41833 - Tips for an Accepted Hajj in Islam

the question

What are the things that the Muslim should do so that his Hajj will be accepted, in sha Allah?

Summary of answer

Tips for an Accepted Hajj in Islam:

Begin with a sincere intention

Follow the Sunnah of the Prophet

Use lawful earnings

Avoid forbidden acts during Ihram

Study Hajj rulings before performing it

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Shaykh Ibn `Uthaymin (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

The things which the Muslim should do so that his Hajj will be accepted are:

Begin with Sincerity of Intention and Follow the Sunnah of the Prophet

- He should have the intention of performing Hajj for the sake of Allah. This is sincerity of intention (Ikhlas). In his Hajj he should follow the way the Messenger of Allah (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) performed Hajj. This is following (the Sunnah). No righteous deed will be accepted unless it fulfils these two basic conditions: sincerity of intention and

following the Sunnah of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him), because Allah says (interpretation of the meaning):

{And they were commanded not, but that they should worship Allah, and worship none but Him Alone (abstaining from ascribing partners to Him), and perform As-Salah (Iqamat-as-Salah) and give Zakah, and that is the right religion.} [Al-Bayyinah 98:5]

And the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “Actions are but by intentions, and each man will have but that which he intended.” And he (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: “Whoever does an action that is not in accordance with this matter of ours (Islam) will have it rejected.”

This is the most important thing that the pilgrim should seek : sincerity of intention, and following the Sunnah of the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). The Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) used to say during his Hajj: “Learn from me your rituals.”

Use Lawful Earnings for Hajj

- Another condition is that Hajj must be done with lawful funds, for Hajj done with unlawful funds is prohibited and is not permitted. Some of the scholars even said that Hajj is not valid in this case, and one of them said:

“If you do Hajj with money whose source is prohibited, you have not done Hajj but your camel has.”

Avoid Forbidden Acts during Ihram

- Another condition is that he should avoid what Allah has forbidden , because Allah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“The Hajj (pilgrimage) is (in) the well-known (lunar year) months (i.e. the 10th month, the 11th month and the first ten days of the 12th month of the Islamic calendar, i.e. two months and ten days). So whosoever intends to perform Hajj therein (by assuming Ihram), then he should not have

sexual relations (with his wife), nor commit sin, nor dispute unjustly during the Hajj." [Al-Baqarah 2:197]

He should avoid whatever Allah has forbidden in general, whether in Hajj or at other times, such as immorality and sin, prohibited speech, forbidden deeds, listening to music and so on. He should also avoid that which Allah has forbidden particularly in Hajj, such as Ar-Rafath (intercourse), and shaving the head. He should also avoid wearing that which the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) forbade us to wear in ihram. In general, he should avoid everything that is forbidden when in Ihram.

The pilgrim should also be kind, generous and easy-going with his wealth and in his actions. He should treat his brothers well as much as possible. He must avoid annoying or disturbing the Muslims, in the holy places and marketplaces, or in the crowded conditions of the Mataf (the area around the Ka`bah where Tawaf is performed) and the Mas`a (the place where Sa`i is performed) and around the Jamarat, and in others.

Learn Before You Go: Seek Knowledge

These are all things that are obligatory for the pilgrim, or that he must do. The best way to achieve that is to travel with a knowledgeable person who can remind him about his religion. If that is not possible, then he should read the books of the scholars before going for Hajj, so that he can worship Allah with knowledge. (End quote from Fatawa Ibn `Uthaymin, 21/20)

And Allah knows best.