

Who is a Faasiq and what is his Status in the Shari'ah?

Q: Imaan-54 : What is the definition of a Faasiq and what is his status in the Shari'ah? The commission of which sins renders a person a Faasiq?

Answer: A person who commits a major sin or who habitually commits a minor sin is called a Faasiq. The testimony of a Faasiq is not accepted. Hadhrat Moulana Muhammad Shafee RAH. has written a detailed treatise on what the major and minor sins are in his book Gunaa be Lazzah. Refer to this book for more details. Some of the major sins include:

- * Not performing salaah
- * Performing salaah before or after its time
- * Not paying zakaah
- * Stealing
- * Playing music
- * Exposing the Satr in front of others (as is common on the beaches and at swimming pools)
- * Allowing the garments to fall below the ankles out of pride
- * Backbiting
- * Carrying tales
- * Giving false evidence
- * Taking false oaths
- * Usurping people's wealth
- * Taking interest on loans
- * Accepting bribes
- * Disobeying parents
- * Devouring the wealth of orphans
- * Severing family ties
- * Speaking ill of the Sahabah RADI. (as the Rawaafidh, Khawaarij and followers of Maududi do)
- * Speaking ill of and searching for the faults of Ulema and Huffaadh
- * Failure to enjoin good and forbid evil when able to do so
- * Gambling (practised in the name of lotteries nowadays)
- * Assisting another person in acts of sin or encouraging another to sin
- * For an Aalim not to practise on the knowledge he possesses
- * Peering into the homes of others
- * Entering another person's home without permission
- * Consuming alcohol
- * To mock at people's lineage
- * Dancing

As stated earlier, habitually committing minor sins will also render one a Faasiq. Some examples of minor sins are:

- * Intentionally looking at non-Mahram women
- * Mocking at another Muslim, even though by signs or insinuations and even though the truth is

spoken

- *Keeping the company of a Faasiq
 - *Taking impurities into the Masjid
 - *Stockpiling essential goods so that the price may escalate
 - *Engaging in trade after the Jumu'ah Adhaan has been called out
 - *Keeping dogs as pets just for the love of it
 - *Keeping alcohol in the house
 - *Urinating while standing
 - *Looking up and to the sides while performing salaah
 - *Using inferior wealth when paying zakaah
 - *Issuing more than one divorce
 - *Divorcing one's wife while she is menstruating
 - *Failing to give one's children equally (there is, however, no harm in giving more to any child on account of their capabilities, knowledge or efforts)
 - *Having gold slits inserted between the teeth
 - *Waiting at home for the Iqaamah after already having heard the Adhaan
 - *Greeting with Salaam by only waving the hand
 - *Entertaining ill thoughts of a fellow Muslim
 - *Listening to music
 - *For a person to insist on leading the people in salaah when they are unhappy with him on some reasonable account
 - *Discarding one's dirt on the street
- And Allaah knows best what is most correct.

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