

IMAM BUKHARI

WHAT IS HADITH

HADITH Lit. Speech, report, account

HADITH Shariah

Traditions relating to the deeds and utterances of the Prophet (Peace be upon him) as recounted by his Sahabah (companions). It also includes what he approved, allowed or condoned.

HADITH are divided into two groups:

1. **HADITH QUDSI** (Sacred Hadith): - in which Allah Himself is speaking in, as it were, a complimentary revelation through the Prophet (Peace be upon him)
2. **HADITH SHARIF** (Noble Hadith): - The Prophet's own traditions.

Hadith are the basis, second only to the QURAN, for ISLAMIC LAW (Shariah).

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SIHAH SITTAH (The six most authoritative collections of Hadith)

1. **The Sahih (The Authentic) of Imam Muhammed Ibn Ismail al-Bukhari (194 A.H. – 256 A.H.)**
2. **The Sahih (The Authentic) of Imam Abul Husain Muslim Ibn al-Hajjaj Qushairi (204 A.H. – 261 A.H.)**
3. **The Sunan (The Traditions) of Imam Abu Daud Sulaiman Ibn Ash-ath Sijistani (202 A.H. – 275 A.H.)**
4. **The Jamei (The Comprehensive Collection) of Imam Abu Eisa Muhammed Ibn Eisa Tirmidhi (209 A.H. – 279 A.H.)**
5. **The Sunan (The Traditions) of Imam Abu Abdurrahman Ahmed Ibn Shoaib Nasai (215 A.H. – 303 A.H.)**
6. **The Sunan (The Traditions) of Imam Abu Abdullah Muhammed Ibn Majah (209 A.H. – 273 A.H.)**

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SOME OTHER AUTHENTIC COLLECTIONS OF HADITH

1. **MUWATTA** (The footsteps) of Imam Abu Abdullah Malik Ibn Anas (94 A.H. – 179 A.H.)
Note: This is the first collection of Hadith ever written down. Many scholars include it in SIHAH SITTAH instead of SUNAN of IBN MAJAH.
2. **MUSNAD** (something having a chain of authority) of Imam Abu Abdullah Ahmed Ibn Hanbal (164 A.H. – 241 A.H.)
3. **MUSNAD** of Imam Abu Hanifah Numan Ibn Sabit (80 A.H. – 150 A.H.)
4. **MUWATTA** of Imam Muhammed Ibn Hasan Shaibani (132 A.H. – 189 A.H.)
5. **DARIMI** of Imam Abu Muhammed Abdullah Ibn Abdurrahman Darimi (181 A.H. – 255 A.H.)
6. **BAIHIQI** of Imam Abu Bakr Ahmed Ibn Husain Baihiqi (384 A.H. – 458 A.H.)
7. **TAHAWI** of Imam Abu Ja'far Ahmed Ibn Muhammed Tahawi (229 A.H. – 321 A.H.)
8. **DARQUTNI** of Imam Abul Hasan Ali Ibn Omar Darqutni (305 A.H. – 385 A.H.)
9. **TIBRANI** of Imam Abul Qasim Sulaiman Ibn Ahmed Tibrani (260 A.H. – 360 A.H.)
10. **MISHKAT** of Shaikh Waliuddin Muhammed Ibn Abdullah Tabraizi (d. 740 A.H.)

IMAM BUKHARI

EARLY LIFE AND EDUCATION

1. Born in Bukhara (Central Asia) on 13 Shawwal 194 A.H.
2. His father Shaikh Ismail Ibn Ibrahim was a scholar of Hadith and a pious person.
3. At the age of 10, he started studying Hadith in a local Madrasah, and by the time he was 16 years old, he had memorised the major collections of Hadith available at that time.
4. At the age of 18, he went for Hajj with his mother and elder brother Ahmed. After HAJJ and ZIYARAH, Imam Bukhari decided to stay in Madinah and Makkah for further studies of HADITH.
5. He travelled extensively for the study of Hadith. He visited great scholars of Hadith in Egypt, Syria, Basrah, Kufa and Baghdad.
6. He was blessed by Allah Almighty with an exceptional and extraordinary memory power. He, during the course of compiling his Sahih, had memorized 300,000 Hadith. And in most cases he also did remember the dates of birth and death and places of residence of the narrators of Hadith.

