tent
- Eat light food mainly fluids and dates so as to focus/be alert on ibadat and to reduce going to toilets in Arafat and Muzdalifah.

- Till sunset do duas and Adhkar.
 - Best dua of Prophets in Arafat
 - "Laa Ilaha Ilallahu Wahdahu Laa Shareekalahu Lahul Mulku Wa Lahul Hamdu Wa Huva Alaa Kulli Shay'in Qadeer"
- DO NOT waste this time in gossip and stay away from gossipers.
- Use toilets and do Wudhu before leaving for Muzdalifah
- Before leaving Arafat sufficient water be filled for Wudhu of Maghrib-Isha, Fajr in Muzdalifah.
- After sunset leave for Muzdalifah

9TH DHUL HIJJAH (MUZDALIFAH)

- Walk to Muzdalifah, if transportation takes long time.
- Continue reciting Talbiyyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions
- If fear of reaching Muzdalifah very late then pray Qasr Jama of Maghrib Isha on the way

- If reached Muzdalifah on time then pray Qasr Jama of Maghrib Isha in Muzdalifah
- Avoid going to toilets since there are very few toilets. Also, it is very difficult to identify the way back since every place looks the same in open ground of Muzdalifah.
- Go to sleep

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (MUZDALIFAH)

- Pray Fajr
- Walk to Mina Tent, if transportation takes long time.
- Continue reciting Talbiyyah
- Always be mindful of Ehram restrictions

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (MINA)

- If you do Ghusl then also apply Vaseline on thighs
- Charge mobiles and Power Banks
- Keep items in bag (backpack) ready for rest of the day
- Take rest, if required
- Move towards Jamarat
- Make sure not to miss any Salah

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (JAMARAT)

- Stop Talbiyyah on reaching Jamarat
- <Here mention the correct steps for performing <u>Stoning of 3rd</u>
 <u>Jamarat, Sacrifice and Shaving of head</u> based on consultation with Islamic scholars>
- After Jamarat start reciting Takbir
- After sacrifice and shaving of head, the restriction of Ehram are over. You can then change to normal clothes.
- Leave to Haram for Tawaful Ifadah.

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (HARAM)

• Recite dua of entering Masjid

Allaahum-maftah lee
'abwaaba rahmatika.

 Go to the MATAF AREA to perform TAWAF

- Load yourself with lots of Sabr
- Do Takbir all the time
- If possible, fill your water bottle with Zamzam to drink later #.
- If time for Fard Salah then offer the Salah.

(# - It is better to fill bottles with Zamzam as soon as you visit Haram so that its temperature settles down in the bottles. Since, zamzam is mostly available ice cold in Haram and regularly drinking ice cold Zamzam could cause sore throat)

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (TAWAFUL IFADAH)

- Ensure to be in Wudhu during Tawaf
- <Here mention the correct steps for performing <u>Tawaful Ifadah</u> based on consultation with Islamic scholars>

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (MAQAM –E-IBRAHIM)

 <Here mention the correct steps of rituals near MAQAM-E-IBRAHIM based on consultation with Islamic scholars>

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (DRINKING ZAMZAM WATER)

- Say Bismillah before drinking. No specific dua before drinking.
 Ibn Abbas would say, Allahumma Inni Assalukan Ilman Nafiyan wa rizqan Taiyyiban wa Amalan Mutaqabbalan
- Drink Zamzam to your full satisfaction
- While drinking you can ask Allah for any Shifah or ask any dua
- You can even pour Zamzam over head
- Fill water bottles with Zamzam
- Move to MAS'AA area of Haram

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (PERFORMING OF SA'EE)

 <Here mention the correct steps for performing <u>SA'EE</u> based on consultation with Islamic scholars. Add more slides if space is not sufficient>

10TH DHUL HIJJAH (BACK TO MINA)

Before leaving Haram you should preferably say the dua

Bismillahi Wassalatu Wassalamu Ala rasoolullahi, Allahumma innee asalauka min fadhlika

Do Takbir on the way back to Mina

11TH, 12TH, 13TH DHUL HIJJAH (BEFORE LEAVING MINA FOR JAMARAT)

- Pray all Salah on time
- Regularly do Takbir (until Asr of 13th Dhul Qadah)
- Charge all mobile phones and power banks
- If its 13th Dhul Hajj pack all bags
- Go to Jamarat

11TH, 12TH, 13TH DHUL HIJJAH (JAMARAT)

- Do Takbir on the way to Jamarat
- Climb the middle or topmost floor for lesser crowding
- <Here mention the correct steps for performing <u>Stoning of</u> <u>Jamarat</u> based on consultation with Islamic scholars>

11TH, 12TH, 13TH DHUL HIJJAH (AFTER RETURNING BACK TO MINA)

- Do Takbir all the time (until Asr of 13th Dhul Qadah)
- Pray all Salah on time
- Charge all mobile phones and power banks
- If 13th Dhul Hijjah, then take baggage and leave for Makkah Hotel. Use toilet before leaving

SPENDING TIME IN MAKKAH

- It is preferable to stay mostly in Haram rather than the Hotel room due to immense rewards of ibadat in the Haram.
- Try to perform as many Fard/Sunnah/Nafil salah as possible in the Haram.
- Arrive early for Jummah Salah so as to get place inside the masjid
- While in Haram, perform as many Tawaf as possible
- Recite Quran and do Adhkar in Haram
- In Haram, attend as many Janazah as possible (performed immediately after fard salah). Follow the carrying of the janazah whenever possible.
- Drink as much Zamzam water as possible

<u>SPENDING TIME IN MEDINA</u>

- It is preferable to stay mostly in Haram rather than the Hotel room due to immense rewards of ibadat in the Haram.
- Visit the grave of Rasoolullah, Abu Bakr and Umar and convey your salaams to them.
- Try to perform as many Fard/Sunnah/Nafil salah as possible in the Haram.
- Arrive early for Jummah Salah so as to get place inside the masjid
- Recite Quran and do Adhkar in Haram
- In Haram, attend as many Janazah as possible (performed immediately after fard salah). Follow the carrying of the janazah whenever possible.
- Drink as much Zamzam water as possible
- Look for opportunity to pray Fard/Sunnah/Nafil Salah in Rawdatul Jannah

References

- Getting the Best out of Hajj by Abu Muneer Ismail Davids (Darussalam Publications)
 - Hajj workshops of various scholars

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