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HIS LIFE AND WORK

1. He studied and collected Hadith from over a thousand scholars of Hadith.
2. He also transmitted and narrated the knowledge of Hadith to approximately 90,000 people.
3. He followed the Madh-hab of Imam Shafeyi.
4. He wrote about 20 books on various Islamic topics. But his Sahih is the masterpiece of his academic work.
5. He lived a life of nobility and piety.
6. He passed away on the night of 1st Shawwal 256 A.H. (the night of Id-ul-Fitr) at the age of 62 years.
7. After he was buried, the fragrance of musk started to spread out of his grave. Even the soil of his grave used to release this fragrance. For a long time people used to come and take sample of the soil of his grave as Tabarruk.

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THE SAHIH OF BUKHARI - A

1. According to the unanimous view of the scholars of Ahlus Sunnah, this book is considered to be the most authentic one, after the Holy Qur'an.
2. In order to compile this book, Imam Bukhari collected 600,000 Hadith from all available sources, and then after rigorous research and scrutiny, he selected the most authentic Ahadith (Plural of Hadith) for his book.
3. Altogether he included 9082 Ahadith in his collection.
4. He compiled the first manuscript of his book while travelling and mainly staying in Makkah Al-Mukarramah, Basrah (Iraq) and Bukhara. Then he prepared a revised version of this book in Masjid Al-Haram (Makkah). Finally he completed the work of the second and final revision of this book while sitting in the area of Riyaz-ul-Jannah, at Prophet's Mosque in Madinah al-Munawwarah.

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THE SAHIH OF BUKHARI - B

5. Before including a Hadith in his book, he used to take bath, observe two Raka't of Nafl prayer, and then perform an Istikharah about the authenticity of this Hadith. He used to accept a Hadith for his book only after he received positive indications as a result of Istikharah.
6. Imam Bukhari himself says that while he was preparing the final manuscript of his book in Madinah, he used to present every Hadith to the Prophet (Peace be upon him) and once he received clearance from him (in a dream or through Kashf) he included that Hadith in his Sahih.
7. Imam Bukhari completed the work of his Sahih over a period of 16 years.
8. This book is so blessed that many scholars of Hadith say that:
 - a. Complete reading of this book (Khatam) is a definite source for the acceptance of Dua.
 - b. A boat or ship carrying this book will never sink
 - c. If read at the time of drought, it will rain (insha-Allah).

IMAM BUKHARI

THE COMMENTARY (SHARAH) AND TRANSLATION

SAHIH of Imam Bukhari has been so popular that more than 100 commentaries and translations have been written throughout the world. Some of them are:

Arabic Commentaries

1. Fath-ul-Bari, by Shaikh Shahabuddin Ibn Hajr Asqalani (d. 852 A.H.) 17 volumes
2. Umdat-ul-Qari, by Allama Badruddin Aini (d. 855 A.H.) 12 volumes.
3. Irshad-us-Sari, by Allama Shahabuddin Qastalani (d. 923 A.H.) 10 volumes.

Urdu Commentaries

1. Bashir-ul-Qari, by Allama Syed Ghulam Jilani Meeruti (d. 1399 A.H.)
2. Fuyuz-ul-Bari, by Moulana Mahmood Ahmed Rizvi, Lahore (Pakistan)
3. Nuzhat-ul-Qari, by Mufti Mohammed Sharif-ul-Haque. Amjadi, Mubarakpur (India).

Urdu Translation

1. Bukhari Sharif, by Moulana Abdul Hakim Khan Akhtar Shahjahanpuri, Lahore (Pakistan) – 3 Volumes

English Translation

1. Bukhari Sharif, by Muhammad Muhsin Khan, Delhi, India - 9 volumes

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